

## OUR VISION STATEMENT

*The Diocese of Moosonee – called by God to live and proclaim the Gospel*



*The Reverend Deacon Richard Moore, Assistant Bishop Tom Corston, Archbishop Colin Johnson, and the Reverend George Westgate reflected upon the Service of Ordination just concluded at St. Matthew's Cathedral, Timmins.*

## Double Double Ordinations

*Article by Anne Dyas, Holy Trinity Parish, Cochrane*

The Diocese of Moosonee is fortunate in that George Westgate offered himself to become a priest in Mistissini, Quebec and that Richard Moore offered himself to become a Vocational Deacon in Cochrane, Ontario and so on a Lenten Ember Day, Friday, February 27th, 2015, clergy laity, families, and friends gathered at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Timmins to celebrate two ordinations.

The Diocese of Moosonee is a mission area under the guidance of the Metropolitan and thus the Presider at this colourful ceremony was the Most Reverend Colin R. Johnson, Archbishop of Moosonee. The preacher was the Right Reverend Thomas A. Corston, Assistant Bishop of this diocese.

Friends presented each candi-

date for ordination and following the examination, to which there were no challenges, family members assisted with the vesting. Portions of the ceremony and the singing, where appropriate, were conducted in the Cree language. During the ordination of George Westgate, as priest, all priests present joined the Archbishop in laying their hands on the head of the ordinand.

Eucharist was celebrated: the Eucharistic Ministers being Archbishop Colin Johnson, and the newly ordained clergy, the Reverend George Westgate and the Reverend Deacon Richard Moore.

Special music accompaniment throughout the service was provided by violinist Kristiina Frechette, bassoonist Mits Takayesu, and Cantor Peter Colbert who, together with the combined choirs

of the Cathedral Church of St. Matthew's, Timmins, St. Paul's Church, South Porcupine, and Holy Trinity Parish, Cochrane under the direction of organist and choirmaster Sue Steel, led the hymn singing and provided a special anthem composed by David Haas entitled, *Without Seeing You*.

Licenses were presented and the ceremonies ended with a long procession down the center aisle of the cathedral towards the exit, followed by a considerable number of photo opportunities before everyone went down to the parish hall where refreshments provided by Holy Trinity Parish, Cochrane were served and friends and acquaintances gathered to exchange news and participate in the fellowship which naturally follows such a wonderful event.

## Mission in Moosonee

*Article by Dean Greg Gilson, St. Matthew's Cathedral & St. Paul's.*

On March 7th, the two congregations of St. Matthew's Cathedral and St. Paul's, South Porcupine gathered to spend the day in consultation with each other to discuss the Anglican Mission and Ministry to the Greater Timmins, South Porcupine and Porcupine area. The three topics for specific discussion were: Mission and Out-Reach facilitated by the Reverend Bill Jones, a retired United Church Pastor and longtime resident of the area, Community Building facilitated by Valerie Gilson, a strategic planner and Parish Coordinator, and Financial Sustainability facilitated by the Dean.

The fifty-four participants were split into three discussion groups made up of both congregations and each group participated in all three topics. The three areas of discussion culminated in tasks and actions that were held in common by the three different groups. This was not a consultation to come up with a "Vision" but rather "Actions" that would: help to reach out in Mission and Ministry to the broader community; reach

**Mission continued on page 2.**



*Emma & Lorraine Laiho were active participants at the Mission meeting.*





Dean Gilson, assisted by the Reverend Deirdre Roach, concentrated on one of the topics concerning mission which parishioners delved into.



One of the three combined discussion groups from St. Matthew's & St. Paul's found much to think and talk about.

**Mission continued from page 1.**

in to support, encourage, grow, and engender joy in the life of the existing Anglican faith community; or creatively address our financial challenges in ways that will support a sustainable, stable financial footing to see that our Mission and Ministry can and will go forward.

The breaks and lunch were supplied by the Rector and his wife. The laughter, and joy filled conversations during the breaks and lunch were proof enough that the day was well received and had provided a great opportunity for the two congregations to strengthen ties and enjoy each other's com-



Susan Montague, Connie Grovesnor & Faythe Colbert at break time.

pany. In the midst of those open and joyful conversations the participants of the two congregations got a lot of work done.

