



“how silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given”

Phillips Brooks: ○ Little Town of Bethlehem

Dear friends

Here is an old story, appropriate for these busy days with overwhelming demands. A harried person, caught up in the whirlwind of life, work, family and recreation went to a monk to talk about his feelings of frustration. He spoke about his flawed virtues, failed relationships, his weaknesses of character, his over-extended timetable and shortcomings in prayer and worship.

The monk left him for a moment, returning with a large basin and pitcher of water. “Now look into the basin and watch closely,” said the monk, as he poured the water into the basin. The water splashed and sloshed around the sides, agitated and turbulent as the monk continued to pour. When he finished pouring, the water continued to swirl around the basin, back and forth, but gradually the water began to settle until finally the water was still, tranquil and calm. In fact, it was so smooth, the man could see his face reflected in the water.

The monk spoke: “That is the way it is when you are in the midst of the world ... you do not see yourself as you really are because of all the confusion and disturbance ... nor can you recognize the Divine and Holy presence of God with you in your life.”

Do you not long for that moment of worship on Christmas Eve, when the endless and countless demands for our attention and energy are finally stilled? We kneel in a quiet church; in the darkness of the night; hold our simple candles; and sing prayerfully, from deep within, “silent night ... holy night ... all is calm ... all is bright.” In that quiet moment we discover that God has something He wants to say to us. He wants every ear to hear this message: “You are my beloved child. You really are.” God does not give up on any of us. He has not given up on this old world. The Holy One is with us. He is truly in love with us. His grace touches and changes us. We are his beloved, now and for all time.

May this Advent and Christmas give us times to discover the peace and joy of being the beloved child of God.

Wandlyn, (now Rev.), James, Patrick and Matthew, join with me, in giving thanks for our family of St. Paul's. We wish each of you a blessed, peaceful Christmas.

Your Rector

*The Rev. Canon Albert Snelgrove*



## Editor's Note

I find myself reflective as I write this message. It is a natural response to the approach of Advent. Some of my introspection is compelled by what I personally seek to be meaningful in this season. Self-admittedly, I am overwhelmed at times by how quickly Christmas is celebrated and yet, we seem to prepare for it earlier and earlier each year. With these thoughts in mind a real life Christmas story comes to mind...

### *The Christmas Ornament*

'Christmas ornaments are decorations (usually made of glass, metal, wood or ceramics) that are used to festoon a Christmas tree. Ornaments take many different forms, from a simple round ball to highly artistic designs. Ornaments are almost always reused year after year, rather than purchased annually, and family collections often contain a combination of commercially produced ornaments and decorations created by family members. Such collections are often passed on and augmented from generation to generation.' (Wikipedia)

This definition of the Christmas ornament serves my story well as I consider my own family's fondness toward special objects that would appear on our tree over the years. As a young child, I remember being awe struck with many of the ornaments. While some were delicately made which inspired my delight for their appearance, looking back I was especially fascinated by the stories of how some of these treasures came to be. Like many families, I continued this tradition when I had children of my own. So, I truly appreciate how ornaments will evoke special memories.

St. Paul's Christmas Bazaar is a wonderful occasion to add to Christmas memories and stories. Fittingly, it all begins with the tremendous contribution of the ACW and their volunteers. At the centre of this is the excitement of shoppers dropping by with hope of finding a treasure as they enjoy the atmosphere of the occasion. An elderly visitor found herself doing just that at this year's Bazaar and to her delight, she purchased a Christmas ornament! Regrettably, she left it behind at the Christmas Table for safekeeping while she continued browsing. As an aside, this visitor is a full time caregiver to her husband of 50 plus years and they were in town for a family celebration. With much on her mind, she left the church and forgot about the purchase until that evening. Disappointment set in as she wondered if there would be any hope in finding the ornament.

