



Anglican Church Women

Diocese of Algoma Newsletter

Winter 2017



Thank You and



to

**Sharon, Our Editor
Social Action Chairs and All**

Submitted by May Seguin
Diocesan Social Chair

Diocese of Algoma Anglican Church Women Board 2017 - 2018

Patron	Bishop Anne Germond bishop@dioceseofalgoma.com	Box1168, Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5N7 705-256-5061 x23
Chaplain	The Rev Canon Edna Murdy ednamurdy@gmail.com	PO Box 251, Kearney, ON P0A 1M0 705-363-0695
President	Barbie Garvin barbiegarvin@gmail.com	PO Box 1121, Haileybury, ON P0J 1K0 705-672-5792
Vice President	Darla McMeekin mcmdarla369@gmail.com	2-57 Main Street East, Huntsville ON P1H 2B8 705-788-2155
Secretary	Pam Handley phandley1@cogeco.ca	309 Cedar Heights Road West, North Bay, ON P1P 8G8 705-472-3573
Treasurer	Jacquie Howell 36jacquie@gmail.com	401 – 35 Dairy Lane, Huntsville, ON P1H 2L8 705-789-1987
Past President	Donna Komyhr donnakomhyr@gmail.com	144 Willoughby Street, Sault Ste Marie, ON P6B 3X1 705-253-2251

Department Chairpersons

Devotions	Susan Goodwin sue_goodwin@hotmail.com	3273 Memorial Park Drive , Powasson, ON P0H 1Z0 705-724-5217
Family Life	Joy Stott yesoWintersaints@gmail.com	22 Walter 104, Huntsville, ON P1H 1T3 705-784-9722
Social Action	May Seguin vmseguin@sympatico.ca	99 Fairway Drive, Callander, ON P0H 1H0 705-752-4937
Communications	Sharon Corston sjcorston@gmail.com and algomaacw@gmail.com for the newsletter	165 Clarkson Street North, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 6G1 807-355-1549

Deanery Chairpersons

Algoma	Barbara Sherwood sherwoodba@yahoo.com	536 Charles Street, Sault Ste. Marie P6C 3L8 705-254-2863
Muskoka - Chair	Linda Smith toetallypampered5@gmail.com	300 Falcon Road, Huntsville, ON P1H 1N5 705-783-0551
Sudbury/ Manitoulin	Beverly van der Jagt beverlyvanderjagt@bell.net	Box 386, 66 Claire Street, Azilda P0M 1B0 705-983-9865 home 705-919-6541 cell
Temiskaming	Anne Burton annquilter399@hotmail.com	399 Gordon Drive, North Bay P1B 8V8 705-472-2706
Thunder Bay/ North Shore	Ruth Merkley rm_element@tbaytel.net	305 Marks Street South, Thunder Bay P7E 1M3 807-623-0285



Diocese of Algoma

From the Bishop

December 4, 2017

Dear friends in the ACW,

I bring greetings of this holy season to you from South Africa where I have spent the latter part of November visiting mom and other family members. What a gift this was for us - An early Christmas present for sure, and also a reminder of the preciousness of family.

At 92 mom is pretty agile but is hampered by poor vision and hearing. Despite this she didn't want to miss a moment of any activity. I am grateful for the care and support mom receives from the staff at the Lodge (Retirement Village) which enables her to remain somewhat independent living in her own unit.

Like yourselves, it is mom's faith that sustains her on a daily basis. She is a deeply committed Christian and in the morning I would find her in her bedroom sitting on the edge of her bed praying, reading her Bible and the reflections in her book of daily devotions. It's a great disappointment when mom is unable to attend Sunday worship because of transportation challenges. I managed to secure a ride for her to worship on Christmas Day, but even as I think of mom's circumstances I am aware that in Algoma there are many frail elderly who won't make it to church this Christmas because they have no way of getting there. What a ministry of compassion this would be if every parish was able to offer this service to its most vulnerable and faithful members.

In this season of Christ's birth my wish for you is that you will also find yourselves in the care and

presence of loved ones who remind you in many ways that you are important to them.

Week after week in Advent we sing, 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel' as candles representing peace, hope, joy and love are lit. Finally on Christmas Eve the beautiful white Christ candle.



In my message I mention that mom (Nora Derbyshire) is game for anything - even at 92! Here she is about to go on a game watching trip.