In each area of discussion specific projects were agreed to. In every case,

people added their names not just to help, but for each project someone stepped up to chair it. This proved to be a faithful statement. Since the consultation, the specific tasks have been published and teams of people have signed their names to tasks and we are beginning to do the things we said we would do. Already there is an increased sense of co-operation between the two congregations and a sense of mission to which they are both called. Shared fund raising events are presently underway to support out-reach programs, as well as, to cover the expenses of having a shared clergy. Food

Bank Sundays have been set. Teaching Sundays have been set. Pastoral Visitors will be trained in the fall to begin out-reach and in-reach to support our seniors in the nursing homes and our shut ins. We are going to take a booth at the Welcome to Timmins Night, and already we have fund raising dinners, teas, and other projects in various stages of planning.

The Mission and Ministry that God is calling our community to has been clearly seen, and with the enthusiasm and dedications of the Anglicans in this area, we will answer God's call. Thanks be to God.



Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake

## The Archdeacon's Message

Article by the Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake

The Church is engaged in mission and always has been; but sometimes we lose our focus, caught up in the day to day matters of Sunday worship and paying the bills. In our Diocese, we are trying to intentionally re-focus on mission and how to proclaim the Gospel in our challenging times.

Jesus' ministry was all about proclaiming the Good News, bringing people closer to the Kingdom of God. People were drawn to Jesus. When he passed by John

the Baptist, John exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" Hearing John's words, two of his disciples followed Jesus. Jesus asked, "What are you looking for?" Hearing their response, he said: "Come and see." (John 1:36-39) Before his ascension, Jesus commissioned his disciples: "Go into the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation." (Mark 16:15)

Come and See; Go and Tell. These two simple phrases have shaped our call to mission forever. First we

discover faith and then we find ways of sharing it. The Church has always done this - sometimes well and sometimes not so well - but things have changed.

Lots of people don't see any reason to come to church. Many don't have an active faith in God. Some have been hurt by the Church or by a person representing the Church. Today, we see churches with fewer and fewer people coming to worship, coming to be part of the Christian community. While

**Message, continued on p.4**

## Vocation & Response

Article by the Reverend Deacon Richard Moore, Holy Trinity Church, Cochrane.



Reflective Moose

My Blackie's Standard Dictionary, printed to the War Economy Standard in London, was a required purchase when I went to high school in the middle of the last century. It is still my go-to when I want a concise and accurate definition. It tells me that 'vocation' is employment, profession, business, and calling. We rarely use the word to describe our

jobs anymore, but that last word, 'calling', is still vital to us as Christians. We are called and we do have a vocation.

The Bible, especially the Old Testament, is a millennia old record of God speaking to his people - calling them - calling them to come, to be, to do. He calls his people as an entity, as a nation, to uphold their responsibilities, practice their faith, and their faithful-

ness, and to return to him from their waywardness. He calls his people as individuals, too, to return to him and to worship him. And then there are those that God singles out for that experience that we recognize as a true "Call." Think of Moses and Samuel, and Isaiah, three memorable examples of people to whom God issues the "I want you!" order.

**See Vocation on p. 3**

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*The Reverend Patricia Dorland and two of her 'bestest' friends: Markus and Renison Bear. Article by the Reverend Patricia Dorland, St. Mark's, Iroquois Falls, ON.*



*The Reverends Patricia Dorland and Larry Armstrong discussed the bear situation in the Watershed Deanery at the Great Chapter held at St. Matthew's.*

# Bears Sighted in Moosonee

Once upon a time, there was a soft cuddly bear whose name was Markus. Markus lived in Northern Ontario far away from all his cousins and he was very lonely. So he sat upon a chair and patiently waited.

Since forever, people have been using animals to tell children's stories, origin storied, and teaching stories. The animals are given human characteristics and become like Winnie the Pooh of Paddington Bear. Others become like Willie the Coyote or Wisakedjak who, depending upon the content, can change shape and language. These stories capture the imagination of the listener and reader because they are both animal and human. The narratives become intriguing and engaging when the audience can identify with the characters. How many of us know an 'Eeyore'?

Now back to Markus who will be interviewed by an Anglican priest and will tell us a wonderful story about his 'bestest' of friends.

