



Anglican Church Women

Diocese of Algoma Newsletter

Winter 2019

Dear Loved Ones - Family and Friends

Christmas is forever, not for just one day
loving, sharing, and giving are not to be put away
like bells, lights and tinsel in some box upon a shelf
The good you do for others is the feeling and reward
you give to yourself.



Best wishes!

May you enjoy good health and happiness in 2020.

Courtesy May Seguin

Diocese of Algoma Anglican Church Women Board 2019 - 2020

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From the President . . .

2019 Anglican Church Women Presidents' National Conference

Greetings Ladies

As always, it is a very special privilege to participate nationally in the encouraging exchange of ideas, fellowship, and worship; the finding of new challenges that will add interest in our communities, to reach out to, work with, and become inspired Christian women dedicated to serving to the Glory of God; reaching out in his name to help others.

The Diocese of Edmonton hosted an exceptional gathering for the Diocesan presidents from across Canada from September 26-29, 2019 to share ideas and interests as we explored the theme, 'Using Your Gifts to Serve,' 1 Peter 4: 10-11. We were bid welcome by an Elder and prayers, with many oral stories, and a short display of our crest information challenge before a relaxing social time.

Friday, after Morning Worship and a busy day of meetings, we had an evening of speakers.

The Marshalls; mother and daughter, described their programs at home with the horses, and their experiences in the field with PWDRF noting the many accomplishments all around the world for those in need of help.

Barb; described how she and volunteers from All Saints' Cathedral were able to set up in the foyer, a Manna Market, that weekly serves those in the downtown area of Edmonton an opportunity to purchase some fresh produce at a reasonable price, and also to visit and chat over coffee.

Peter; from St. Vincent de Paul, described their programs from Edmonton –NORTH- and especially their transport of 'sea cases' by road and river to Inuvik where they are loaded on a sea barge and delivered to Tuktoyaktuk, Sachs Harbour, Paulatuk, and Ulukhaktok. We were shown some win-win products they found to purchase from 'gleaners' dehydrating produce that were wonderful for inclusion in shipments, and good for the farmers supplementing their farm products for viability.

Sandra; described the parishes in Edmonton diocese holding community meals, Tuesday lunches, Friday suppers, and Saturday breakfasts in their halls for those in need monetarily and socially.

Saturday, we visited the Royal Alberta Museum, then shared lunch made by the ladies involved in sewing, quilt-

ing, and needle-working projects at All Saints' Cathedral in Edmonton. After moose meat stew, bannock, and banana bread, a tour of the beautiful cathedral also showed the beauty of their involvement in the concerns and care of the congregation. Red dresses in empathy for the loss of the murdered girl, openness to the neighbourhood's crowded living situations, chapel décor suited to indigenous ceremonies, and the peace and warmth of welcome to their 'home'.

In the evening Bishop Victoria and Ven. Trevor Enwright led a Standing Stones Eucharist ceremony followed by a mom and son drumming presentations and a young daughter giving a dance presentation.

Later we completed presenting our crest descriptions and signing the large cloth printed with the crests to be consecrated at Sunday Morning Services and Farewells, and carried for future National Gatherings.

The National Diocesan Prayer Partners for 2019-2020 are:

Algoma Diocese prays for Fredericton
Yukon Diocese prays for Algoma

Thanks again for the privilege!!!

As we enter Advent and await the birth of Christ, may we pray for Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace, for all the world to share in the light Christ brings. Wishing you and your families a most Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!!!

Yours in Service,

Darla McMeeken

This is a photo of the table/altar cloth printed with all of the Diocesan Crests that was created as a challenge to the presidents to research their crest, present and explain in session with the group and sign before it was presented for dedication to use in future National events.



Dear, Sisters in Christ

Once again we begin a new church year with Advent. It is supposed to be a time of preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's Mass - a service in which we sing joyfully and thankfully for the wonderful birth that redeems and sanctifies us as part of the body of Christ; we pray fervently for the strength in faith to carry out the will of God on this earth; and we join together at the Lord's Table to share in the body and blood of Christ with all the saints who have gone before us. We will be singing hymns that promise peace on earth, love shared by all, respect for all through compassionate listening and physical outreach; and above all, for letting the light of Christ, which has been bestowed upon each of us at our baptism, shine brightly throughout the world. Truly then the line "Joy to the World" will bring that light and joy to all who hear it.

In our preparations for this awesome day, we need to take a careful look at Scripture that teaches us God's will for us and all people. We hear Isaiah describe God's call to hear and learn about the love and strength God provides to those who believe in the new Jerusalem, a place that draws people from all nations to it, a place that teaches the love, peace, joy, light and life that is possible when we all hear and learn and **then live** those promises with each other.

Many of us get so caught up in secular preparations for the Christmas season: lights blinking in various colours from our eaves and trees; shopping for gifts and food that advertising tells us are needed; and baking and serving at sales, teas, and meals, that we leave little time to seek God's call to prepare that which is necessary to experience the joy of Christ's birth, to actually feel the presence of the peace, joy, light and love - the real reason to celebrate this "Mass". Mary received this call through the angel Gabriel, and because her faith and trust in God, agreed to be the mother of Jesus, the Christ. Thank you Mary for your devotion and trust in God!

