



LOOKS LIKE SHOWERS: What happens when Bishop Anne Germond and Rev. Canon Bob Elkin disagree? Somebody ends up all wet. As part of our annual appeal, you get to decide.

Waves are about to be made in the Diocese of Algoma

By the Rev. Canon Bob Elkin

I was shooting the breeze with Bishop Anne Germond recently when we got talking about how stuff gets funded around the diocese and especially how the *Algoma Anglican* raises money. I modestly made sure she knew that last year when a photo of me reading the paper outside of a biffy appeared on page one of the fund raising issue the response was excellent and over \$7,000.00 was donated. “People probably responded well because they could see the obvious connection be-

tween you and the outhouse” she replied, “But I know that Algoma would respond even more generously to the right appeal.” I mulled over her comment about me and the outhouse and feeling a challenging response was required I retorted: “Would you care to make a small wager about that Bishop?” She gave me one of those smiles usually reserved for idiotic internet pictures of kittens stuck in paper bags and shaking her head replied: “Anglicans don’t gamble, Fr. Bob!” Obviously she hasn’t been in the local casino on

a Friday night lately but I had my opening and I pounced! “I challenge you to a duel!” I cried. “Anglican’s may not gamble but there is nothing that says they can’t duel as anybody who’s ever attended an annual vestry meeting knows. I say, “with luck they might raise \$7,000.00 again this year. What do you say?”

Our bishop is no coward! “\$10,000.00” she said without hesitation “and my choice of weapons. Ice water buckets over the head! Winner pours it over the loser. Prepare to get wet Elkin!”

And so it was arranged.

If \$7,000.00 or less is raised I soak the Bishop. If \$10,000.00 or more is achieved I go under the bucket. If it’s in between the one closest to what they said douses the other. The gauntlet has been thrown, and the arrangements are made. Now it’s up to you Algoma! Are you the generous but not over the top crowd that I believe you to be or will you blow the lid off, redeem the bishop and get me drenched. Your choice, but I’m not worried; yet!

Inside Algoma



Gathering brings together those in youth ministry

Johanna Kritolitis, Deanery-Facilitator for Temiskaming was one of a number of those working in youth ministry who attended Stronger Together held in Paris, Ontario.

See p. 4



Gathering Table comes to life in Thunder Bay

The coming together of St. John the Evangelist and St. Luke’s, marks the beginning of the Gathering Table, a new ministry in Thunder Bay.

See p. 8

Next deadline

The deadline for the next issue of *The Algoma Anglican* is **Thursday, November 1.**

Send items to:

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Algoma participates in Shingwauk gathering

Annual event allows for healing and reconciliation

By the Rev. Dr. Jay Koyle

The Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association (CSAA)

hosted an important gathering this summer fostering healing, sharing, learning, and reconciliation. People from across the province and beyond converged at Baawating/Sault Ste. Marie, in Robinson-Huron Treaty (1850) territory, on the traditional land of the Anishnaabeg.

Held at the original site of the

Shingwauk Indian Residential School, which is presently the home of Algoma University and Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig (Shingwauk University), the August 3 to 5 conference explored the theme “The Government Apology and the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement: Then and Now”.

With a donation of \$10,400, the Diocese of Algoma provided a quarter of the funds required for the conference. Individuals from the Synod office and local congregations were among the attendees at plenary and small group sessions. Bishop Anne Germond and Lana Grawbarger, Lay Incumbent of St. John’s Church, Garden Riv-

er, presided at the Sunday morning chapel liturgy, which was followed by a ceremony in the Shingwauk cemetery.

A major highlight of the weekend took place immediately prior to the conference. The official launch of “Reclaiming Shingwauk Hall” unveiled the first major, *See Diocese – p. 7*



NEW METROPOLITAN: Pictured from left are Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, the new elected Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, Rt. Rev. Anne Germond, and Archbishop Colin Johnson, Bishop of Toronto and present Metropolitan.

Bishop Germond elected Metropolitan of Ontario

By now, many of you have heard the news that our Bishop was elected at the recent convocation of Provincial Synod, October 9-12, to serve as Ontario's new Metropolitan. She was installed to this office during the Synod at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa, Primate Fred Hiltz served as preacher. She will now be styled as *The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Archbishop of Algoma and Metropolitan of Ontario*. The proper ways to address her are 'Archbishop Anne', 'Archbishop Germond', or 'Your Grace'. The following is her letter to the Diocese about her new ministry:

Dear People of God in Algoma, Something very unexpected happened at Provincial Synod in Ottawa on the morning of October 10. I was chosen to serve as the new Metropolitan for the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario.

Two years ago I was elected Bishop of Algoma. Since then I've had the joy of meeting and spending time with you, worshipping with you, and sharing in moments of great joy and sometimes great struggle or sorrow. My world has increased through travels around our beautiful diocese, and I have come to appreciate even more the wonderful diversity that is Algoma – not just geographically but also in terms of its people.

I am in awe of the ways in which you live into your baptismal callings and serve Christ with such faith and conviction. I love watching the growth arising from the seeds of discipleship, stewardship, reconciliation, and community building that I called us to plant as a Diocese in my Charge to Synod last year. I am excited to see the new ministries that will unfold in the coming years. I count it an enormous privilege to serve as your Bishop.