As a child I remember that I could hardly wait for morning to come so that I could open the doors of an Advent calendar that we hung up year after year. Each day there was a different nativity character hidden behind them- angels and shepherds, stable animals and kings. The final and biggest door was opened on Christmas Day. There He lay - baby Jesus with his mother Mary and Joseph. When those doors were opened wide we knew that Christmas had finally arrived.

O Come Emmanuel. When we sing these words we are also looking forward to the day when Christ will return in glory as He promised before he ascended into heaven. What a day of celebration that will be when we see Him face to face and are reunited with those who have gone before us.

Even as we look forward to Christmas Day and the day of Christ's return, we know we don't have to wait that long because Emmanuel - 'God is with us' is with us right now, in every moment of our lives.

This was Jesus's promise before he ascended into heaven- "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt. 28.20)

continued on page 14

From the President . . .

As we approach my very favorite time of year, I give you a poem that came from Jane Booth, in Gravenhurst, several years ago. I had cut it out of the Algoma Anglican at the time and just found it again. Thank you, Jane.

A Joyous Birth

When Jesus Christ, the tiny babe
Is born within your heart,
He brings love to all dear souls

A Love that will not part.

This precious Love will grow and grow,
As did the darling boy.

Then everyone will surely know

The meaning of Christmas Joy.

The more we try to be like Him
More Love our hearts receive,
And as we grow in tenderness

Then others, too, believe.

So, let each day be Christmas Day
And fill your heart with Love,

So everyone can surely see

Our Savior from above.

The Christmas Spirit soon shall fill
Each heart and soul and voice.

Then everyone picks up the strain;

Behold! He lives! Rejoice!

Then, peace on earth restored once more,

The Prince of Peace shall reign,

And Love will be the only word,

For Christ is King, again.

May Christ truly be born in your heart this Christmas.
May this be the most blessed and joyous Christmas ever
for each and every one of you. Love always,

Barbie



Greetings from the Chaplain

Greetings Friends,

We are beginning a season of waiting, of preparing, of excited anticipation of the birth of Christ, the Messiah. And, for us Christians, the coming of Christ in his glory to gather us from the ends of the earth into his kingdom. On the first Sunday of Advent, we heard the warning, and the necessity for watchfulness for this glorious and blessed event. As the “body of Christ” to which we became at our baptism, we are called to “be alert, keep awake” for we do not know the timing of this event. As I visit different ACW groups and ACW Deanery events, I have noted the generosity you share with your communities and throughout the world. We are not the whole body, but one part that works to keep the whole body of Christ fed, clothed, sheltered, and cared for with compassion - a call to us all to be Christ’s eyes, ears, mouth, hands and feet in today’s world. And Advent is the time to be so and do so - a time to prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth, and also for his coming again in power and glory.

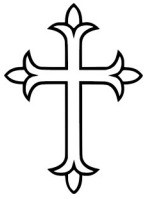
I am leading a small parish choir for an anthem at our Christmas Eve Service, “Do You See What I See?” Each time I sing it I am reminded about how the first coming of Jesus was to nature, to shepherds, to foreign “kings” (magi, wise men), and now, 2000 years later still celebrated world-wide as we wait for the second coming. Then I ask myself: am I listening to the wind, paying attention to the skies and stars, to nature in general to signal this coming of Christ? Am I hearing God speaking to me as I seek to do God’s will instead of overriding it with my own so that others don’t hear the good news? Am I sharing that good news with others - the good news of Love, Peace, Hope, and Joy?

These are some of the things that we, as Christ’s body, are preparing for this Advent season, and then celebrating with glorious and generous love, hope, peace and joy throughout the Christmas season, and throughout the coming year. Are we ready? Do we share the message with others - the true message of such wonderful hope and love?

Be alert! Keep awake! Share the joy and love - the good news of Christ’s birth! And have a blessed Christmas!

Your sister in Christ,

Edna+



**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. Luke 1; 46-55

The coming



Soon will the land will be covered in white,
a blanket to cover the ground.



Soon will the wilderness beasts seek to hide,
and sleep until springs early dawn.

Soon shall our toes be toasty and warm as by
the fire we linger.

And soon shall the air with carols be filled and the promise of Christmas proclaimed.

Oh, how our hearts long for a time when peace and goodwill are abroad.

And joy fills the spirit of all who can hear, while love fills the hearts of mankind.

For this, was a babe born to fulfill, for this did the Saviour come.

So those who have heard must sing loud and clear,
'Come, Lord Jesus Come'. Susan Goodwin

Poetry like a painting or a piece of sculpture can express so much more than prose can. And poetry and prayer are very similar in fact some of the prayers in the Bible are also beautiful poems. Take the Song of Mary or the Song of Simeon for example, and what about the Psalms so many that pour out from the writers own experiences and their relationship with God. Some are so moving that they reflect our own emotions or desires others seem to reach out into a realm that is beyond our understanding and give us a glimpse of what is yet to be.