However, through the channels of communication and the tremendous effort from those who exemplify what it means to get things done, Cassie Stanley who may be unofficially known as the 'Christmas Bazaar Team Lead,' stepped in and contacted Jennifer Sancton who was 'Team Lead' for the Christmas Table. Although Jennifer was on her way to Arizona by then, she was able to relay that the ornament was left in the office for safekeeping. More follow up unfolded until it was actually confirmed that the ornament was indeed found! When the woman's daughter learned of the recovery process, she was elated and wrote: 'She is having some tough days at the moment as a full-time caregiver to my father. You spent a lot of time and it is so much appreciated. While part of me is picturing a team of searchers, I suspect it is perhaps simply something that evokes happy memories of days gone by with my mother and father in their 'one horse open sleigh. Thank you again.'

So I found myself thinking about this. Significantly, ornaments can take on many different forms. In some instances, they can even set the tone for the making of a lovely story that can add to the celebration and joy of what is truly meaningful in this season.

I wish you peace and joy this Christmas and that you will find meaning in your own special memories and celebration.

*Heather White Brittain*





## Parish Calendar of Events

### Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am Service

- The Annual Sunday School Presentation of the Christmas Story.
- This is also White Gift Sunday when we receive toys and gifts for children in our area. The fire fighters organize this effort. Financial gifts will be directed through the parish to them.

### Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm Parish Social Evening

- George Urquhart will lead us in seasonal music, both sacred and secular. Do you have something you would like to offer to the evening? A song, poem, skit, reading? Contact George and he will fit you into the program – 849-2622

### Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 am

- A Service of Lessons & Carols in Preparation for the Celebration of the Nativity of the Christ Child. The service will include St. Paul's Choir, the Chimining Cherubim, Jim Stewart, Rob Dutton, Andrea Paddock, and you the congregation

### Christmas Services

- **Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve**
  - 4:30 pm - Children's Eucharist
  - 6:00 pm - Family Service
  - 11:00 pm - Choral Eucharist with candle lighting
- **Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day**
  - 11:00 am Holy Eucharist (*Please note this is one hour later than past years*)

### An extraordinary gift, from an extraordinary lady

In early November, the parish received notice that Aileen MacLaren had remembered the parish in her will, with an exceptional gift of \$100,000. It is so very touching to think that St. Paul's meant so much to her that, she would remember us with such a generous gift. It is truly humbling. In recent years Aileen was unable to get out to church very often. She loved to receive visitors, bulletins and news from the parish. She counted many friends at the church.

The Parish has received the gift into the St. Paul's Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund exists for the purpose of supporting extra ministry and building projects within the parish and mission activities in the community and beyond the parish. The members of the Endowment Fund feel that Aileen is setting a wonderful example to all of us, to remember the work and mission of the parish in their estate planning. Mr. Clark Sancton is the Chair of the Endowment Fund and would discreetly discuss this matter with anyone who would like to know more about planned giving and the work of the fund.

We do give thanks to God for the life and faith of Aileen MacLaren and for her kindness in remembering her church.





## Parish Calendar of Events (continued)

### **The Rev. Canon Don Trivett**

Fr. Don's life and ministry; his good humour and wonderful spirit, touched us all at St. Paul's. Always, interested in meeting people and connecting with the issues of their lives, Fr. Don would always try to think of new projects and ventures for the church. He loved to read and learn while expanding his view of God and the world. The Mission Within committee wanted to find some way to honour him. The decision was made to purchase a new private or home communion set. Two days before his death, Fr. Don, together with many members of his family around his bed in hospice, were the first to receive communion from this beautiful new set. Archbishop Miller would bless the set at Fr. Don's funeral service. It seemed a fitting gesture, for Fr. Don would want us all to keep going, to keep working and serving others in the name of Christ. The inscription on the communion case reads:

**In recognition of the ministry of  
The Rev. Canon Don Trivett  
From friends and parishioners  
St. Paul's, Rothesay  
October 2013**

Thank you to everyone for participating in this wonderful gesture of friendship and ministry.

### **News from the Principal of Sigowet Secondary School, Eldoret, Kenya**

To Brethren in Rothesay Parish – Canada

Greetings to you all in Jesus name. We are doing well at Sigowet Secondary school. God has seen us through this year and as we give you our year's report, we give him all the glory. Let me thank our brothers and sisters Rev. Githinji, Dancun, Victoria, Briony and our beloved Christian Turnbull for their visit during our first form four graduation. Your visit really motivated the children in school, it also gave our school a name here in Eldoret.