**AP:** Markus, what brought you to Northern Ontario and the Diocese of Moosonee?

**Markus:** Well, it began in Calgary in October of 2014. My 'bestest' of friends, the Rev. Dr. Judy Rois was in-

terviewed by the Council of the North to share some good news about the Anglican Foundation.

**AP:** The Anglican Foundation, what's that?

**Markus:** I don't want to be rude, but as an Anglican priest, shouldn't you know that?

**AP:** Please be kind; that was not on the priest's exam!

**Markus:** O.K. But you should know. The Anglican Foundation was created at General Synod in 1956 by Canadian Anglicans. At that time, all those who voted agreed that every parish would contribute a minimum of \$50 per year in order to grow an investment fund. Eventually, the fund would: provide financial resources to parishes needing assistance with seed money for outreach ministry; provide assistance for theological education; and assist with church building projects, etc.

**AP:** So that is basically Anglicans helping Anglicans, enabling good ministry to happen all across Canada. What a good idea! I think I heard about the Anglican Foundation helping out two of our parishes just last year. St. Thomas, Moose Factory needed assistance with a building project and St. Mark's, Eastmain received funding to support

their Healing Gathering.

Now that you have taken up residence in our diocese what do you see as your ministry here?

**Markus:** I am kind of like the Ambassador of Good Will. St. Mark's, Iroquois Falls heard about my story and immediately committed to becoming part of the Anglican Foundation support team by sending in their annual membership. I was sent by mail to personally thank them and to encourage other parishes in your diocese to join in with the excellent ministry that Rev. Canon Dr. Judy Rois is sharing. Did I say that she was my 'bestest' of friends?

**AP:** Markus, remember you are a bear. So, the challenge is out there and the bar is high. You would like each parish to consider becoming 2015 members of the Anglican Foundation. When they receive their own bear, they can take a picture, include the name of the bear and submit it to the Northland paper and we will post it on our wall of honour.

Markus, thank you for your story and your time.

**Markus:** You're very welcome. Some personal advice though. Lighten up. A gift of the Holy Spirit is JOY!

**AP:** Thanks!

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[www.anglicanfoundation.org](http://www.anglicanfoundation.org)

## Vocation continued from page 2.

Each of them reacts to the call in a different way, but in a totally human and understandable way.

Moses, although raised as an Egyptian prince, is now a man of the desert, a wanderer, and a shepherd, and a loner. His initial reaction when he hears God's voice is "Here I am," but when he hears what God has planned for him, he finds all kind of reasons not to cooperate. Only God's anger convinces Moses that he must become the one to lead his people to freedom.

Samuel's call to prophesy elicits the

same "Here I am," but only after a kind of confused deafness. He hears the Lord calling him, but does not know where the call comes from. The elder Eli has to explain that the voice he is hearing is actually that of the Lord.

Isaiah, prophet of prophets, has a terrifying vision. He finds himself in the presence of God, and feels his utter unworthiness. He knows he will die because of his shortcomings, but God miraculously cleanses him, and he realizes that he can fulfill his mission, and he too answers, "Here I am."

I suspect there are not many of us who have experienced a burning bush, or had God actually whisper in our ear, or have been wafted up to God's presence, like these three. But, we have all been called. We have all been called! It is part of being God's person, Christ's friend. We are called to be and to do. In particular, we are called to proclaim the Gospel, to tell the world the good news, that Jesus lived and died and lives again for us. But like our spiritual ancestors, we react initially to the call with excuses and reasons for not listening, or not doing. Like Samuel,

we are confused by the little voice that tells us what we should be doing; like Moses, we say we haven't the skills to do the job; like Isaiah, we proclaim our unworthiness.

But, like Samuel and Moses and Isaiah, we have to listen to God. He will convince us; he will teach us the skills we need and provide the helpers; he will show us the way.

And then, maybe, just maybe, we shall find ourselves strong enough and convinced enough, that we can finally say, "Here I am, Lord, send me."



# World Day of Prayer, 2015

St. Matthew's Anglican Cathedral hosted a World Day of Prayer service on Friday, March 6th, 2015. The ecumenical service is organized annually in Timmins / Porcupine by a dedicated team of ladies from several local churches who come together under the call of the WICC (Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada) to observe a common day of prayer each year.