Like Mary and Simeon we are often moved to express ourselves in verse when faced with an extraordinary or significant moment, something that moves us emotionally and defies ordinary language. Poems comes from the heart which I believe is why they speak to us on a different level and can paint for us a picture to hold in our hearts.

I'm sure many of you who lead devotions at your group meetings know how challenging it can be to think of something a little bit different each month, something that will help your group in their reflections. Yes of course our Bible is the first place to turn too and must be at the heart of our reflections, but what about encouraging

your group to write their own verse or psalm based on the chosen text or perhaps the season,. Perhaps they could share them with us in the next ACW News Letter.

I composed the little poem above as we travelled into town one day, at the time the countryside was all yellows and browns, the leaves had fallen but the first snows had not yet arrived. I'm sure there was a lot of activity going on in the fields as little creatures were busily gathering the last of their winter food supply but they were hidden well away, and from my perspective there was a stillness an air of expectancy in the land, the steely grey clouds said it all. And then came to mind world, and all its woes, as sad as the brown fields that we were driving past, seemingly lost to the flooded streams and overflowing dikes. Yet I knew in my heart that not all was lost for the white blanket would help to restore the land and Spring would bring with it new growth. So I believe it will be with the return of Christ, however in the meantime, we must be content with celebrating His coming to live among us the first time and proclaim His Glory to all nations. For despite all its modern holiday razzle and dazzle Christmas still has a much needed message of hope, hope for peace, hope for love and compassion in the face of prejudice and hate and hope in justice for all.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Prayer

**Loving Father in all the busyness of this season,
help us to take time out to study your word and reflect
upon your coming.**

**Keep us mindful of those in need, the lonely and the
grieving,**

**And help us to be bold in proclaiming
the glory of your Word and the greatness of the Lord,
to all.**

Amen.



Family Life

Parish Family Life is aglow with the Light and life of the coming of Christmas!

The Light that only Jesus Christ can give!

“Let there be light!” was the very first thing God said, in the beginning.

“And there was light.” the Bible goes on to say, “and God saw that it was good.”

It *is* good. This is the season of light, moving towards the bright celebration of our Lord's birth.

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,” the prophet Isaiah wrote, hundreds of years before Jesus was born.

Even when the darkness is as deep as death itself, the prophet went on to say, “God’s light shines there,” too.

We know that this is true. For we know that, Christ who's birth we celebrate, grew up to be the Light of the World! His love and life is never ending. Lord, Be a lamp unto our feet, as we journey on!

“Shine in my heart Jesus, and keep shining on – to the end of the earth!”

Advent is the beginning of the church year, it is a time of preparation for the coming celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. During the weeks to come, we will be lighting our Advent wreaths in our churches, in our homes...a season of light...of light getting brighter...of light looking forward. You could even say it GLOWS.

“Let your light shine so people can see it,” Jesus said. He was talking about the good things God’s people can do. “When you do them,” Jesus said, “people will know what a great heavenly Father you have.”

I know all of you women *are* busy right now.
So-o-o busy! The churches are buzzing and humming with
bus-i-ness!

As the women of our parishes, our ACW prepare for (or have already have had) craft fairs, bazaars, bake sales, teas, caroling, dinners, Treks to Bethlehem, pastoral care visits, Christmas pagents, food hampers, preparations for Altar Guild, visiting friends and family, and much more ! ... take time ladies, to look at yourself!

You are AGLOW!

The light of the Christ Child is *glowing in your cheeks*
as well !!

As we pray:

“Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus
that I may reflect your glory
and glisten with your love.”

I ask that His light shine within each and everyone of us!

“Shine in our hearts, Lord Jesus, and shine in our homes as well.” Amen.

I wish everyone a blessed christmas !

Much light and life for the new year !