The news I'm sharing with you doesn't change anything about my role in Algoma at all. You've got me!

One of the items on the agenda of this year's Provincial Synod was the election of a new Metropolitan for the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. Our present Metropolitan, Archbishop Colin Johnson, who has served our beloved church so faithfully and so well, is retiring

at the end of 2018. The Metropolitan is the Senior Bishop of the Province and the President of the Provincial Synod and the Provincial House of Bishops, and Chair of Provincial Council. The Metropolitan presides at the election of all bishops in the Province and at the consecration services of those duly elected. The Metropolitan automatically becomes the Bishop of the Diocese of Moosonee, too.

Before the election, delegates prayed that God would guide our minds, "that we might receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and support us in our ministries." (BAS pg. 676) We entered into the election in a spirit of prayer, trusting that God would act in our midst. Canon 11 of Provincial Synod provides that "only the Diocesan Bishops of the Province shall be eligible for election to the office of Metropolitan." All of the eligible Bishops in the Provincial House of Bishops were on the ballot.

When the count from the first ballot came in, I had been elected as the new Metropolitan for Ontario. This development was not something I even considered, as there are many far more capable and senior bishops than me in the 'House' who are more worthy of the position than I am. I count each of them as mentors and friends, and there is a great sense of collegiality among us that I know this will continue in the coming years. I am humbled by the honour and by the trust placed in me and I will do everything to support the ministries of the church in Ontario and beyond.

Since the 'breaking news' was shared I have received countless emails, text messages, and phone calls of congratulations, and assurances of prayer from across Algoma, and further afield. Thank you, thank you – I am grateful for each note and covet each prayer.

Right now everything feels pretty overwhelming and quite terrifying, and so I am keeping my eyes on Jesus who is my constant friend and companion. I ask you to keep my family in your prayers too as we navigate our way through this new beginning. My darling Colin is amazing and so supportive, and I

am grateful for his love every day. Our children, Caitlin and Richard, are now young adults living away from home and this makes it somewhat easier.

Some of you have asked questions about what this means for Algoma and how it will work with me being the Bishop of our neighbouring Diocese of Moosonee. I will continue with all of my duties and responsibilities as usual in the Diocese of Algoma, including parochial visits and the usual meetings that are held in the course of a year. Moosonee Diocese is constituted in such a way that an Administrator, Archdeacon Larry Armstrong, handles the everyday administration. There is an Assistant Bishop, Tom Corston, who travels extensively in Moosonee and does most of the episcopal functions like Confirmations and Ordinations. When Archbishop Johnson was Bishop of Moosonee he spent some time there getting to know the diocese and chairing meetings of Executive Council twice a year, participating in Ordinations and Confirmations as he was able. I will be in conversation with these three men so we can work on how to make things work well for Moosonee and Algoma.

You might be interested to know that two former Bishops of Algoma have been Archbishops of the Province of Ontario – Archbishop George Thorneloe (1915 – 1926) and Archbishop William Wright (1955 – 1974). I will become the third woman Archbishop in the Anglican Communion and the second in the Canadian Church; Archbishop Melissa Skelton is the Archbishop of British Columbia.

In this time of new beginnings I invite you to join with me in praying for the mission of God's Church, that we would be one "great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island."

You remain in my heart and in my prayers,
+Anne

November book review

By Charlotte Haldenby

Some of us have met with refugees over the past few years in so many ways: helping to furnish places to stay, driving for groceries or appointments, coaching them in English, or trying to explain legal, medical and educational papers even some of us don't quite understand. They're coming along. The mother of the family I frequently visit told me recently that her family loves Canada, even though it's getting cold again, and that windstorm on Friday was so scary. But her husband is working, she's taking classes, the toddler is in day-care, the kids are in school and the oldest two in special English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at one of our high schools.

I have always hesitated to ask what their life was like back home in Syria, for fear the memory would be so painful. But Winnie Yeung, an ESL teacher in Edmonton asked her students to tell her their life stories, and Abu Bakr al Zabeeah a fifteen-year-old who has been here three years now was so glad as he wanted Canadians to know what his family had gone through. Together, with his story and talks with his parents and checking details from newspaper archives, they have written *Homes: A Refugee Story*.

First they lived in Iraq, but they had to keep their Shi'a faith undercover as the Sunnis gained power. When it became too dangerous they moved over to Syria, and also applied for refugee status at the UN office in Damascus. Their chosen city of Homes also became dangerous. The whole family had to have individual papers. When he wanted to visit his cousins or friends he had to figure out the way through lanes and alleys, where he wouldn't be seen by police or the army. Imagine his father's panic when he finds Abu's papers at home and knows he's over at his cousin's. The family tries to keep their faith and attend mosque weekly, but one day there is a taxi close to the door that explodes just as they are coming out of worship. Granny doesn't want to leave home, and it is only when she dies after a similar attack, that they feel they can accept their refugee papers and eventually come to Canada.

This is so brief, but in almost every chapter there is something going on that we readers feel shouldn't happen to anyone. We really appreciate our own peace

and security that we take for granted here. Now we fully understand what our refugees may have come through.