At the moment the 2nd class of our candidates has started their Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) National Exam. They are progressing well. Total number of sponsored students in 2013 was 35. Five are clearing form four (graduating). The government funding has continued coming although it delays but we thank you for the fee payment in the year 2013. The students received uniforms too and they were happy for your continued concern.

For our coming year 2014, the Board of management together with parents have agreed to build a house for one teacher and a matron in the school compound. This is mandatory because children cannot be left alone for security reasons and the project will begin immediately the year begins. We also thank the women group (St. Paul's ACW) for buying and connecting the water tanks with gutters to collect rain water. We now have 6000 litre tanks and enjoy clean water during the rainy season. We can also collect treated water in the same tanks.

Our dining hall is at lintel as we had sent you the photographs during the progress report. We hope and believe you will assist us as it now moves to its 3rd phase, which is the roof. We are very grateful for the far it has gone and pray that your strength continue to be rejuvenated daily.

The school offices are now located in our temporary building; we thank God for this as we are now out of the church offices. We hope to complete the dining hall so that our exams can be done there. Our 2013 academic year will end of 15th November, after all our exams are done.

Thank you so much for making our year successful.

Mrs. Viola Korir (Principal)

*Would you like to partner with Sigowet School? Sponsorship of students for one year include: \$250 for a Day student and \$400 for a Boarding student. Partial donations for sponsorships are most welcome. Donations to building projects are also welcome.*



## Parish Calendar of Events (continued)

### Retirement of Archbishop Claude Miller

Archbishop Miller announced at the Diocesan Synod in November, his intention to retire, both as Bishop of Fredericton, and Metropolitan (or Archbishop) of the Province of Canada at the end of June, 2014. Bishop Miller turns 70 in that month, and Canon Law requires that bishops can serve until their 70th birthday. A Diocesan Synod will be called in May of 2014 for the sole purpose of electing his successor. All priests (throughout the world) are eligible to be nominated. Our parish will be electing our synod delegates and alternate delegates at the Annual Meeting of the parish in February. Archbishop and Sharon Miller will continue to reside in their home in Fredericton, with their summer place in Salmon Beach. We send them best wishes from our parish in their retirement years.

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## A Northern Christmas Surprise

It was early Christmas Eve in 1948 in Yellowknife, N.W.T. Six of us young, single RCMP members were in the barracks. A knock came at the door and when answered, two cooks from the dining hall of the Giant Yellowknife Gold Mine\* entered. They were carrying a massive square cooking pan which contained two large, hot, roasted turkeys, copious amounts of steaming mashed potatoes, gravy, multiple fresh cooked vegetables, dressing and cranberry sauce, topped off with apple pies and steaming kettles of tea and coffee. Also included were plates and utensils.

We, of course, were very thankful and surprised by this unexpected show of support from the gold mines in the area. It should be kept in mind that all of these items would have to be flown in from points south.

We all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas feast and it became a happy memory of my years spent in various communities in the N.W.T

George Soper  
 Retired R.C.M.P.

From Wikipedia

*\*The Giant Mine was a large gold mine located on the Inghram Trail just outside of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. Gold was discovered on the property in 1935 by Johnny Baker, but the true extent of the gold deposits were not known until 1944 when a massive gold-bearing shear zone was uncovered beneath the drift-filled Baker Creek Valley. The discovery led to a massive post-war staking boom in Yellowknife. Giant Mine entered production in 1948 and ceased operations in 2004. It produced over 7,000,000 ozt (220,000 kg) of gold.*

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## Confirmation Candidates – St. Paul's Rothesay

Ramzy Harrison Paul al-Ayedi, Tariq Alexander al-Ayedi, Ashley Lynn Bishop, Emily Lynn Brideau, Anna Kathleen Crossley, Ella Jane Daigle, Dylan Gregory Thomas Foote, Emilie Jane Harrigan, Justin Eric Harrigan, Jeremy Byrant Kimball, Nathan Burns Kimball, Max Henderson Legere, Arran Charles Maston McEvoy, Angus Irving Oxley, Julia Courtney Parsons, Alison Alexis Isabelle Rupert, John Edward Thomas Watts, Rebecca Alexandra Marie White