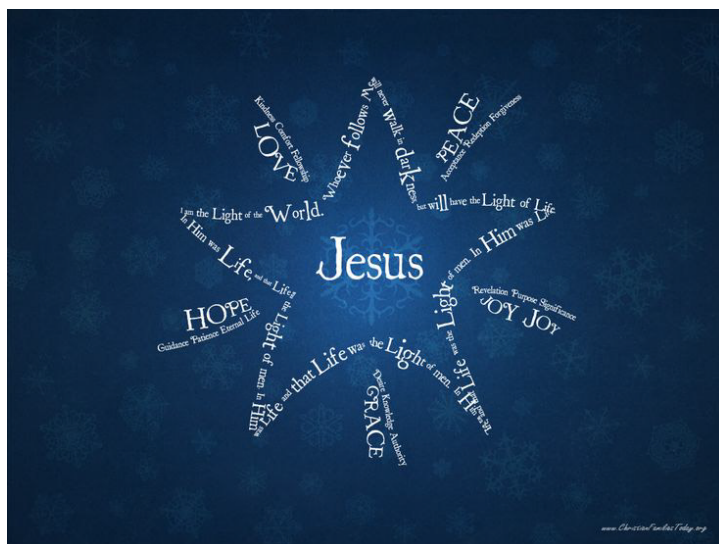
Joy Stott, Family Life Chair

Micheline La Blance, Deanery of Sault Ste Marie
reported on her Deanery Family Life as:

1 church has 3-8 children, sent out birthday cards up to age 7.

1 church has 30 children enrolled 5 children received baptism cards, 15 received Birthday cards and 25-30 will receive prayer cards.

1 church has a monthly Messy Church
Another church will have a Christmas pageant as
they do each year, with grandchildren of that parish.
Lastly, a parish has a Boys And Girls Club that is well
attended by the general public.





Collection of Items on Book Sunday

CSM Canada Incorporated or Christian Salvage Mission, has in the past, accepted cassettes,

DVD's, and books of various nature, as well as Christian materials. Some items were not acceptable to send overseas for various reasons and they were being paid by a recycling firm (in the Toronto area) to have these materials picked up from their warehouse, for recycling. However, as of July 10, 2017, this recycling arrangement has been discontinued. Therefore, should you be wishing to send items to Christian Salvage Mission one must adhere to the strict rules of what items CSM will now accept.

Here is the listing for your attention, as provided by CSM Issue 3, 2017.

Books---Bible dictionaries, counselling books, Theology, Bible Commentaries, Church Growth & Discipleship, Christian Biographies, Bible Handbooks, Christian fiction, Sermon helps, Bible Study Books & Booklets, School books from Christian Schools (math, spellers & basic readers) as well as medical books.

Bibles ---All versions---New & Old Testaments, Bibles (in good condition)

Teaching Helps---FLANNEL-GRAPH, Children's books, VBS material, clean Sunday School material, even if it is not a complete set

Music---Hymn books with music, Chorus books with music, Sheet Music with words. Christian CD's and DVD's of well-known Ministers & speakers

Magazines, Devotionals Other Items---Confident Living, Daily Bread, Decision, Discipleship Journal, Focus on the Family, Friends of Israel, Good News Broadcaster, Gospel Light, In Touch, Insight for Living, Israel My Glory, Leadership, Scripture Press, Today, and Turning Point.

In the Deanery of Temiskaming our Book Sunday collection of materials and books is scheduled for Fall 2018. Please contact me (vmseguin@sympatico.ca) should you have any questions.



Mothers Union Christian Care for Families

Mothers Union Is an international Christian charity that seeks to support families world-wide. Members are not all mothers or even all women---there are many parents, men, widows, single and grandparents involved. Their focus is to uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage, encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the church, maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service and support family life especially with all the adversity facing members of society. During the 1900's Mary Summer was asked to speak at a conference and felt passionately about the power of mothers to change the nation for the better. It was through this contact the growth of the Mothers' Union movement spread and membership evolved.

The home of Mothers' Union is in the United Kingdom and today supports local churches with prayers, activities, social outreach projects and is an international campaigning charity. They are particularly concerned with the plight of women in the world---literacy and parenting development micro finance, campaigning on the subject of violence against and trafficking of women. At United Nations they internationally speak out on issues of gender equality. Lobbying in the UK has also included industry and policy change with regard to commercialism and sexual dealings of and with children.

With four million members today, 1.9 million Mothers' Union members are from Indian dioceses---North & South India as well as from African dioceses, of which Tanzania is the largest. There are presently eighty-three countries involved as well. Caring for those in homes, cities, hills or villages, where they are lost, suffering, and who may have or have lost hope is their main focus. Our Diocese of Algoma supports Mothers Union with assisting families, for instance with our involvement in Africa and our PWRDF support.