Another interesting book, especially for crafty people is *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana*, by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon. It is the story of a family in Kabul under the Taliban. The father has to leave as he served in the army of the previous government. The family stays on, mainly girls with just two boys. The two older girls have their certificates to teach school, but that can't happen now. In fact, under government orders all women must stay in the home at all times, unless they are fully clothed in chadri, only eyes visible, and accompanied by a male, even a little brother.

Kalima, despite her new certificate, now must learn dress-making, and her older sister teaches her beading and embroidery. She goes with her brother to the shopping district with her first beautiful dress, and quietly persuades the dress shop owners to take her work, when there are no others in the store. Soon her younger sisters, their friends and the neighbourhood girls are all quietly coming over to their house to be trained in sewing, and Kalima takes the work to town weekly, with her brother, of course. One of the girls has a relative on the police force who alerts them to danger, appreciating that his girl is doing so well. At the end of the book in 2011, the Taliban have moved on to other areas. Things are almost back to normal, but now in 2018 the Taliban are back full force.

It is so hard to imagine being confined to your home, having to support yourself by what you can do within those four walls, not being in touch with the outside world. These girls survive however. As we read either of these books our natural first reaction is "How can people live with this happening? I don't know if I could."

Hopefully, close on that, comes the realisation that we have opportunities to help the people going through these events. We can support refugees as they come here, and realize how their world has changed. We can support the PWRDF working in refugee camps in Africa and other projects around the world, so that all our world-wide neighbours can have some hope in their lives.

The deadline for the December edition of the Algoma Anglican is Monday, November 1

EDITORIAL

The Algoma Anglican is the Official Voice of the Diocese of Algoma.
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The Rt. Rev. Anne Germond, Bishop
Peter Simmons, Editor

Letter from the Bishop

Living reconciliation day by day

Dear friends in Christ,

In my travels around Algoma I'm making it a priority during parish visits to meet with the leadership of the parish to hear about the good things God is doing in their midst, and also where their growing edges are. I'm learning a great deal and I am discovering new ways to pray for them.

In a recent conversation with one of the wardens in a smaller congregation, she brought up the 'Seed of Reconciliation' in the sacred bundle that Algoma is carrying between synods. She said, "Bishop, we are hearing a lot about reconciliation between ourselves and our indigenous brothers and sisters, and how we will walk together after General Synod 2019, but for me reconciliation is something that needs attention in my own family and in our own parish. This is what our focus needs to be. How can we do this well?"

I couldn't agree more. It is hypocritical to be talking the talk about reconciliation in the community while not walking the walk at home. Jesus had something to say about reconciliation's beginning. "If therefore, you bring your gift to the altar and there recall that your brother holds something against you, leave your gift in front of the altar, and first go and be reconciled with your brother, and then offer your gift." (Matthew 5: 23-24) These words form part of the Sermon on the Mount and are key for us to hear. Not only are we called to be aware of those places in our lives that need healing, but to undertake the work of reconciliation, challenging and difficult as that may seem.

If we think about reconciliation in terms of our calling as disciples of Christ, pursuing peace and living lives of reconciliation is a task that is entrusted to each of us. It is a way of being as we live into our baptismal promise to work at transforming unjust structures within our society, challenging violence of every kind.

In his letter to the Corinthians (2 Cor. 5: 17-19), Paul reminds us that we are new creations in Christ. This demands something from us: the truth is that the world is changed by ordinary human beings who choose to live in a new way. Healthy communities and vibrant congregations grow stronger by the people who live in them and make a difference every day by their words and actions.

Home, and our communities of faith are the place to start living reconciliation. As we find ways to face the conflicts in our own communities in open and honest dialogue, being respectful of one another's diverse viewpoints, we can continue them in the more divisive issues that we are facing in our life together. The journey towards reconciliation is both local and global, individual and communal, and is something that is lived out daily with the companions of our own stories and the scriptures.

The good news is that the journey of reconciliation begins from where we are in our lives; in that place of deep hurt and resentment, or with a particular viewpoint on something, and not from where we think we ought to be in a relationship or conversation. Forgiveness, repentance, reparation and restoration are all part of reconciliation's healing journey, and is something that always takes place in relationship with other people. Sometimes it happens quickly, and sometimes it takes years, but if it is undertaken seriously it is rich and fulfilling, leading to transformed lives. The point of this isn't to bring another person over to our point of view or to hide from the deep differences that exist in our lives together, but rather to enter with a spirit of openness and willingness to be transformed.

"Living reconciliation does not mean putting aside our beliefs. It means something far more threatening; it means recognizing that the person you believe to be completely wrong on some issue of significance is on a journey with Christ



and with you." (*Living Reconciliation* by Phil Groves and Angharad Parry Jones p. 44)

As a Christocentric community we keep our eyes on Jesus and in so doing set out a pattern for building relationships as a healthy way to transform conflict together. Many faith communities are using 'Gospel based discipleship' as a way of bringing the Scriptures into the centre of the circle before any other conversations take place. I encourage all of our congregations to use this method, or other short Bible studies before all board meetings take place in a parish.

Every time we celebrate the Eucharist we hear God's story of reconciliation as it is recounted in the story of our salvation and experienced in bread and wine. Worship ends with us being sent out into the world to live that peace and be a reconciling community wherever we find ourselves.