The moto of the World Day of Prayer movement is 'Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action.' The ladies met to learn more about the focus country for 2015 - The Bahamas. Beyond the sparkling waters and warm beaches, attention was drawn to issues relating to illegal immigration, breast cancer, HIV and AIDS, domestic violence, teenage pregnancy, and poverty.

The theme of service was taken from John 13: 12. "Do you know what I have done to you? Do as I have done to you." With the washing of the feet, Jesus sets an example of uncon-



*The Reverend Deirdre Roach was surrounded by flamingoes & other friends at the World Day of Prayer.*

ditional love that transcends borders and demands the same of us. How can we give expression to such love in our daily lives? This question was considered and discussed in advance through bible study. And during the service, participants were encouraged to meditate on how they might respond to this call.



*Nicky Alexander, St. Mathew's Cathedral, & Noralyn Clarke-Pinnock, Timmins Free Methodist, welcomed people to the World Day of Prayer.*

The church was transformed by a celebration of colour and pink flamingoes, the national bird of the Bahamas. The 78 participants gathered in the hall after the service for coffee and fellowship.

The World Day of Prayer takes place on the first Friday in March each year. WDP offerings support

project grants to benefit women and children in need around the world.

Participating Churches: St. Matthew's Cathedral, Anglican, St. Paul's Anglican, Covenant United, Mountjoy United, Porcupine United, Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Anthony Padua, St. John's Lutheran, and Timmins Free Methodist.

## Message continued from page 2.

the church used to be the social gathering place, this is generally no longer the case. People don't seem to care so much about the Church, about spending time worshipping God, learning about the Christian faith.

This is confusing, even troubling to those of us whose Christian faith is our very heartbeat. Most of our churches today are following the tried and true ways of 'doing church' but these methods are failing us. Why? It's a mystery to many of us. Many struggle with any suggestion that we change, move out into the world differently, use new forms of worship, go beyond our church doors. Such suggestions can call forth what has been described as the seven last words of the Church: 'We've never done it that way before!'

Times are different but our call as Christians is unchanged, but how do we invite people to 'Come and See?' How do we 'Go and Tell?' What do people care about? Where are people on Sunday mornings? To what are people drawn, engaged in? What are they doing, where are they spending their energy, in what are they participating? Before we can proclaim the Good News, we must be willing to 'Go and See'. We need to go into our communities with new eyes, open to seeing where people are, what they are passionate about, who the marginalised are. We, the Church, the People of God, must learn to proclaim the



*Archbishop Colin Johnson, Assistant Bishop Tom Corston, and Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake were joined by many of the Diocese's clergy in welcoming the Reverend George Westgate the Reverend Deacon Richard Moore to their fellowship.*



*Reverend Valerie Isaac & Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake worked on Diocesan Mission.*

Good News where people are. That might mean sharing our faith stories at a coffee shop, at seniors' apartments, in sports facilities, in stores or malls. God is walking with people wherever they are. God is always engaged in mission.

As scary as it might seem to leave the safety of our buildings, the people of God must 'Go and See' what God is doing in our communities, amongst the people who still need to notice that God is with them. We need to see what God is doing and find a way of

joining in. As we move into summer, which frees many of us from fund-raisers, meetings, and celebrations of the Church's big festivals, let us challenge ourselves to notice what God is doing beyond our Church doors, notice the things which have engaged people, and pray that our hearts will be open to finding one new way of sharing the Good News with our families, friends, and neighbours. May the God of Mission gift us with eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts open to mission.





*The Reverends Larry Armstrong, Anne Stenabaugh, & Bishop Tom Corston were all attentive listeners at the Great Chapter meeting held at St. Matthew's Cathedral.*

## Great Chapter: Watershed

*Article by Lesley Curtis, Lay Reader, St. Peter's on-the-Rock, Kirkland Lake, ON*

The Cathedral parish of St. Matthew's in Timmins, Ontario was a busy place during the last two days of February. On the evening of the 27th, there was a double ordination of a new priest and a new deacon led by Archbishop Colin Johnson, assisted by retired Bishop Tom Corston. Congratulations to Reverend George Westgate, new priest in Mississini and the Reverend Richard Moore, new deacon in Cochrane.