On September 22, 2016 Mothers Union celebrated their 140 Anniversary with 3,000 members in attendance. This event was held at Winchester Cathedral, in the Diocese of Winchester, London, England, with The Most

continued on page 14



Rec'd
Nov 16/2017

Dear May
Would you please extend
a huge thank you to all
ACW members & others
who collected Campbell
Soup labels for supplies
for Camp Temiskaming
Everything was a true
blessing to all!
Thank You
Carmel
Board Chair



All Deanery Presidents



The ACW Questionnaires

were to be completed at your Annual Fall Business Meeting,
tabulated,

and the final results submitted to the Diocesan Chairs

Devotions----Sue Goodwin

Family Life----Joy Stott

Social Action ----May Seguin

Also

Thank Offering Suggestions for the Annual Mission
(2018-2019)

are to be submitted to the

Diocesan Social Action Chair, May Seguin, no later than
December 15, 2017.

It has been a very successful year for the Diocesan treasury. I give thanks for your promptness in forwarding requests for donations. Your generosity in supporting the **MINISTRY** and **MISSION** of the Diocesan ACW, has been most gratefully received by the recipients. Several years ago President Ena Conliffe lectured us that the purpose of ACW was to do mission work, locally, nationally and Internationally. This year we have been able to follow her instructions. It is with praise and thanksgiving, I share the list:

Nipising Serenity Hospice Camp Temiskaming - Camp Manitou Camp Gitchigomee - A. F Hope Bear PWRDF – Maternal & Child Care Seafarers of TB Sleeping Children Smile Canada Plan International One Kid Place - PWRDF Pitmatiswan Diocese General Fund Bishop's Discretionary Fund - CLAY (this is the Anglican/Lutheran Youth retreat being held TB – our support was for \$5000.00.

The total in round figures represents \$ 15,500.00.
Thank you each and everyone.

We will begin a new year and I will be asking for your donations and support. I am aware of our shrinking branches but I give thanks for the many donations that come from Churches that have prayer groups, quilting groups, choir, Sunday Schools and teams of men and women.

Our THANK OFFERING this year is **SMILE CANADA**. The dedication of the Doctors and nurses who restore Cleft Palates and Cleft Lips into smiles is remarkable. Smiles are Curves that make everything right.

Jacquie Howell



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

Around the Diocese

Algoma

submitted by Marilyn Schmid

Saying Grace- a “gentle reminder for All of Us”

A visiting Pastor was attending a men’s breakfast in Ohio Farm County. He asked one of the impressive older farmers in attendance to say grace that morning. After all were seated, the older farmer began-----
“Lord, I hate buttermilk.”

The Pastor opened one eye and wondered to himself where this was going.

Then the farmer loudly proclaimed, “Lord, I hate lard.”

Now the Pastor was overly worried.

However without missing a beat, the farmer prayed on, “And Lord, you know I don’t care much for raw white flour.”

Just as the Pastor was ready to stand and stop everything, the farmer continued, “But Lord, when you mix ‘em all together and bake ‘em up, I do love fresh biscuits.

So Lord, when things come up we don’t like, when life gets hard, when we just don’t understand what you are sayin’ to us, we just need to relax and wait ‘till You are done mixin’, and probably it will be somethin’ even better than biscuits. Amen.”

“As you walk down the fairway of life you must smell the roses, for you only get to play one round.”

Muskoka

submitted by Patricia Gidley

Activities of Trinity-All Saints ACW in Bala

As we swing into advent, our ladies, like ACW members all around the Diocese, are busy in the kitchen. We are baking cookies for the baskets of goodies we will distribute to certain members of our congregation and community. Last year’s baskets were appreciated by senior single men, ladies who no longer bake, shut-ins and others we chose to remember. A little stocking with novelties tops off the gift and the package is delivered by ACW members who spread our Christmas warmth and love.

During the winter months we run a Marathon Bridge with about 40 ladies involved. The finale for this group is a lunch and afternoon of cards in June. We award the prizes for the Marathon but the lunch and afternoon card games are open to the public. This is a very long tradition that was started by Lilius Watson. Formerly it was an evening with an array of luscious desserts, but we have changed it to the lunch format which has been appreciated by the current players. The ladies have already started their games for this year.

In late August, we organized a parish “Canada 150” potluck dinner which was well received. After the dinner we moved to the sanctuary for a “Cross Canada Sing Along” featuring songs from and about different areas of our great country. We also did a bit of research and told stories about each song chosen which made the event extra special.

We continue to sell our Cranberry Cook Books – still available for \$10 – and are very active for the Cranberry Festival running the bake and book sale, making and serving soup, assembling cranberry crepes and dishing up bacon on a scone.