There is a beautiful image of a new way of 'living reconciliation' in the book by that title. Phil Groves describes a drum whose sound calls people to attention. The type of sound of a drum is determined by the kind of skin used on top of the drum. As Christians we use the genuine leather of love, forgiveness and grace to make our drum of reconciliation.

The trunk and skin of the drum is held together by strings which are essential in ensuring the drum produces its sound. Here are the new strings for making reconciliation possible:

- The first string on the drum is relationship which includes building new relationships, healing broken relationships and fostering new relationships. As relationships are built we see one another as part of a community that stands together in all circumstances. "We, being many, are one body."
- The second string on the drum is that of conversation. It only happens once community is established. Expect people to hold diverse opinions and allow everyone to share their ideas.
- The third string on the drum is finding a place of meeting where the community can come together to discuss concerns and share one another's 'burdens, weaknesses, strengths and encouragements'. This takes time and needs time to listen to the concerns of all.
- The fourth string on the drum is an increasing appreciation of our uniqueness. This allows members to use their best qualities, skills, talents to enrich the life of the community. Each person brings something with them into each conversation and is valued for who they are intrinsically in Christ, not only for what they bring.
- The fifth string of the drum is committing to walking together, even through difficult times.

May God bless our journey to reconciliation and healing and keep us in love,

Anne Germond
Bishop of Algoma

Letters to the Editor & Submissions Policy

Letter writers and authors of unsolicited submissions are reminded to include a signature and phone number for verification purposes. Letters will be reviewed and may be edited for length and content. While letters expressing opinion are welcome, all letters and other submissions are subject to approval before publication.

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In praise of things Algoma

By the Rev. Canon Bob Elkin

Old Bill is sitting at his kitchen table one morning drinking his coffee when the phone rings. He answers it and it's Jim his bank manager who wishes him good morning and then explains the reason for the call. "Your neighbor Charlie was in this morning to arrange a loan and he gave you as a reference. I'm just checking to see what you can tell me." Bill says: "He can't have come into the bank this morning. He's dead!" Manager Jim is shocked. "He's not dead Bill" he says. "I know him and that was him in here earlier. What makes you think he's dead?" And Bill replies: "Well he borrowed \$200.00 from me about a month ago and he said he'd pay me back the following Monday if he wasn't dead and I haven't seen him!"

I'd wager that Charlie didn't get the loan but that's how things used to work. You knew everybody and they knew you. As a kid I threw a rock through the window of a house on the next block once and the man in that house waltzed me down to my house and told my dad what I'd done. Dad fixed me and then he fixed the window but I never threw rocks around windows again. That same man who dragged me home that day also took me and his kids to the beach in the summertime and I was always included in their big family picnics. They knew me and they knew what was good for me and they helped it to happen just like many in the neighbourhood did. People knew each other and that was usually a good thing.

I'm writing this in praise of our Diocesan newspaper the *Algoma Anglican*. Through it I learn about what is happening elsewhere, outside of my little corner of the Anglican world. It makes it personal

and through the articles and photographs I know people that I've never met, learn about what's happening in places I've never been to and share things with fellow Anglicans who live a long way from me. The paper puts faces, names and places to a lot of activity that I need to know about and want to know about. It helps me know my neighbor and I'm very grateful for that.

I subscribe to two other religious publications, the *United Church Observer* and *Geez* magazine and they present many thoughtful articles about the issues facing churches and Christians today but for the most part they aren't personal. I'll probably never meet Richard Bott the new United Church moderator or Mandy Elliott who wrote an interesting review in *Geez* of a film about trans women but I know a lot of the people who are in the latest issue of the *Algoma Anglican*. I can relate personally to the articles about Stadnyk Hall in Goulais River and the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth gathering which took place in Thunder Bay and many others. That personal touch makes it far more real for me than an anonymous article in a magazine.

So I support the *Algoma Anglican* and I hope you do too. Last year my wife and I donated five hundred dollars to the fund raising campaign and realizing that prices rise we've decided to up that by ten percent this year. If you can I encourage you to raise your donation also. The *Algoma Anglican* coupled with the *Anglican Journal* informs me about all things Anglican both at home and abroad.

It's a great match and we need to support it.



STRONGER TOGETHER: From Friday, September 14 to Sunday, September 16, youth leaders of The Anglican Church of Canada and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada came together at the Five Oaks Centre near Paris, Ontario for "Stronger Together." The annual gathering is a means of networking, consultation, training, support, resource sharing and discovery, and developing collaborative projects. One of the participants was Algoma's Johanna Kristolitis, front row, far right, Deanery Associate for Temiskaming.

Faith and knowledge: Stronger Together

By Johanna Kristolitis

Editor's note: In the following, Johanna Kristolitis, Deanery Facilitator for the Deanery of Temiskaming, writes of her experience at Stronger Together, an annual gathering of persons who work in youth ministry in the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. The event was held from September 14 to 16 at Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre in Paris, Ontario

Sometimes we are called to share in things we don't know much about. Sometimes we are called to share things we know well. Sometimes these two seemingly incompatible experiences happen together. Since God knows each of us so well, it doesn't surprise me that this most often happens in relation to faith and ministry opportunities.