*-- confirmed by Bishop Claude Miller at St. Paul's Rothesay, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013*



## Diocesan Synod 2013

On Saturday, the 9th of November, Canon Albert, Pam Iype and Robert Taylor, all voting members, attended the 132nd session of the Diocesan Synod held at Kingswood University in Sussex. Ann Fairweather attended as an observer. The one day meeting made for a less expensive Synod but certain features of prior Synods were absent, such as the pomp and ceremony of a public Synod Service of Worship, small-group Bible studies and displays by various interest groups. Nonetheless, there was a good spirit among those present and the gathering provided a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with friends and acquaintances across our Diocese. There were 277 people in attendance.

This year's theme, arising out of the recent reports of Archdeaconry Commissions, was 'Radiating Hope.' It was defined as: "radiating the hope of God as an unfettered, missional Diocese". In his charge, Bishop Miller noted that we can be open and inviting as individuals to people in our liturgy and concurrently, we can extend our missional reach by ministering in the community where we live and work. Bishop Miller introduced two short videos ([www.sayitsimple.wordpress.com](http://www.sayitsimple.wordpress.com)) to illustrate what it means to be missional. There was also a focus on the 'Rule of Life,' found on page 555 of the Book of Common Prayer. The Diocesan Spiritual Development Team distributed bright yellow "5-5-5 Alive!" lapel buttons and a booklet of daily readings and reflections to encourage and assist Anglicans in developing their very own "Rule of Life". (Copies are available in the Church Office.)

Bishop Miller presided at the late morning Holy Eucharist service and special guest Bishop Mark MacDonald; National Indigenous Anglican Bishop delivered the sermon.

The primary business of this Synod was to approve the elections of members to Diocesan Council: So to elect clergy and lay members of Provincial Synod in 2015 and General Synod in 2016, and to address six motions brought forward to Synod. The Rev. Allen Tapley and Anne Walling are our Archdeaconry representatives. Congratulations to our Rector, Canon Albert, who was elected as a delegate to both Provincial Synod (covering the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec) and General Synod (covering all of Canada).

Members of Synod dealt with five motions; four were passed and one was defeated. A motion pertaining to the definition of marriage was withdrawn. Motions passed included the following:

- For efficiency and cost savings, a meeting of Synod may be put off by one year with approval of Diocesan Council and the Bishop;
- A new approach to parish support of the Shared Ministry Budget (Diocesan Budget) was approved in principle and referred to Diocesan Council for implementation and action starting in 2014. (Amounts paid by parishes to support the Shared Ministry Budget of the Diocese have been frozen since 2006. St. Paul's apportionment stands at approximately \$43,000 per year. With this motion, the current, inequitable, formula-based system will be replaced with an approach based on a floating three-year average of parish operating income and an initial assessment rate of 10% on the first tier of income and increasing rates on higher levels of income as with a progressive tax. In summary, parishes with higher incomes will contribute more to the Shared Ministry Budget. Parishioners are still encouraged to move closer to tithing 10% in their giving.
- Birthday greetings and prayers for good health and God's blessing be extended to Archbishop Harold Nutter and his wife Edith on the occasion of their 90th birthdays this November and December; and,
- A special meeting of the Diocesan Synod will be held in Fredericton in early May 2014 to elect a Coadjutor Bishop for the Diocese.

There was considerable debate around a motion that would allow the Diocese to deny lay members of Synod the right to vote



## Diocesan Synod 2013 (continued)

if their parish had not submitted its annual statistical and financial information returns to the Diocese. This motion was in response to a resolution from Synod 2009 to institute corrective action to address the issue of incomplete parish statistical information. Synod Staff have offered assistance and tried many approaches with non-complying parishes with little or no positive results. After the motion was defeated Bishop Miller addressed the assembly to emphasize the increasing need for all parishes to comply as non-compliance will negatively impact the new approach to the Shared Ministry Budget and our diocesan representation at General Synod.