And so the tone was set for the Great Chapter meeting of the Watershed Deanery on Friday. There are only two deaneries in the vast space that is the Diocese of Moosonee. Watershed is the southern one, so named because from Ger-

aldton in the west to Kirkland Lake in the east, it mostly straddles the watershed of Ontario, which is a wavering line where waters begin to flow either north or south. The northern deanery is called James Bay Deanery. Five of us travelled from Kirkland Lake, about 90 minutes driving to Timmins - making ours one of the shortest trips of those who attended to represent deanery parishes. The good thing about meetings is that friends old and new spend a whole day together in worship, education, and fellowship. And, of course, we attend to deanery business, which this time was mainly to elect a new dean, a new Executive Council member and to become familiar with a new ministry in Schum-

acher, where there is no Anglican church at present.

The Reverend Valerie Isaacs of St. Mark's Church, Kapuskasing and Jan Maloney of St. Paul's South Porcupine are now the Dean and new Executive Council member. We congratulate them and thank them because we know that they have added greatly to the time and effort they already put into the functioning of our diocese.

We began the day with beautiful prayers and a Bible study focusing on Living Water. This led us through the day to: Moosonee's Action Plan for living, the work of the 'LivingRoom' in Schumacher, and support for better living in the world through the work of the PWRDF, and the Anglican Foundation Challenge and its teddy bears. Does your parish have its teddy representative yet? Three parishes in the Watershed Deanery do, so look for them on the Anglican Foundation wall of honour. Find out more about teddies and PWRDF by viewing the web sites and support great living worldwide.

Catherine Murkin, Evangelist in Charge, who leads the new 'LivingRoom' ministry, presented a view of the facilities and attendees in this venture which operates on Wednesdays at present,

though expansion is expected. Two helpers and two participants are regulars but there are usually at least six people attending, and many visitors lay and ordained have dropped in. It is a welcoming place with interesting activities for young and old and time for good conversation. Catherine is the incumbent at St. Peter's on-the-Rock, Kirkland Lake. She is strongly supported by her home parish as well as Archdeacon Deborah Loneragan-Freake, our bishops, and others from the diocese.

We were blessed to have Archbishop Colin and Bishop Tom with us all day, also their lovely wives. We were pleased to hear that as much as we appreciate their support, they too enjoy and benefit from sharing with us. Archbishop Colin's special gifts have done much to help Moosonee move forward with confidence; we cannot thank God enough for making him available. Our thanks also go to our Archdeacon for her impeccable planning as always.

Bishop Tom's son, Steven, and his video camera documented these two days, so perhaps you may one day see us in colour! We may be a long way from the south, and spring weather, but believe us, this part of the North is very much alive.

## History Bytes Article by Bishop Thomas A. Corston - the first in a series concerning the history of the Diocese of Moosonee.



### History Moose

*Beginning with this edition of the "Northland", I will contribute short pieces on parts of the history of our Diocese of Moosonee—mostly of items long past and of which many people today have little or no memory. The articles will be called "History Bites." I hope that you will find them informative as well as enjoyable. —Bishop Thomas A. Corston.*

### THE PARISH HOUSE

The building stands as an imposing edifice on one of Chapleau's busiest corners, across from the community's busy grocery store and up a short walk from historic St. John's Church. Today it is the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion (Harry Searle Branch #5). While it had a military beginning of sorts, Chapleau's Legion Hall did not start that way. It began as a parish hall for Chapleau's Anglican community.

The building's history began with a disaster. One of the growing Chapleau's youth at the beginning of World War 1 was Charles Lorne Weller Nicholson, only son of George B. Nicholson, a former railroader turned lumber baron who had served as Chapleau's Reeve and Member of Parliament. His moth-



*Lt. Charles Lorne Weller Nicholson*

er was one of Chapleau's earliest school teachers. Young Lorne had signed up in the recruitment drive of 1916 and went overseas with the First Chapleau Platoon of the 227th "Men of the North" Battalion. By 1917, Nicholson had been promoted to Lieutenant and

was sent to France. Tragically, just days before the end of the war, on November 4th, 1918, Nicholson was killed on the western front.

Nicholson's parents were devastated. Out of their pain, they decided to endow the community with a lasting and useful memorial. In a town of small buildings made of wood, they caused to be built an impressive building of fired brick, matching St. John's Church. On April 19th, 1920 the building was dedicated by Moosonee's Bishop John Anderson. Some of those participating in the memorial service included the Rev. John Blodgett, Rector of St. John's Anglican Church, Rev. Dr. Robert John Renison, later Bishop of Moosonee, and St. John's Residential School Principal, the Rev. George Prewer.