May we, as members of ACW, trust and say "Yes" to God as we continue to live the call to bring love, peace, compassion, light and life to the many places in this world in greatest need - at home as well as farther afield. And may you all truly let your light shine in your homes and communities!

Merry Christ-mass!

Edna+

Many Thanks from the Mission to Seafarers!

On behalf of the Board of Directors for the Mission to Seafarers and the Seafarers we serve, I would like to pass along our thanks to all of the Anglican Church women of the Diocese of Algoma. This year, as in past years, the Mission was the recipient of clothing as well as many beautifully knit watch caps, neck warmers, mittens and socks and cash donations for Seafarers from ACW groups across the Diocese. The clothing we receive is placed in our clothing room so that the seafarers have access to warm sweaters, hoodies and other needed items. Knitted items are placed in each of the Christmas bags we put together for Seafarers every December. Our local church groups also provide cookies which are very much appreciated by those who visit our Centre

This year we have put together close to 300 bags. There are challenges to this task as you can well imagine. In addition to the knitted items, we add toothbrushes, toothpaste, disposable razors, packets of Kleenex, packets of hot chocolate, playing cards, small note pads, a bag of assorted candy, a pen and any other small items that may be suitable. We have very few female seafarers so need no more than 6 bags prepared at this time.

Your beautiful knitted goods go a long way to ensuring we have a handmade knitted item for each Christmas bag. Patterns for knitting and crocheting watch caps/toques as well as other information about the Mission to Seafarers are available on our website:

www.missiontoseafarers.ca/thunderbay

We rely on the donations we receive from individuals and groups and the proceeds of our fund-raising activities to serve the Seafarers that come to the Port of Thunder Bay and offer you our profound thanks for generosity.

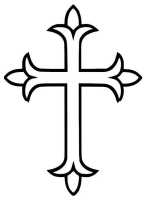
"Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine".

Janet Pike

Chair, Mission to Seafarers



Caring for seafarers
around the world



**ACW
The Quiet Corner**

Algoma ACW
Devotional Chair

Sue Goodwin

Welcome, come and rest awhile and take some time to reflect.

Read the word of God and allow it to fill your being let it say to you what God wants you to hear. Then if you wish read on, as I share with you what it said to me, for truly we are all different and he treats us that way.

Psalm 96. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

Reading the first lines of this Psalm is a little like reading a command to review our understanding of God's message to us. **'Sing to the Lord a new song;'** It's not that we have perhaps somehow completely misunderstood everything to be found in the Scriptures it's more that we seem to have skimmed the surface and then left it at that, or worse, put an interpretation on it that suits us better! Today our teaching is often about the history of the times or the parables, or Jesus' interaction with His disciples or the Pharisees, all of which are interesting and important, and perhaps also comfortingly familiar. But are we learning anything new, are we able to understand at a deeper level, and set against the instructions of Christ are we even able to give ourselves an honest critique about our values. (Well perhaps I should add that much of that depends upon who is doing the teaching and our paying attention!) However, that Jesus was a Radical in His time I think we mostly understand but, do we realise just how radical His teaching is today and can we honestly say that we are following those teachings?

Now this is the season of great joy, a celebration of the birth of a small babe in a ramshackle manger to a young woman who opened her heart to God. She was not rich and neither was Joseph but they raised a fine son who went on to change the world. And thus God entered into His Creation, experienced it, identified with it, suffered with it, and all for the love of it. His intention was to bring Love and His message was to teach us about love. **His kind of love, available and uncon-**



ditional. Perhaps as mere mortals we find this a difficult concept to apply to anyone other than our closest family, but God's unconditional love is for everyone regardless of merit, it is a pure Grace that knows no bounds and ultimately it is a love that as members of His body the Church we are called show to the rest of the world. It is perhaps the only way that the Kingdom of Heaven can be revealed to a lost and desperate generation.

So go ahead; **Let us sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord is greatly to be praised! Amen.**

Wishing you all a very Joy filled Christmas Season and

Blessed New Year.

Susan



Family Life

Greetings to the women of the ACW. In our last newsletter I basically reported about the wonderful women's work of the north where we held our Annual, in Sault Ste. Marie. The JOY of caring and sharing, so alive in the North.

A quote comes to mind from Helen Thames Raley, who wrote many a book, one being - "To Those Who Wait for Morning", *Thoughts on being a Widow*.

Her statements are timeless when it comes to this one: "In today's world...it is still women's business to make life better, to make tomorrow better than today."

It is in our nurturing nature to make life better,...for others, we are..."doers;

movers; and shakers"!