Our group remains small but we have a steadfast, loyal and dedicated group of ladies who meet monthly, April to December. We are always ready to assist our parish with funeral and celebration-of-life luncheons and all of our ladies actively serve the church in other ways. Also, we all play leading roles in Bala’s Trek to Bethlehem which is community run. In addition, we have a small group of ladies happy to support our projects but not wanting to attend meetings and do the planning. This support is recognized and treasured. We will resume meetings in the spring.



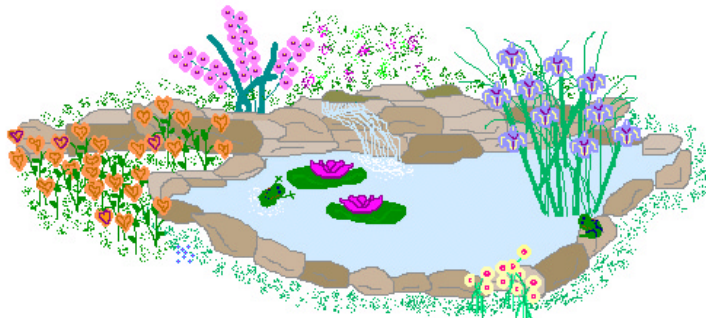


**"Life is too short for drama, laugh
insanely, love truly and forgive
quickly"**

submitted by Jacquie Howell

How to Plant Your Garden

First, you **Come** to the garden alone, while
the dew is still on the roses.



For the Garden of Your Daily Living,

Plant Three Rows of Peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul



Plant Four Rows of Squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness



Plant Four Rows of Lettuce:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one
another



No Garden is without Turnips:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another



**To Conclude our Garden We must have
Thyme:**

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for
family
3. Thyme for
friends



Water freely with patience and cultivate with
love.

There is much fruit in your garden because
you reap what you **sow**. **Not** bad, huh?!

My instructions were to share this with
people that I wanted God **to** bless!

Thunder Bay – North Shore

by Ruth Merkley

Greetings!

Yesterday was the first Sunday of Advent, already,
and as I sit here typing this, the rain is beating against my
east facing window.

We now have only four ACWs in this deanery. This
fall there have been five teas, one fish-fry, one turkey
supper, one beef-on-a-bun, one chili supper and a two-day
bake sale. We have formed a partnership with the
Lutheran Ladies and we had a Two-bit Auction as well.

The Fall Deanery Meeting was held at St. John's
Church on November 2nd. The Rev. Dr. George Porter
officiated at the opening Eucharist. We had only 20 mem-
bers and one priest present. We struggle with numbers
and having members come to meetings, but we do plan
'to soldier on.'

Election of the Executive:

President:	Ruth Merkley
Vice-president:	vacant
Past President:	Barb Williams
Secretary:	Janet Pike
Treasurer:	Sharon Corston
Devotions:	Deb Everest
Family Life:	Jessica McDonald
Social Action:	Ingrid Koropeski

Wishing each of you

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS and

A HEALTHY & HAPPY 2018



Temiskaming

Faithful Fingers

submitted by Linda Rodgers

This is a community group (so far, all ladies, but men are welcome, too) that meets every Monday afternoon at St. Paul and St. John Anglican Church hall in Temiskaming Shores. Each person works individually, with help, when needed, on their own project or on items to be sent to the Warm Hands Network for use in the northern regions of Canada.

The teapot is always on and goodies are to be had. Visitors are welcome to come in for a chat and a cuppa. There is good fellowship in this place.

The group is always on the look-out for working material, especially yarn (wool is best) to use for it's focus project. You can help by bringing yarn to any Diocesan or Temiskaming Deanery ACW meeting or by sending it to Haileybury when someone is headed that way. It will be much appreciated by the group and by the kids up north.

Two days before Christmas a man in Thunder Bay phoned his son in Toronto. "I hate to ruin your day but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing. Fifty-one years of misery is enough!"

"Dad, what are you talking about?" screamed the son.

"We can't stand the sight of each other another day," said the father. "We're sick of each other and sick of talking about it. So call your sister in Halifax and tell her." Bang went the phone.

The son frantically called his sister who exploded on the phone. "Like heck they're getting a divorce! I'll take care of this."

She called her father in Thunder Bay and shouted at him, "You are NOT getting a divorce. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing. DO YOU HEAR ME?" She slammed the phone down hard.

The old man hung up the phone and turned to his wife. With a delightful snort he said, "They're coming for Christmas ... and they're paying their own way!"