In his closing remarks Bishop Miller announced that he will retire on June 26, 2014, his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. National Church canons stipulate that bishops must retire on or before they reach 70 years of age. Accordingly, a special Synod will be convened in May to elect a Coadjutor Bishop who will succeed Bishop Miller in June. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, when our parish welcomes Bishop Claude for Confirmation, a special presentation is being planned to show our appreciation of his leadership over the past decade.

*submitted by Pam Iype, Robert Taylor and Ann Fairweather*

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## Let's Celebrate

For me, Thanksgiving 2013 and being in the hospital, hardly seemed the time to feel grateful. Yet here were Canon Albert, Reverend Wandlyn, Reverend Jasmine, other clergy friends and Judy, beginning their prayers always with thanksgiving. Thanksgiving began to seem much more sensible than grumbling and creating those little moments of self-pity. Upon reflection, Thanksgiving seemed as healing as the most powerful medication.

The prayers of friends and parishioners provided an invisible cloak of support. Flowers provided a beauty that all but erased the images of a four person ward and its organized chaos. Cards gave moments of joy, of laughter, of tears, and of affection. The steady supply of wonderful meals, bread, treats, baking, and fruit provided sustenance for the body and the soul. Morning Prayer with Jasmine -amidst the sounds of one's room-mates being bathed, struggling with their physiotherapy, and questioning their medications set a peaceful and calming tone for the day.

Canon Jim Golding preached on November 17<sup>th</sup>, that the life of faithful loving Christians tells us that the kingdom of God is here and indeed this is so at St. Paul's. We may not be able to predict whether our church will be a viable, living institution in 15 or 50 years from now. However here we are today, with these wonderful parishioners and these people are the kingdom of God: With their every prayer; every get well card; every visit; every telephone call; every bite of food delivered to hospital and home and every good wish. Let's celebrate the Christians at St. Paul's and give thanks for them.

*(From a very thankful Penny McConaghy)*



## Milestones in the Parish

### MARRIAGES

Sarah Jane Flemming & John Wesley Phillips  
*October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013*

Katelyn Victoria Dempster & Corey Andrew MacDonald  
*October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013*

Judith Stephanie Valcour & Andrew Paul Logan  
*October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013*

### BAPTISMS

Avery Heather Vienneau  
daughter of Stephen & Michelle Vienneau  
*October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013* at RNS Chapel

Emily Lynn Brideau  
daughter of Michael & Janet Brideau  
*November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013*

Tariq Alexander al-Ayedi  
son of Elspeth Williams & Abdul al-Ayedi  
*November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013*

Ramzy Harrison Paul al-Ayedi  
son of Elspeth Williams & Abdul al-Ayedi  
*November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013*

### FUNERALS

Michael Anthony Smith  
*September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013*  
Service: September 14, 2013

Elizabeth Gordon West  
*January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013*  
Service: September 16, 2013

Joan Audrey Beaverstock  
*September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013*  
Service: September 20, 2013

Albert Addison Seely  
*September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013*  
Service: October 1, 2013

Donald Frederick Lionel Trivett  
*October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013*  
Service: October 16, 2013

Nancy Adele Thorpe  
*October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013*  
Service: October 17, 2013

Dorothy Frances Kingett  
*September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013*  
Service: October 28, 2013

### DR. ALBERT (BERT) FRASER

Dr. Albert (Bert) Fraser was recently awarded the Irving Sunshine Award for Excellence in Clinical Toxicology at the 13th International IATDMCT Congress in Salt Lake City, Utah. This international award is given in alternate years to a medical scientist or physician-scientist for their research contributions to the discipline of Clinical Toxicology. Bert was a professor at Dalhousie University in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Professions from 1982 – 2006 until moving to Rothesay in 2006. He is currently a member in the Dept. of Laboratory Medicine as clinical biochemist (Saint John Regional Hospital) and provincial forensic toxicologist for the Office of the Chief Coroner, Province of New Brunswick. He will retire from these positions at the end of 2013<sup>rd</sup>.