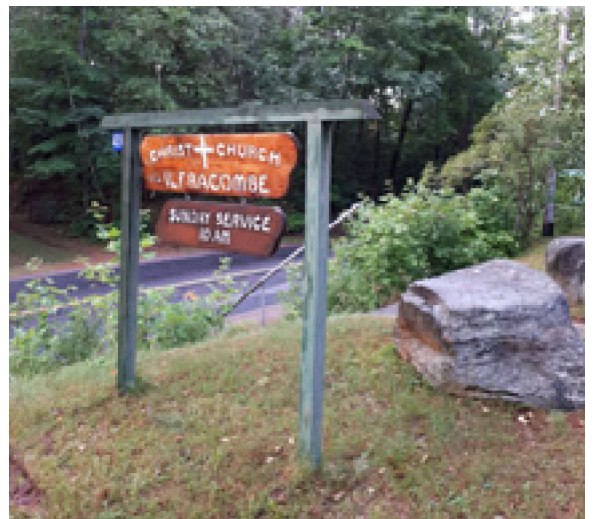
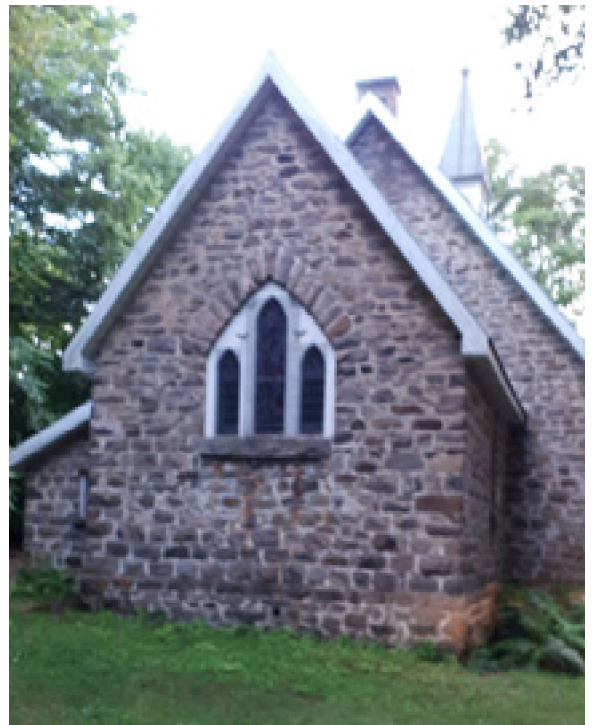
Proverbs 31:25,26: She is a woman of strength and dignity... When she speaks, her words are wise, and kindness is the rule for everything she says."

My summer and fall was spent locally traveling, visiting some the many churches of the Deanery of Muskoka whom I have been wanting to visit and either never had, or had not visited in a while. I didn't get to them all. Some churches weren't open (or seasonally).

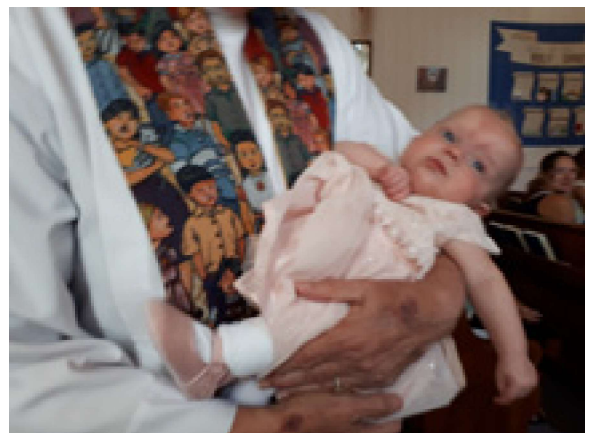
I was so impressed with the warm, welcoming women of each.

I was present for Sunday Worship services at many churches; volunteered and attended an annual bazaar at Rosseau & other fundraisers; summer lunches - Church of the Good Shepherd, Emsdale; St. Thomas, Bracebridge - Messy Church; cooking for a Deanery Council meeting in Rosseau, at Church of the Redeemer; dinner fundraiser suppers at St. John's, Ravenscliffe; Anniversary celebration & B.B.Q and the last service at St. Mary's, Aspin; Church of the Redeemer, Rosseau weekly Taize, many coffee hours; a Community event, Turkey dinner, in Aspin (where many of St. Mary parish volunteer and I volunteered for Christ Church in a Community Event where local churches came together to participate in Port Sydney and to my surprise! I happened upon a baptism for a child of one of my Door Youth in Emsdale, at Church of the Good Shepherd !

The warm, friendly welcome I received from all these church women and their ministries, teaches me ... as we walk through life here on earth we will experience daily situations that will reveal our character. Jesus gives us the perfect example of kindness, gentleness and love. He



Baby Paige's baptism at Good Shepherd





*Emsdale,
Good
Shepherd
community
garden*

was full of sympathy and affection for others, and always loved with mercy.

This Christmas let us reflect on the baby who was nurtured by his mother and father here on earth and by our heavenly Father. Let us reflect on Jesus' character.

The most precious gift this Christmas that anyone can bestow upon another is gentle encouragement...to help another human being...is one of the rarities which can bring both joy and satisfaction to each other.

"Love comes from God and those who are loving and kind show that they are the children of God, and that they are getting to know Him better."

1 John 4:7 TLB

I wish everyone the Hope, Joy, Love and Peace of the Season.