When I received an email from Sheilagh McGlynn, Animator for Youth Ministry with the Anglican Church of Canada, inviting me and others to the Stronger Together youth ministry event, I had no idea what this was or how I got added to the list. But I knew I wanted to go when I read it was about Youth and Mental Health, a topic that can never have enough coverage in my opinion. Knowing that mental health is a complex and difficult topic, I was happy to see the agenda contained not only education on mental health in the context of youth and faith communities, but the importance of self-care for those providing care. I know personally about mental health issues and I always appreciate the chance

to update and refresh my knowledge, especially in a professional context. But why were we focusing on mental health? And what was Stronger Together anyway?

I soon learned that Stronger Together is an annual gathering of people from both the ACC and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada who have their hands in youth ministry in one way or another. Running since 2010, this is an opportunity to connect with others who are engaged in similar ministries, share stories "from the field" and learn about what is happening in other areas as well as in a national context. This year's event, which was held from September 14 to 16 at Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre in Paris, Ontario, included discussion of CLAY and the National Youth Project, which will spend the next two years focusing on housing and homelessness.

Through this project, youth are encouraged to take on fundraising and, or awareness raising initiatives that will support local programs. The youth at CLAY participated in an exercise that lightly simulated what it would be like to be homeless. The exercise may be adapted for use with youth groups throughout the country. We also got to hear about some of the work underway by PWRDF and had time to share a variety of youth ministry resources.

On top of this, Stronger Together gives those attending some professional development based on the theme chosen for that year. The exploration of mental health came out of an increasing number of ex-

periences where mental health issues were intersecting with youth ministry work. This includes having youth and others in our faith communities who are struggling with maintaining mental health, but it's also about the ways that belonging to a community can support mental well-being. It's important to know how to help them; this can be done simply by creating safe spaces where we practice love and acceptance. But beyond that, as the expert speakers told us, engaging youth as the experts on their own experiences and needs is equally important. We don't need to have all the answers or even know all the questions. We do need to be open to honest conversations and authentic relationships, and to listening to the voices of our youth in the many ways they communicate.

While I've been involved in children's ministry for some time, my foray into youth ministry is just beginning. I'm excited by the prospect of working alongside youth as they journey deeper into their relationship with Christ. This seemed daunting at first: I know what to do with kids, but the world of youth today is so different from the one I grew up in 20 years ago. I feel very blessed at being able to attend both CLAY and Stronger Together where I had the opportunity to connect with people from across Canada. It certainly changes my perspective on how to approach youth ministry: it's not about what you do, it's about being who you are. We are all God's children, and we are all Stronger Together.



SHARING IDEAS: Johanna Kristolitis, Deanery Associate for Temiskaming, shares some moments with two participants from The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. In back is pictured Rob Karhukangas from Port Coquitlam, BC and Tyler Gingrich from Winnipeg. They were attendees at "Stronger Together", a gathering of youth leaders from The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and The Anglican Church in Canada. The gathering was held in Paris, Ontario from Friday, September 14 to Sunday, September 16, 2018.

The Book of Psalms is not always appreciated

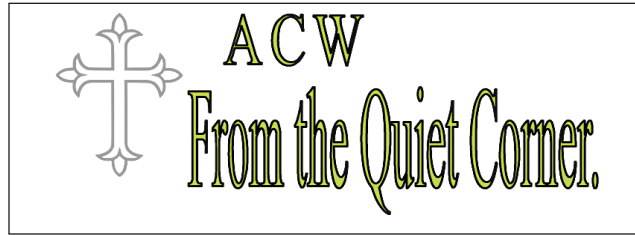
By Susan Goodwin
ACW Devotional Secretary

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.

The book of Psalms, poetry book of the Bible, is often repeated but perhaps not always appreciated. And yet, within its ancient verses we find expressed just about every human emotion and experience of God there is, which is why they mean so much to us today. When words fail us in prayer or when we need comfort or strength how often do we turn to our favourite psalm. Psalm 23 is one that springs to mind or Psalm 46 'God is our refuge and strength.' I'm sure we all have at least one that comes to mind, these are poems written from the heart, as is usually the case with poetry and say what normal writing cannot.

So which of us I wonder has not watched the setting

sun and felt in awe of its beauty or gazed up into the night sky and wondered at the stars shining from within its dark velvety depths. Have we not felt something stirring within our hearts, a desire to know and understand better the one by whose hand we were formed.



Now, if the heavens can loudly declare without language or voice the glory of God perhaps there is a lesson for us to learn. Example can speak louder than words, for God demonstrated His love for us by dying on a cross and then by overcoming death and rising again. He suffered in order

to offer us a new beginning a chance for reconciliation. We have a glorious God who wants nothing more than to see the whole of His creation living in harmony with itself and with Him therefore surely, whenever we have the chance we should not be shy about proclaiming His glory and our reason for trusting in Him.

To think about and discuss:

- What is your favourite Psalm, and why?
- Does the natural world sometimes inspire you to seek the presence of God? Have you recently had such an experience?
- Do you agree or not, that we should be more open and talk more about our faith to others?

Prayer.

O God, You formed the earth and the heavens and commanded them to proclaim your glory. Shine in our hearts so that we too, may proclaim the glory of your Son Jesus Christ throughout the Diocese of Algoma. Amen.