**History continued on p. 6.**



# Harmony in Hearst

Article by the Reverend Larry Armstrong, St. Matthew's & St. Paul's, Hearst, ON

There are over 78,000 Christian denominations along with a variety of independent Churches and Christian associations worldwide. Church unity has been a concern since the time of the Reformation. Today we are still searching for solutions. In Hearst, two very different Churches have found a way to make it happen.

St. Matthew's Anglican and St. Paul's United Churches have been worshipping together as one congregation in one building for over forty years. Up until the mid - 1980's the former St. Matthew's building was used as the place of worship and St. Paul's as the parish hall. When that building had to be demolished the United Church building was refurbished and has been home for both congregations since the early 1990's.

In all those years there has been no loss of denominational distinctiveness for either Church group. What has made this possible is a strong spirit of cooperation at a congregational level and the active support of the respective church authorities.

The current Minister is provided by the Anglican Church which is also covenanted by the United Church. In the past there has also been a United Church Minister licensed by the Anglican Church. Anglican



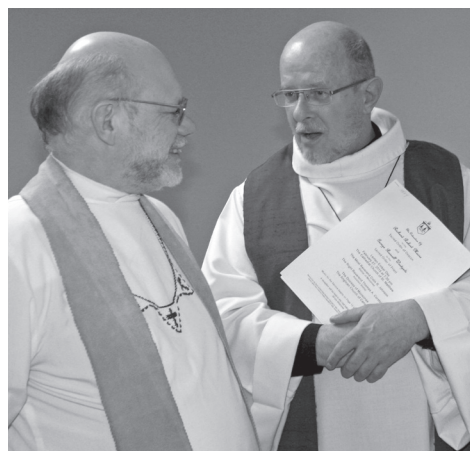
St. Matthew's Anglican & St. Paul's United Church, Hearst, ON

Lay Readers and United Church Lay Ministers mutually serve in both capacities. Worship services are equally provided with two United and two Anglican services each month. Anglican Vestry and United Board meetings are combined while separate reports are filed.

The United Church retains ownership of the land the buildings and the Anglicans share in the costs and maintenance. While all these things are important and have been carefully worked out, they are not the glue that holds it all together.

Even though we are two separate and very different denominations, we worship together. For two Sundays every month we all worship as the United Church Christians. For two Sundays every month, we all wor-

ship as Anglican Church Christians. When it comes to worship there is no division. Rather, there is a sincere respect for each other's traditions and the willingness to fully participate



The Reverends Cliff Dee & Larry Armstrong conferred on Diocesan matters at the ordination service at St. Matthew's Cathedral.

and be present for each other. Even with all that there is still one further thing that makes it all work well.

Yesterday, I visited with Elsie Halme. At 91 and a little frail, she is still an active and avid member of our congregation and has been from the beginning. After sharing with me many things about the history of these two Churches she said, "We just wanted to be able to go to Church."

This is at the heart of why these two very different Churches have come together. Even if the financial picture dramatically changed for either group, after forty years of worshipping together I don't think any of us would consider worshipping separately. "How good and how blessed for brethren to dwell together in unity." ... Indeed!



'Rocky Pete', a Hope Bear from the Anglican Foundation, now lives at St. Peter's on-the-Rock, Kirkland Lake.



Parish House today as the Royal Canadian Legion



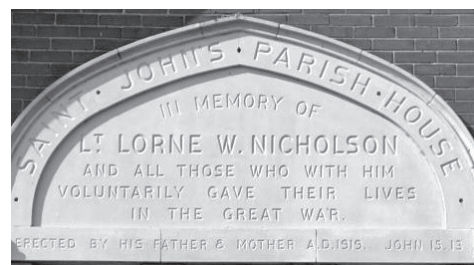
Jerusalem: Holy Land Pilgrimage

## History continued from p. 5.

The inscription above the doors on the front of the building reads: "Saint John's Parish House ... In memory of Lt. Lorne W. Nicholson and all those who with him voluntarily gave their lives with him in the Great War. ... Erected by his father and mother, A.D. 1919. John 15:13."