Blessing to All,

Joy Stott

Diocese of Algoma Family Life

*A picture
of the
Church of
the Good
Shepherd,
Emsdale*

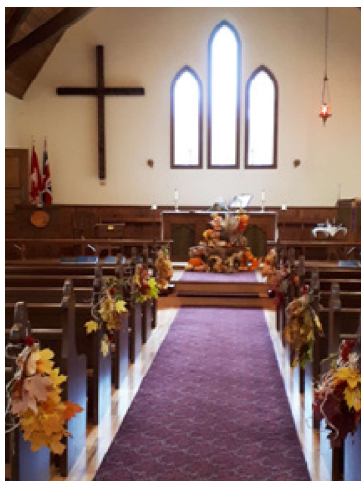


*A picture
of St
Mary's
Aspin
before it
closed*

*Christ
Church
Ilfacome*



*Christ Church, Port
Sydney*





To The Diocese of Algoma Anglican Women For All Your Dedication and Support in 2019



Peace & Joy to all

Hope makes all things work

Love makes all things beautiful

Greetings from the Treasurer

It is always a pleasure to let you know that your finances are in good order. I have rounded off the figures but actual figures will be in the financial statement in our annual booklet or available by contacting me at 36jacquie@gmail.com.

You once again have continued with amazing generosity to support the ACW Diocesan Mission with contributions of \$4500.00, and an additional \$2000.00 to our Diocesan Synod. Our annual conference cost \$ 2700.00 and your board travel is \$1500.00 – very cost effective with car- pooling and gifts.

The email requests for 2020 donations will be available in FEBRUARY – please return your donations as quickly as possible to avoid us paying bank charges. \$\$\$\$\$

May you continue to pray, work and have wonderful fellowship within your church as WOMEN of the Church.

Jacquie Howell

\$2,655.34 \$1,540.45 \$1,481.14 \$4,344.20



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Giving Makes One Feel Good!

Canadian Food for Children Warehouse

1258 Lakeshore Road, East
Mississauga, ON L5E 1E9

(905) 274-9239

www.canadianfoodforchildren.net

Shari Fazekas, a teacher in Windsor, Ontario along with Dr. Andrew Simone and his wife, Joan were the original founders of CFFC. In 1979 Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, of Calcutta, India, were in contact with Dr. Simone and an agreement was established requesting food be sent to Tanzania and Ethiopia where people were suffering from malnutrition due to severe drought. Food could not be purchased as there was very little or no money for purchases and Dr. Simone was asked that food be sent which was a tremendous blessing. It was this agreement and the dedicated work of everyone involved that CFFC became an official Canadian charity in 1985.

Founder Shari has since retired but Dr. Andrew Simone and his wife, Joan, continue to oversee the charity today. Dr. Simone with a strong Catholic Faith, is a Harvard-educated Toronto dermatologist, and presently operates his walk-in clinic in the city as well as directing CFFC. In 1975 Dr. Simone dedicated his life to helping the poor, and with a life-conversion, he gave away all his wealth & took in twenty-six foster children to make miracles happen. Joan Simone ran the household raising thirteen children and fostering many other children at the same time. The Simone's simplified their lives and found ways to make do with less. They gave up their entire retirement savings and life insurance. The only asset remaining today is their house, heated by firewood, with a furnace used for back up. They have been without a vehicle for the past 25 years. Both Dr. Simone & Joan are members of the Order of Canada and have received many awards both personally and for their charity dedication.

The CFFC Mission statement attests to alleviate hunger in children around the world regardless of race, religion or nationality, and expresses the love for each other in a meaningful, tangible and effective way.

Ninety-seven cents of every dollar received assists the poor according to the CFFC accountant. All food is purchased in Canada, then shipped to the poor, which assists the Canadian economy. One dollar provides 20 meals for the poor. CFFC can purchase a 100 lbs. (45 kg) bag of split peas for \$19.50, which provides 500 meals. At McDonald's, \$7.00 buys you a meal and

that same \$7.00 can provide 180 meals of split peas for the poor. Everyone involved with CFFC is a volunteer; there are no salaried employees. Shipments leave their Mississauga warehouse every day for developing countries--such as Angola, Dominica, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Liberia, Malawi, Peru, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

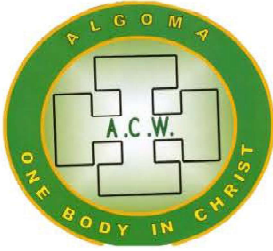
Shipping containers are of two sizes---20' which holds an average of 12,000 kg or 26,000 lbs. while a 40' container holds an average of 16,000 kg or 35,000 lbs. The containers travel by truck or rail. One container usually provides enough food to feed 500 people for three to four months.

The shipping of containers is the biggest expense at over two million dollars a year. To ship one 40-foot container the cost is approximately \$5,000. In 2017--300 containers were shipped to various parts of the world. Emergency containers were shipped to Mexico in response to the September earthquakes. Eighty bicycles were also shipped along with food to Haiti. In 2018 a total of 318 and in 2019 up to this date 284 containers have been shipped. Shipments arrive in 4 - 10 weeks and each container is met by a missionary or religious group who distributes the contents to the poor, avoiding contact with government officials who may be corrupt.

'My real goal is to teach children and plant a seed that ten cents a day can feed a child', stated Dr. Simone. Many individuals are of the opinion that the poor suffer because there are too many people in various areas. Dr. Simone feels there is enough food and space for everyone. He claims, the poor suffer because there are too many 'selfish adults' who want to fight, start wars, and look after their own materialistic goods, concerns and well-being. 'One of the greatest things we can do is love children.'