TELLING OF THE GOOD WORK: This past spring, pictured on left, Cathy Pirrie, Diocesan Representative, Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, visited the Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury. Ms. Pirrie spoke and led a discussion on the work of the PWRDF at home and abroad. She is pictured with Mary Donato, Church of the Epiphany PWRDF Representative.

Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury supports PWRDF programs

By Mary Donato

Editor's note: In the following, Mary Donato, PWRDF Representative for the Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury writes of the visit of Cathy Pirrie, Diocesan PWRDF Representative who spoke and led a discussion on the good work of the organisation

This past spring the Outreach Team of Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury, was pleased to welcome Cathy Pirrie, Diocesan Representative for our Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) as the speaker at a Lunch and Learn event following the Sunday service. I, as Parish Representatives for PWRDF, introduced Ms. Pirrie who spoke and led a discussion on the good work being done at home and abroad, by Anglicans through our PWRDF. This was done in conjunction with the parish annual PWRDF appeal.

Working through its Outreach Team, Church of the Epiphany

supports programs internationally, nationally, and locally. Internationally, through PWRDF, over 20 bicycle ambulances have been provided and the provision of solar suitcases has been supported. This year, however, we were advised that, for a variety of reasons, monies are no longer being directed to solar suitcases. H2OH! was recommended as an alternative. This program provides bore wells which not only ensure a community will have clean drinking water but that girls and women will not spend hours each day collecting it. Each gift of \$2,000 is matched by \$12,000 to provide safe, clean water to a community. Close to \$3000 has been contributed this year by the May appeal in addition to the parish budget contribution, monies raised at the annual Outreach Team book sale held each January, and profits from sale of Fair Trade coffee.

Nationally, through an appeal

in the fall plus book sale monies, and parish budget, the church supports child and youth programs in the Diocese of Moosonee, especially the LivingRoom, a drop-in ministry in Schumacher. Locally, a number of projects are supported. This past summer, for the third year, Epiphany was able to send a family to Camp Manitou; a young mother and her five children enjoyed a wonderful week. This year the church were also able to support a young boy's attendance at junior boys' camp and another at senior boys'.

These opportunities to serve help us to fulfill our baptismal vows to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself" and to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being" (BAS, 159). The members of the Church of the Epiphany welcome them.



WELL DESERVED: Jim and Dorothy Anstice, pictured in centre, were recently awarded the BMO Bank of Montreal Ontario Farm Family Award. The award recognises the contributions made by farmers across the province.

Mindemoya family receives award

By Susan Montague Koyle

Members of St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church in Mindemoya are recipients of the 2018 BMO Bank of Montreal Ontario Farm Family Award. Jim and Dorothy Anstice, and family, living and working on the family dairy operation, Oshadenah Holsteins, received this coveted prize at the International Plowing Match in Chatham-Kent, Ontario, held from Tuesday, September 18 through Saturday, September 22, 2018. The Anstice family was one of eleven families chosen from across Ontario to receive these awards, handed out annually since 2012.

Julie Barker-Merz, Senior Vice-President, South Western Ontario Division, BMO Bank of Montreal explains, "The BMO Ontario Farm

Family Awards recognize the contributions made by farmers across the province, from their deep roots in the community to the stewardship of the lands on which they work, and the values of hard work and commitment that they embody. These 11 families demonstrate how heritage and innovation can work hand in hand to further farming in the province."

Jim and Dorothy Anstice have been very involved in their parish, deanery, and the Diocese for many years. Both provide liturgical leadership in their congregation. Mrs. Anstice, a warden at St. Francis' Church, served as Lay Steward of Sudbury-Manitoulin and a member of the Diocesan Executive Committee for many years. Congratulations to the Anstice family!

Algoma Anglican E-mail Address

To reach the Algoma Anglican by E-mail, send your material to us at: anglican@muskoka.com

The deadline for the December edition of the *Algoma Anglican* is **Monday, November 1**

What was God thinking?

By the Rev. Canon Bob Elkin

Most Canadians, if asked to name the seasons would reply summer, fall, winter and spring but you can obviously tell that most Canadians don't live in the country! Where I live the seasons are snow season, mud season, black-fly season and mouse season and right now we're in the middle of mouse season. It's getting cold out and all the mice are headed to my house looking for a nice, warm berth inside. I'm trying to discourage it but it isn't easy to discourage a mouse once he makes up his mind. It's like trying to keep a squirrel away from a bird feeder that he's decided he likes. It takes a lot of effort and doesn't usually end well.

We got a cat but that was a waste of time. The cat hears them banging away in the walls and immediately goes to another room where he doesn't have to listen to them and they can't disturb his sleep. I've never seen him catch a mouse but I did once see him leap to the top of the buffet from a reclining position on the floor when a mouse ran out from under the table headed in his direction. I made getting rid of the cat noises once but the look I got from my spouse told me that I didn't want to force her to make a choice in that area! Apparently husbands are a dime a dozen but a good cat is hard to find. A good cat is one that lies on your shoulder sleeping or purring and has nothing to do with catching mice of course. Go figure.