Enid Bastien

A Challenge - add Fun to Your Meetings

by Enid Bastien, North Bay

While you're sharing tea and goodies after your business meeting, would you be interested in participating in an up-lifting challenge together?

Solving BIBLE puzzles, crosswords, word quests, fill-the-blanks or scrambles are FUN when you do it with someone sitting beside you. I guarantee it!!

Such an exercise might add a light moment at the end of your meeting.

With the help of fellow members at St. Brice's in North Bay, I have gathered quite a variety of these. If you would like any, then just send me a request. My email address is: bastien@cogeco.ca -- and my home address is: 107 Gladstone Ave., North Bay P1A 2L6

I can easily forward these via email, or by regular post ... your choice.

As well as the above-mentioned puzzles, I also have a few mini skits for 2, 3 or even 5 'talented' actors [readers] should anyone be looking for a filler between presentations [some are biblical, some are just funny] ... plus there's a variety of questions & answers and riddles which can add a comic touch when presented by two readers. They're also yours for the asking.

Best of wishes for a blessed Advent Season, a most Holy Christmas and joyous New Year.

Your sister in Christ,

Enid

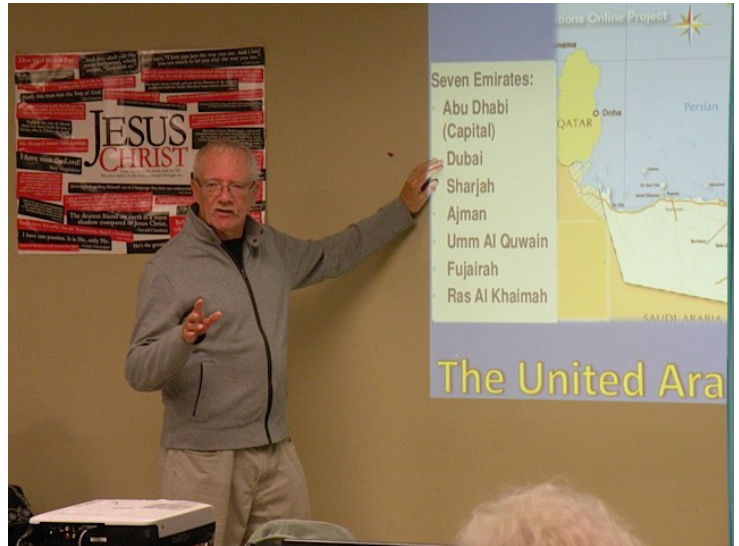


Submitted by Pam Handley

Top Right: *Group of happy ladies attending the Temiskaming Deanery's Fall Fling Thurs. Oct. 5, 2017 at the Church of St. John The Divine in North Bay.*

Bottom Right: *The Rev. Richard White speaking at the Temiskaming Deanery's Fall Fling on his time in Abu Dhabi.*

Bottom Left: *The Ven. Linda White, thanking Heather Topps and the North Bay Ukelele Band for their rousing presentation at the Temiskaming Deanery's Fall Fling.*



Does God Have a Sense of Humour?

By Enid Bastien, North Bay

Consider the Duck Billed Platypus. It's that most mysterious creature that lives in the waters along the eastern coast of Australia, and is 'near threatened' to extinction ...

- .. is about 20 inches long including the 5 inch tail
- .. has fur like an otter
- .. a duck-like bill and webbed feet
- .. a tail like a beaver
- .. claws like a rooster
- .. males are poisonous, have stingers on the heels of their hind feet
- .. females lay eggs like a turtle
- .. has a life expectancy of 20+ years in captivity but perhaps only 12 years in the wild

.. hunts food underwater and eats larvae, shellfish and worms; gravel picked up off the bottom helps them 'chew' as they have no teeth

Creationists believe the Bible, that God made everything ... evolutionists believe man evolved from an ape.

And the platypus? I think God chuckled when he made them, knowing how much they would confound the evolutionists!!



Nine Commandments for Altar Guilds

sent in by Barbie Garvin

- If it's metal, polish it.
- If it's floral, arrange it.
- If it's cloth, iron it.
- If in doubt, wash it.
- If it has been taken care of by one person for more than ten years, avoid it.
- If it is a memorial, revere it or try to work around it.
- If it's been done only one way for more than five years, don't try to change it.
- If new rectors, vicars or curates get bright ideas, indulge them. They'll soon learn better.
- If the bishop wants all the vestments and hangings changed ten minutes before the service, smile sweetly, ask for prayers for a speedy recovery from your hearing loss, and leave him (her) to pray in the solitude of the sacristy.