What an amazing worthwhile Canadian charity. There are many worthwhile children charities in our midst---whether it be the Samaritan Purse-filling shoe boxes for under-privileged children, Operation Smile Canada or our local charities----child care, food banks, the Infant Food Shelf, Big Brothers/Sisters, or Fill-a-crib, etc., etc.

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ACW ANNUAL May 26th – May 28th, 2020

INFORMATION SHEET

LOCATION: Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel, Thunder Bay

REGISTRATION: Tuesday, May 26th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm – Prince Arthur lobby
Wednesday, May 27th from 8:15 am - 9:00 am – Provincial Room

OPTIONAL GATHERING DINNER: Tuesday, May 26th at Gathering Table Church, Pearl St. at 5:30 pm Menu: Baked ham, variety of Baked Potatoes, peas and carrots mix and kernel corn, coleslaw, buns, apple crisp (Gluten, egg, and lactose free options available) Cost is \$20.00 payable with your registration form. **Transportation – car pool/walk**

Get together for food, fun, and fellowship

OPENING SERVICE: Tuesday, May 26th at 7:00 pm at Gathering Table Church celebrated by Archbishop Anne. Following the service, refreshments will be served in the church hall.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Indoor pool, sauna and spa tub available. All rooms have Wi-Fi, A/C, fridge, microwave. Continental Breakfast included. Tax is not included in the rates. We have rooms blocked in at the Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel. "ACW Annual" quote must be mentioned. If you have special room requirements be sure to book early.

The Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel

is pleased to offer the

Anglican Church Women

(release date of group block: May 20/20)

Out of town guests a special room rate of

\$99.00 plus tax per night

Confirmation #268759

RESERVATION CALL TOLL FREE

1-800-267-2675

17 Cumberland Street North Thunder Bay Ontario P7A 4K8

www.princearthurwaterfront.com

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DURING THE CONFERENCE CALL THE PRINCE ARTHUR

ACW ANNUAL REGISTRATION – May 26th – May 28th, 2020

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: (_____) - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Church: _____ Deanery: _____

Registrar: Joyce Fossum
1504 Mary St. W.
Thunder Bay, ON
P7E 4N1 1-807-577-7381
jof@tbaytel.net

Each Primary Branch is entitled to only 4 Voting delegates, but ALL women are welcome.
Associate Member groups are entitled to 1 voting delegate.

Are you a Primary Branch Voting Delegate? Please check one: Yes _____ No _____

Are you an Associate voting delegate? Please check one: Yes _____ No _____

For meals at the Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel:

Dietary restrictions: _____ Note: if you have multiple sensitivities, please enclose a separate sheet listing what you can eat.

Do you require pick-up? Type of travel: _____ Time of Arrival: _____

REGISTRATION \$ _____ \$110.00 – includes Registration, Banquet & Two lunches

LATE REGISTRATION \$ _____ \$10.00 – for registration after May 1, 2020

EXTRA BANQUET \$ _____ \$50.00 (persons attending banquet only)

ONE DAY REGISTRATION \$ _____ \$30.00 – Includes lunch. Please indicate day: Wed ___ Thur ___

GATHERING MEAL (optional) \$ _____ \$20.00 on Tuesday, May 26th at Gathering Table Church – **MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE**

Please make cheques payable to: **Deanery of Thunder Bay ACW**

No Refunds after May 1, but you may substitute your attendee.

You must make your own reservations directly with the following:

Prince Arthur Waterfront Hotel

Confirmation #268759

RESERVATION CALL TOLL FREE

1-800-267-2675

17 Cumberland Street North Thunder Bay Ontario P7A 4K8

www.princearthurwaterfront.com

A Recap of the 2019 ACW Annual

Pam Handley, outgoing Secretary

With many thanks to our driver and her GPS we navigated our way to the Sault and home again for a truly wonderful ACW Annual hosted by the Algoma Deanery where “Bear one another’s burdens and let us work for the good of all” was very much in evidence. Emily and her noble army did not miss a trick in making the 90 plus delegates experience a truly remarkable few days. Many of us arrived a day early for the Board Meeting and how great it was to see everyone again.

Devotions were lead by the Rev. Canon Edna Murdy on a reading from Acts where they came together to receive the power of the Holy Spirit - and this developed into a lively discussion. Then we all welcomed such a simple solution of who prays for who (or whom). The National A.C.W. came up with the idea - put all Deanery names in a box and have Deanery presidents draw hence we have:

Algoma prays for Muskoka

Sudbury Manitoulin prays for Algoma

Muskoka prays for Thunder Bay - North Shore

Thunder Bay-North Shore - prays for Temiskaming

Temiskaming - prays for Sudbury-Manitoulin

The same method can be conducted throughout the deaneries - put all the names of churches or parishes in a box and draw - preferably a.s.a.p. or at the Fall meetings.

As with everything else in the world the prices of everything are going up and this includes the cost of attending our wonderful A.C.W. Annuals. Consequently the range for registration fees has had to be increased from \$100 to \$125 in the future - so start saving your coins for next year when we all travel to Thunder Bay-North Shore.

Deanery Presidents gave updates from the reports given in the Booklet which all delegates received along with bag of very handy “goodies”. (We share most these treasures during the next meeting at our own church with those who could not attend the Annual). Many of the updates included priestly moves.