I put out traps but that's a bit tricky. The cat might get caught in them so I have to place them in spots where he won't go. That limits it to certain areas around the furnace where the mice don't go much either but I have caught the odd mouse there. Unfortunately it doesn't do a thing for the ones that are trying to take over the upstairs part of the house where we do most of our living. Besides that I've nearly had a heart attack trying to set the traps without getting caught in them myself. There is a place of honour reserved in hell for whoever invented the mouse-trap. I'm sure I've lost salvation by some of the language that has shot out of my mouth when I've

been gently carrying the fully armed trap to its resting place and had it go off as I carried it.

We had to go away for a month in September and not wishing to find the house stuffed with mice when we came back, I went down to the hardware store and spent a small fortune on an electric mouse squealer which emits a high pitched sound that only mice can hear. The manufacturer promises that they don't like the sound and won't stay in any house so equipped. It disturbed me a bit when I discovered that I could



hear the sound too but I decided to give science a chance and put the thing downstairs where we think they get in.

When we returned we found that the mice had been driven from the basement and moved upstairs where they found that it was not only warmer but had cupboards full of food available too! I complained at the hardware store but they said the guarantee didn't cover mice with hearing problems as was noted on page 314 of the instruction booklet that anybody with x-ray vision could have read. I don't know how I missed that.

We finally settled for a stand-off with the mice. They own the downstairs and won't go upstairs much and in return I removed the mouse squealer and only set traps around the furnace where they rarely go. They've agreed to not scare the cat when he's downstairs at his catbox and I've agreed not to get another cat who might actually catch them. Nobody got everything that they wanted but we all got a bit and peace now reigns at my house. Maybe there's hope for East and West yet.

Making submissions for publication in the Algoma Anglican?

1) Articles: If you're sending articles, we prefer to receive digital files. Our first choice is to receive attachments in Microsoft Word. Our second choice is for material to be pasted into the body of the E-mail message. Do not send WordPerfect attachments. We do not use

WordPerfect in our production department.
2) Photos: If you're using a digital camera, we prefer to receive as large a file as possible. Most digital cameras produce files at 72 dpi and up to 24 inches or larger in width. Please save the file as jpeg and do not reduce the size.

E-Mail address: anglican@muskoka.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Following the service of Holy Eucharist on Sunday, September 2, congregants of St. Thomas, Ullswater/Bent River gathered to celebrate the 80th birthday of Freda Kingshott. Mrs. Kingshott, who is Rector's Warden, gives much time to the church baking, organising dinners and yard sales to name but a few activities. She is pictured standing beside her grandson Curtis Kingshott and son Peter, left and grandson Kyle Kingshott.



HEADING HOME: On Wednesday, September 26, Connie and Rev. Canon Bob Elkin stopped for lunch at a restaurant in the village of Rosseau. The couple had been staying at the cottage at Christ Church, Gregory whole Canon Elkin took Sunday services. The Elkins had brought their tear drop caravan down for the ride and were sure to not leave it behind.



TURKEY WITH ALL THE FIXINGS: On Saturday, September 29, St. Thomas, Orrville held their annual Turkey Dinner at the Orrville Community Centre. Over 300 enjoyed spending time together while sharing a full turkey dinner.



A GIFT FROM ALGOMA: Rev. Dr. Jay Koyle presents a financial gift of \$10,400 from the Diocese of Algoma to Tracie Louttit who was the coordinator for this year's Shingwauk gathering hosted by the The Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association. The monetary gift provided one quarter of funds required for the conference. The theme of the conference was "The Government Apology and the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement: Then and Now". The gathering was held in Sault Ste. Marie from August 3 to 5, 2018.



TELLING THE TRUTH: The official launch of "Reclaiming Shingwauk Hall" took place at the Shingwauk Gathering held from August 3 to August 5 in Sault Ste. Marie. The hallways, from floor to ceiling, are now composed of curated stories and pictures, resourced by survivors, the Algoma University Archives and the Diocese of Algoma, two of a number of partners. The exhibit honours work led by The Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association to tell of the truth about residential schools and contribute to healing and reconciliation.

The Puritans exert their influence

By the Rev. Peter Simmons

As Roman interference in the English Church came to an end, Puritans began to make themselves known. Their desire was not to eliminate the Church of England, rather they sought to transform it beyond the reforms undertaken by Elizabeth. They hoped to achieve reform from within.

During the reign of Mary a number of Puritans had fled to the continent. In Geneva many fell under the influence of Calvin while in Zurich, Heinrich Bullinger, the successor to Zwingli at Grossmunster, exerted considerable sway over the exiles. Upon their return to England, they

brought with them hope for further reform in a number of areas of church life.

Puritans believed the Prayer Book of 1559 remained tainted by Roman practices. Ceremonies seen as improper included the signing of the Cross in baptism, the imposition of hands at Confirmation and the exchange of rings in marriage. Vestature should be kept at a bare minimum. The wearing of the alb, chausible, or cope at the Eucharist was intolerable. Even the wearing of the surplice was frowned upon. Musical practices in the liturgy came under heavy criticism. The playing of organs and other instruments was unacceptable as was the singing

of psalms antiphonally. Preaching was of central importance in the liturgy.