(From The Anglican Digest)

Mother's Union article continued from page 7

Rev'd & Right Honorable Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury in attendance. On November 25, 2017, they will be focusing on the issue of 'end gender-based violence' ---the issue of stigma, where society responds negatively to or blaming those who are the victims. "BREAK THE SILENCE, LIFT THE SHAME, AND SHIFT THE BLAME".

The Canadian Mothers Union is a registered charity and accepts donations for various projects---- promoting the Northern Clergy Families Fund, the Parenting Program and others. www.canadahelps.org

As we travel our comfortable, merry ways let us ever be mindful of the less fortunate and ask that Mothers Union members and others be blessed for all their mission work. Let me leave with you a prayer that was included in the 140th Anniversary program.

**All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible
for thee;
and every life I touch do thou so by the spirit guided
whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or
the life I live. Amen**

*Facts are supported by Mothers' Union web
sites*



The Bishop's Message continued from page 3

He is present when we are at home alone or with loved ones preparing meals, making beds or cleaning up after others.

He is present when we lie down to sleep at night guarding us in the shelter of his loving arms just as a mother bird shelters and protects her young from harm.

He is with our children and grandchildren as they grow up in a complex world.

He is present in the busyness of our lives as we involve ourselves in the gathering work of Christ in our church communities and make his love known through our many outreach projects.

He is present with us in times of stress, loneliness, illness, death, worry and concern - for ourselves and for those we love.

He is present with all of God's children who live in war and poverty, or who must leave their homes to find safety.

St. Paul encourages us with these words that, "Neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:38-39 .

Truly Emmanuel is God -with -us now. When God seems distant or when life presses in and you are fearful, I urge you to hear the same words that Mary and Joseph and the shepherds heard - "Do not be afraid."

Thank you for all the ways in which you serve Christ in the church - for the work of your hands and hearts and for the funds you raise which support so many worthwhile causes. In the first year of my episcopacy I have been the recipient of many hundreds of dollars to my discretionary fund from your groups. They are all being put to good use and I am grateful to be able to lend a helping hand to those in need through your generosity.

May you be blessed this Christmas and in 2018 as you are a blessing to others. In the love of Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Anne".

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Editorial Assistants for the Winter Edition - Thunder Bay-North Shore

Deadline for the next issue is ... **March 1st, 2018**

Subscription Rate is \$12.00/year for 4 printed issues. Make cheques payable to: **Agloma Newsletter.**

Mail to: Sharon Corston, Communications Chair, 165 Clarkson Street North Thunder Bay, ON P7A 6G1



Communications

by Sharon Corston

When filling out your Christmas cards this year, take one card and send it to this address:

Any Canadian Forces Member
PO Box 5140 Stn Forces
Belleville ON K8N 5W6

If we pass this on and everyone sends one card, think of how many cards these wonderful, special people, who have sacrificed so much would get.

New Year's Prayer

by Charlotte Anselmo

Thank you Lord for giving me
The brand new year ahead
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend
Give me strength and courage
So a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And the happiness it brings.

Please give the leaders of our world
A courage born of peace
That they might lead us gently
And all the fighting cease.

Please give to all upon this earth
A heart that's filled with love
A gentle happy way to live
With Your blessings from above.

The New Year lies before you,
like a spotless track of snow...
be careful how you tread on it,
for every mark will show.

Kept well my sisters and may the Lord bless you.

Look forward to information that will be coming for
the 2018 Annual!

Your from Northern Ontario when....

1. Your idea of a traffic jam is 10 cars waiting to pass a log truck
2. "Vacation" means going to Sudbury for the weekend
3. You measure distance in hours
4. You know several people who have hit a moose more than once
5. You often switch from "heat" to "a/c" in the same day
6. You use a down comforter in the summer
7. Your grandparents drive 65 mph through 13 ft of snow during a ragging blizzard without flinching
8. You see people wearing hunting clothes at social events
9. You install security lights on your house and leave it unlocked
10. You think of the major food groups as moose meat, fish and berries
11. You carry jumper cables in your car and your girlfriend know how to use them
12. There are 7 empty cars running in a grocery store parking lot at any given time
13. You design your kids halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit
14. Driving is better in the winter cause the potholes are filled with snow
15. You think lingerie is tube socks and flannel pajamas
16. You know all 4 seasons: almost winter, winter, still winter, construction
17. It takes you 3 hours to go to the store for one item even if your in a rush and have to stop to talk to everyone in town
18. You actually understand these jokes