The new Parish House consisted of a large auditorium for parish functions. Upstairs above the hall were two large offices, one used by the local Incumbent and the other as a meeting room. In the basement was a gymnasium for the use of Chapleau's youth.

Unfortunately, when the Great Depression hit the small community it



The dedication atop the main entrance to the Parish House.

became increasingly difficult for St. John's congregation to maintain the large building. In the 1930's, the gift was given over to the Township of Chapleau with a special arrangement allowing the congregation to use it along with other community organi-

zations and events. Under the township, the hall became the local cinema and a library was established in the board room. The gymnasium continued to be used by the community. By the time that World War 2 started, the great hall was closed.

Following the war, in the early 1950's, the building was purchased as a memorial hall for the Royal Canadian Legion. It continues to the present day as "the Legion" and is used for all sorts of branch and community endeavours. The upper hall is now named "Cranston Hall" in recognition of the late Frank Cranston, faithful Anglican and Chapleau's lon-

gest living veteran of World War 1. The basement gym is now the "Bisco Room", a social centre and bar, now decorated with the photos of local war veterans and some rather distinguished war art.

St. John's Church continues to use the Legion Hall for many activities although under the guidance of the Rector, Canon George Sims, in the early 1950's, a new parish hall was carved out from under the church.

In 2019, the "Parish House" will observe the 100th anniversary of its opening. Perhaps the Diocese of Moosonee will be able to participate in the celebration.

## HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE with Bishop Tom Corston

November 2 - 12th, 2015

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# Great Chapter: James Bay

Article by the Reverend Marilyn van Duffelen,  
St. Mark's Church, Eastmain, QC.

Our snow is finally beginning to melt at the end of March. Dump trucks are hauling the snow away from the community to guard against flooding. As the sun strengthens and the evenings get longer, people are busy loading their sleds with supplies and driving them to the hunting camos while the ice is still safe. In another month the geese will arrive and Eastmain will be deserted while everyone participates in the spring hunt. Fresh cigabon will be roasting over open fires and smoking on wooden racks.

In February of this year, Eastmain was once again where we gathered. This time Eastmain was host to the annual James Bay Great Chapter meeting, a gathering of lay and ordained church leaders to share successes and failures and to support each



*Bishop Tom Corston and the Reverend Marilyn van Duffelen attended to the spiritual needs of their people at St. Mark's Church in Eastmain, QC.*

other in our ministries in our separate communities. We welcomed first time attendees and hugged old friends. We talked and sang and ate together and told our stories. We saw many famil-

iar faces from the Healing Gathering just six months previous, but perhaps the most gratifying and positive outcome pointing to the success of the Healing Gathering last August, a

diocese wide event, was that we voted to hold another Diocesan Healing Gathering next year in 2016 in We-mindji, QC.

It has been strengthening to our small community of Eastmain to host these two important events. We feel less isolated and more a part of the larger Cree community and the larger Church community. Moving forward, we are planning a local Healing Gathering next summer, where we will again participate in sharing circles, growing in understanding of our personal healing needs and our community's healing needs. This is a journey that we all walk together with Jesus, the Great Healer. We are envisioning a future for ourselves and our children in which we live in healthier communities; stronger mentally, physically, and spiritually. Come join us, and let us walk this road together.



*People attending the James Bay Great Chapter helped to present the books of the Bible in a new and fresh way to one another.*

## YOUTH MINISTRY FYI

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## Ordination: A Personal Reflection

Article by the Reverend George Westgate, St. John the Evangelist, Mississini, QC



*Archbishop Colin Johnson, the Canon Cliff Dee, & Reverends Sharon Johnston, and George Westgate posed together with George's family after the ordination.*

Recently, I was ordained a priest in the Anglican Church of Canada in the Diocese of Moosonee. This whole journey has been like a roller coaster

ride. Last year I was juggling work, school, placement, and being a father and a husband. Then I arrived in Mississini and a new parish family.

Since I have been

ordained, people have asked me, 'do you feel any different? Is your life any different now that you are ordained as a priest?' Last September at clericus, the Archbishop and I were

talking about ordination. He told me that he did not fully remember his ordination as a deacon or as a priest. However, he remembered celebrating his first Eucharist.