Puritans desired drastic changes to the structure and manner of Church governance. The office of the episcopate was to be abolished to ensure the equality of all min-

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isters. Lay people were to have a greater role in the oversight of the local church. 'Classis' or a local committee of presbyters would decide who was suitable for ordained ministry, some even being 'ordained' in a private setting

Diocese of Algoma is one of a number of partners

Continued from Front

permanent residential school survivor-driven exhibition in a former residential school building. The hallways, from floor to ceiling, are now carefully curated stories and pictures, resourced by survivors, the Algoma University Archives, and the Diocese of Algoma, to name just a few partners. The exhibit, the first of a proposed number of stages, honours decades of work led by CSAA in its efforts to tell the truth about the residential school past and contribute to national healing and reconciliation efforts.

Since the summer gathering, members of the Diocese have

participated in "Healing and Reconciliation through Education" Community Dialogue Sessions organized by the Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre (SRSC). It is hoped that arrangements can be made to host one or two of these sessions in Sault area congregations in the new year.

Algoma Anglican readers are encouraged to visit SRSC and the "Reclaiming Shingwauk" exhibit. To make arrangements, please contact the Centre at ShingwaukDG@algomau.ca or 705.949.2301, x4623. To learn more about SRSC, visit shingwauk.org/srsc/. For more on Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig, please visit shingwauku.ca



COMING TOGETHER: On Sunday, August 5, a service held at the Bishop Anne Germond and Ms. Lana Grawbarger, not pictured, presided at the Sunday morning chapel liturgy. Bishop Germond is pictured with Mitch Case. Mr. Case is Director- Student Services, Outreach and Resources at Shingwauk University, and President of the Metis Nation of Ontario Youth Council.



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Rev. Rosalie Goos looks on as Susan Montague Koyle, lay incumbent of the Parish of St. Joseph and St. George, cuts the anniversary cake in celebration of the 86th anniversary of St. George's, Echo Bay. St. George's was built in 1905, the site having been purchased and donated by Cal Boyce of Sault Ste. Marie. Services in the church began in March of 1909. Bishop Rocksborough Smith consecrated St. George's on September 4, 1932.



THE SOUND OF MUSIC: Frances Balodis, organist at St. Thomas, Ullswater Bent River is pictured at the new organ recently given to St. Thomas' by the Free Methodist church in Bracebridge. The Free Methodist church purchased a new organ, gifting this organ to St. Thomas'.

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GATHERED AROUND THE TABLE: On Sunday, September 30, the Gathering Table celebrated their opening. The Gathering Table brings together St. John the Evangelist and St. Luke's, Thunder Bay. Pictured together are, from left, Kim Bienvenue, Sylvia Kostecki, Brenda O'Neill, Marg Boone, Dale Sparkes, Sharon Corston, Jim Green, Pastor George Porter, Jim Sutton, David Reid, Marjorie Tutkaluk, and Carole Lee Kostyniuk.

A story of resurrection in Thunder Bay

By Sharon Corston

From the deaths of two historic churches in Thunder Bay, God has created new life. On Sunday, June 3rd, 2018, St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, 146 years old church, and St. Luke's, which is 127 years old, both held their last services. It was a kind of death. That, however, is not the end of the story. We are a resurrection people, after all, and so Gathering Table, a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada was born at 12:01 a.m. June 4. The joyful first worship of this new community was held in the parish hall at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 10, 2018.

The road to this end has been, as the song says, 'long, with many a winding turn' that seemed to lead 'to who knows where, who knows when?' Almost five years ago, the Deanery of Thunder Bay-North Shore began going through an intentional study and reflection called Together in Hope. The final report was published in January 2017, outlining potential directions for the deanery.

July 2017 saw the forming of a

three church Discernment Committee to discern the potential for merging their congregations. The words of the poet Antonio Machado became a mantra for the group: 'We make the road by walking.' Though this group ended in January 2018 with one of the churches sensing God leading them in a different direction, it was an invaluable journey from which emerged; a sense of values and the beginning of a vision.

In February 2018, a New Parish Team was formed to move ahead with the closing of the former St. John the Evangelist and St. Luke's congregations and the birthing of something new. Bishop Anne Germond approved the creation of Gathering Table in a Mandate Letter in April 2018.

This New Parish Team has worked diligently in the process of further discernment, sharpening our values, vision and mission, redesigning the worship space, and a thousand other details. Throughout the process the team has been aware that, though rooted in Anglican tradition, God also seems to be

leading us to a new expression of church, shaped by our values, our sense of mission, and the awareness that we are treaty people who share the traditional land of Fort William First Nation.

On Wednesday, September 26, 2018 the New Parish Team concluded its official ministry, handing off leadership to the interim Parish Advisory Council. Members of this group will serve through the first annual vestry meeting in February 2019.

On Sunday, September 30, 2018, at 2:00 pm, Gathering Table celebrated their opening with elder Isobel Mercier leading a smudging ceremony outside. This was followed by a procession in to the Rt. Rev. Anne Germond, was the presider. Rev Dr. D. Jay Koyle was the preacher.

For more information contact the Gathering Table at:
Office: 807.345.6898
Email: office@gatheringtable.ca
Office Hours are: Tuesday to Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Website: gatheringtable.ca
Facebook Page: Gathering Table



TWO BECOME ONE: On Sunday, September 2, the Gathering Table celebrated their coming together. The Gathering Table brings together St. John the Evangelist and St. Luke's, Thunder Bay.