Next came Committee reports where Sharon Corston gave updates on the Diocesan Newsletter, Joy Stott on Family Life matters and May Seguin on the lucrative idea of recycling cigarette butts by TerraCycle - who would have thought? The Nominating Committee reported no nominations so far.

After quite a lively discussion it was decided to change “Saviour of mankind or humankind” to Saviour of all” in our A.C.W. prayers.

While we all went our various ways for supper, others continued to arrive from throughout our large Algoma Diocese as we gathered at St. Luke’s Cathedral for the Opening Eucharist that evening. We received a very warm welcome from the Dean James McShane who also explained the very large plywood boxes throughout the Cathedral contain the new organ which had just arrived from Germany and would be taking 18 months to assemble.

However the boxes did not detract from the grandeur of the Cathedral or diminish the beautiful flowers on the altar which were “given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the ministry of past and present members of the A.C.W. in Algoma by Archbishop Anne”.

After the Collect of the Day the A.C.W. memorial candle was lit and dedicated in front of the altar at which Archbishop Anne officiated. During the Communion we were so royally treated to the choir singing “If you love me” by Thomas Tallis. The opening offering amounted to \$440 and was later shared between A.M.S.C.’s Missions in Madagascar and the ARCH Hospice in the Sault. Then Bishop Anne invited us all to her lovely home Bishophurst for a reception and to see the newly created Lady Chapel - a peaceful sanctuary in a busy home.

Next morning we filled the conference room at the Water Tower Inn with 92 delegates lustily singing O Canada which was followed by greetings from Archbishop Anne who was - to our great delight - present throughout most of the conference.

Recommendations from the previous Board meeting were brought forward and passed. The Nominating Committee reported The Deanery of Sudbury-Manitoulin was unable to put forth a nominee for the position of Vice-President so that passed to the Deanery of Thunder Bay-North Shore where Janet Pike is now Vice-President. Gina Newhall from Deanery of Muskoka has accepted the position of secretary and Sharon Corston and May Seguin will thankfully continue in their respective positions of Communications and Social Action for now. And Thelma Smith from the Deanery of Sudbury-Manitoulin was declared elected as Assistant Treasurer. And ofcourse Darla McMeeken now moves up to President and Lynda Hughes is the new Co-ordinator for Temiskaming Deanery.

Emily Noble gave an impassioned talk about Human Trafficking which is a major problem throughout Ontario and conferences have been held recently in the Sault and North Bay and was also discussed at Synod recently. The fight against Human Trafficking (Giving with Grace) which was later voted to become the recipient for the Thank Offering which we will gather throughout the year and bring to the next Annual in Thunder Bay-North Shore.

Then thrill upon thrill Dr. Roberta Bondar, astronaut, neurologist, international space medicine researcher, environmentalist had her photo taken with all former GA/JA members and leaders - because she is also one of them. Then Roberta presented a fascinating video and talk of her photography and flying in capturing the nesting places and migrational flights of the endangered Whooping Cranes with similar research on Arctic Terns who fly from one pole to the other during their annual migrations. She stated that when she "looked at the earth - the third planet from the sun - from space it was an emotional life changing experience and was prompted to pay attention to the earth's problems and do something about them - hence the founding of the Bondar Foundation. So much more could be written about this remarkable lady who has also received the Order of Ontario and Canada.

Lunch was followed by a visit to The Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre at Algoma University where we were met by knowledgeable guides who took us through the school, library and chapel - the chapel which had been built by former residents of the school. An emotional visit for us as we learned of the history of the school and its children over the years.

Then back into the sunshine and back to the hotel to get ready for the banquet at which Dean James McShane, who is also the First Honorary Chaplain of the 49th Field Regiment in its 103 year history offered an amazing Toast to the Queen. We would be hearing from him again.

And banquet indeed because it was fantastic - delicacies for all pallets - and then some. Then came the entertainment - oh what a treat - with ladies from the Algoma Deanery taking on the roles of ladies from the Bible from Eve, Sarah, Mrs. Noah, Paul's mother, Lydia and Dorcus. Paul - send your Mother a letter - was the re-occurring theme throughout the play which left the audience wondering whether to laugh or cry. Such a great performance by all the ladies who had originally discovered this play put on by the Zion Lutheran Church and adapted to their own use. Encore!!!

Then up to the Governor's General's Room for a green room reception but not too many arrived - think most were exhausted from all the great activities of the day.

Rev. Edna Murdy once again lead us in opening devotions on Friday and spoke about the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth - it was that actual special day which saw us all gathering for the last time until next year.

The Budget for 2019 was introduced by Jacquie Howell and was duly passed with an income of \$9,350 and disbursements of \$8,570.

Then Susan Montague-Koyle, Lay incumbent of St. Joseph and St. George and also a member of the Speaker's Bureau gave an amazing talk about the Council of The North and encouraged us to look at the Anglican Church of Canada website for the map of The Council of the North.

Points we do remember are the Council of the North covers 85% of Canada's land mass and monies are desperately needed hence the Algoma Diocesan A.C.W. was able to give them nearly \$3,000 - all the Thank Offering that we had been saving during the past year.