Since I returned home to Mississini, I have not stopped. There have been pastoral concerns and other parish needs to be met. I have not had time to let everything sink in. Someone stopped me the other day and said 'Good morning, Reverend Westgate.' I kept on walking before I realized he was talking to me. The ordination and being a priest have not fully sunk in. Except now I am celebrating the Holy Eucharist.

I listened to those words and did not understand. However, although September 12th and February 27th are important dates in this remark-

able journey, they are a blur. The most memorable day is March 1st, 2015 when I celebrated the first Eucharist in St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church in Mississini.

It was a very deep and meaningful experience. I felt privileged to be part of something bigger than me - a tradition that is over two thousand years old. It was instituted with the words 'whenever you eat or drink do this in remembrance of me.'

It was as though I was not alone. I felt like I was surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. I was nervous and I was scared. Yet I was encouraged, strengthened, and not afraid. I felt a sense of peace wash over me and I felt as though I was standing in the presence of God and with all those who have gone before supporting me.



# March Break at the LivingRoom

Article by Catherine Murkin, Evangelist-in-Charge, St. Peter's on-the-Rock, Kirkland Lake, ON

From the moment the doors of 21 Father Costello Drive opened an energized buzz could be felt, if not yet heard. It was March Extravaganza at the LivingRoom in Schumacher.

Officially, our doors opened that morning at 10:00 am but Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake, her husband, Jim, and I arrived much earlier to prepare. Our volunteers, Sherry and Denise, came shortly after to assist with the organization of the day's events. Soon things were

underway as children arrived. We had grammas, grandpas, moms, and dads, toddlers, teens, and those in between. The sound of laughter and children's voices brought the LivingRoom to life! If you had gazed into our space, you would have been impressed with the various clusters of activity. There were a diverse assortment of crafts - birdhouses to be painted, key chains were made, boxes to be decorated, and many other activities in which to participate. Interspersed with the crafts were games



*Catherine Murkin, welcomed people to the warm and caring LivingRoom.*

such as balloon volleyball and Hulla-baloo. In one corner, a Lego creating frenzy was taking place, in another people were huddled around a game of Tri-Ominos. The place was hopping! There were actually 73 participants during our two days of March Break activities.

We had set Wednesday evening aside for a youth pizza party; 11 youth of the town gathered. Some knew each other from school; others met for the first time. It was not long before Jenga, Bananagrams, and Monopoly were in action at various centres around the room. At the art centre, duct tape was the

medium, roses and wallets our challenge. This creative group of young people began assisting each other as it quickly became apparent that duct tape is very sticky.

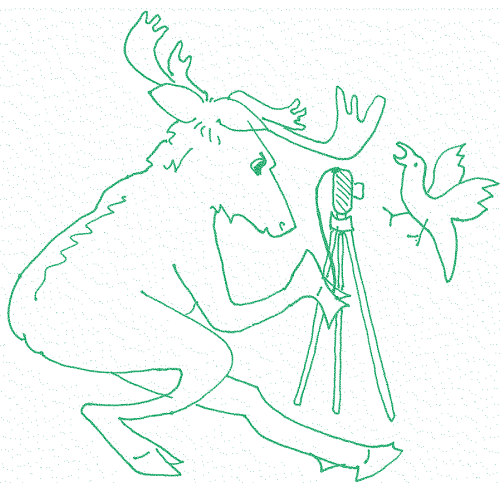
Numerous prizes, generously donated by our congregations and communities, were a high point of both the day and evening activities.

The quote of the day: "It is so comfortable here it feels like you are walking into your own living room."

The LivingRoom has expanded its hours so that it remains open until 5:00 p.m. and every second Wednesday it will also be open between 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



*Volunteer, Denise Boudreault, helped children paint their birdhouses during the March Break Extravaganza at the LivingRoom in Schumacher.*



**Photographer Moose**



*Family, parishioners, and other supporters from Mistissini and Cochrane became avid photographers immediately after the Service of Ordination at St. Matthew's Cathedral for the Reverend George Westgate and the Reverend Deacon Richard Moore.*



*Chef James Lonergan-Freake and seven other good men enjoyed a men's breakfast together in the comfort of Holy Trinity Church in Cochrane.*



*A group of volunteers made chili in Martha's Kitchen, St. Paul's Church in South Porcupine for the community's annual Winter Carnival.*