Archbishop Anne reminded us that as she is also Bishop of Moosonee which makes her a member of the Council of the North. Then she outlined a fantastic schedule she and others will be undertaking very soon - beginning at Val D'or and making their way up to James Bay and the Watershed and back again - all the while literally Confirming dozens and dozens of waiting young and old.

The Margaret Wright table had eager buyers right up until the end and proceeds will be going to the Archbishop Wright Campership program for children to go to our Church Camps - probably about \$800.

On behalf of everyone present Ruth Merkley, President of Thunder Bay-North Shore Deanery, gave a heart warming thank you to the Algoma Deanery for all their hard work in hosting the Annual and sincere thanks for such a great time.

Then out trotted the said deanery gang in matching T shirts and with apologies to The Nylons - sang their rousing rendition of The Giant Sleeps Tonight - inviting one and all to the edge of the Algoma Diocese - Thunder Bay-North Shore deanery for the Annual next year - 2020.

We eventually all quieted down for the Closing Eucharist with the Dean of St. Luke's Cathedral first offering a truly amazing Prayer of Reconciliation we will never forget. He spoke of the darkness of the Cross and the light of the Ascension. He spoke of the awful bombing of Coventry Cathedral in England during WW11 and return bombings of Dresden in Germany. He told us that the day after the attack, the minister of Coventry Cathedral

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wrote on a wall behind the altar the words “Father forgive.” And every Friday the Coventry Litany of Reconciliation is prayed. The Dean then led us through it:

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
The hatred which divides nation from nation, race
from race, class from class,
The covetous desires of people and nation to possess
what is not their own,
Father, forgive.
The greed which exploits the work of human hands
and lays waste the earth,
Father, forgive.
Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,
Father, forgive.
Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the
homeless, the refugee,
Father, forgive.
The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women
and children,
Father, forgive.
The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not
in God,
Father, forgive.
Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one
another, as God in Christ forgave you.

We urge you to go on line where there is so much
more about this special Litany.

After the Installation of officers Darla McMeeken
declared the closing of the 2019 Annual.

Pam Handley

retiring Diocesan ACW secretary.



Around the Diocese

Muskoka



Judy Stood of the Church of the Good Shepherd receives the
ACW Recognition Award from Archbishop Anne.

Darla McMeekin

Temiskaming

All the ACW's throughout our deanery checked in for
this newsletter with most of them sending in long lists
of events and projects they had accomplished throughout
the year. These will be updated for the Booklet to be pub-
lished for the Annual in Thunder Bay next year. However
just to give you a smidgen of what went on.....

Barb Proctor from St. Alban's in Restoule said they
“really wish we had something exciting to send” however
“there is a possibility of a coffee klatch in the new year”
but in the meantime “Happy Holidays to you”.

Cecile Farmer from St. Peter's in Callander said
“The past year has been a very busy and difficult year for
our Church, due to the financial situation, major renova-
tions needed and fewer volunteers, due to age and health
issues”. However they certainly managed to hold a lot a
activities throughout the year including a delicious Cran-
berry Pancake Breakfast which we thoroughly enjoyed.

Pat Young from St. Mary's in Powassan says “Our
group is quite small, but we carried on with our usual
work”. And for a small group they certainly accomplished
a great deal throughout the year which allowed them to
donate to “Operation Smile Canada our charity of choice

this year” along with many other charities.

Linda Lamarch from St. Mary Magdalene in Sturgeon Falls also reports a very busy year by their nine members which allowed them to support their favourite charities including “the Sturgeon Falls Soup Kitchen and one boy who was sent to Camp Temiskaming”

Linda Rogers and Margot Sawyer from St. Paul’s and St. John’s Church in Haileybury said “Weekly Monday afternoons the Faithful Fingers Group continues to knit/crochet/sew/ articles of clothing to send to the Canadian Arctic through Warm Hands Network (head office) located in Ottawa”. Every time we see Barb Garvin she always seems to be working on something round.

Mary-Ellen Page from St. Brice’s in North Bay said they held a Fall and Spring Lunch and the money earned was divided among five missions. They supported two ladies “in their effort to draw attention to human trafficking”. And “every three months two different ladies are designated to co-ordinate preparations for a funeral reception”.

We at **Christ Church in North Bay** “had a busy fall and had the pleasure of helping make the yummy double strawberry jam for Camp Temiskaming with Rev. Linda”. “Our spaghetti dinner was a huge success and now onto our Christmas Luncheon and Bazaar”.

Church of St. John Divine in North Bay - had a successful Holly And The Ivy Tea and Bazaar which allowed us to make a sizeable donation to the Church.



Just had this taken of The Church of St John The Divine ACW in North Bay wind up meeting for the year in a member’s home.

And now we look forward to our final meeting of the year in a member’s home for a pot luck luncheon where we will distribute the monies our ACW has accumulated throughout the year to charities.

Happy Christmas and a Blessed and Healthy New Year to everyone.

Pam Handley
Co-chair.



Thunder Bay – North Shore

by Ruth Merkley

A Blessed Christmas & A Healthy and Happy 2020 To Everyone

All of our Fall Teas and Bake Sales have been held and we now collectively, and individually ‘motor ahead’ toward Christmas.

The committee continues to work on the plans for the Diocesan Annual 2020 and we hope to have the Registrations out by the middle of January.

God’s Blessings to All,

Ruth Merkley

Deanery Chair



*Fall Deanery Meeting at
Gathering Table*

Top Right: front view

*Middle Right: group picture -
note the 2018 CLAY cross in the
background*

*Bottom Left: Ruth Merkley pre-
senting donation to Major Lori
Mitchell from the Salvation Army
for their Journey to Life project*

*Bottom Right: panoramic view
of Gathering Table’s Hall*



History in a Christmas Carol

submitted by Joan Lamke

One Christmas Carol that has always baffled me.

What in the world do leaping Lords, French hens, swimming swans, and especially the partridge who won't come out of the pear tree have to do with Christmas?

Well just read on:

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for the young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning, the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church.

Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember.

1. The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.



2. Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.



3. Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.



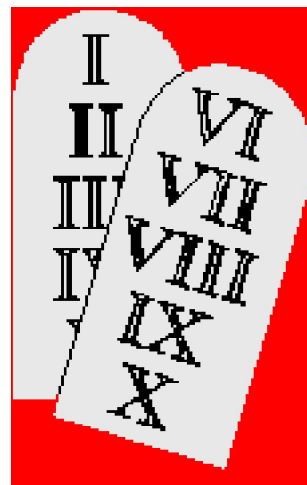
4. The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.



5. The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books.
6. The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creating.



7. Seven swans a swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit--Prophesy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.
8. The eight maids a milking were the eight beatitudes.
9. Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit--Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.
10. The ten lords a leaping were the Ten Commandments.
11. The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.
12. The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in The Apostles Creed.



So there is your history for today. I found it interesting and enlightening and now I know how that strange song became a Christmas Carol.



This
Christmas
end a quarrel.
Seek out a forgotten
friend. Dismiss suspicion,
and replace it with trust.
Write a love letter. Share some
treasure. Give a soft answer. Keep
a promise. Find the time. Forgo a grudge.
Forgive an enemy. Listen. Apologize if you
were wrong. Try to understand. Examine your
demands on others. Think first of someone else.
Be kind; be gentle. Appreciate. Laugh a little. Laugh a
little more. Express your gratitude. Gladden the heart of a
child. Welcome a stranger. Take pleasure in the beauty and the
wonder of Earth.
Speak your love.
Speak it again.
Speak it yet
Once again.

provided by Carole Lee Kostyniuk

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Editorial Assistants for the Spring Edition - Sudbury-Manitoulin

Deadline for the next issue is ... March 1st, 2020

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Mail to: stay tuned for the name of your next Communications/PR Chair announcement!



Communications

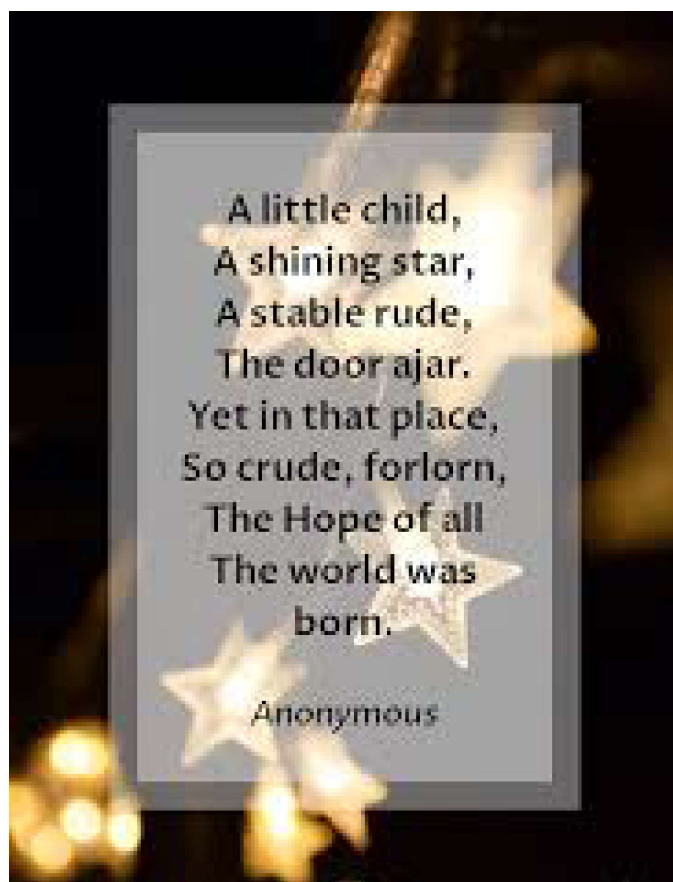
by Sharon Corston

I would like Pam for her Recap of the Annual and everyone for their articles and pictures throughout the year. It's what makes the newsletter interesting. Please keep them coming.

I'm working very hard to get this edition out before Christmas and hopefully in your hands for your reading pleasure.

Take care - until the New Year!

From our house to yours ...





The Algoma Newsletter is published quarterly by the Executive of the Anglican Church Women of the Diocese of Algoma. Material is solicited from the executive board, committee chairpersons, the Deaneries, parishes, missions ... in fact any Anglican Church Woman may submit an article she wishes to share. This is your newsletter!

