

OUR VISION STATEMENT

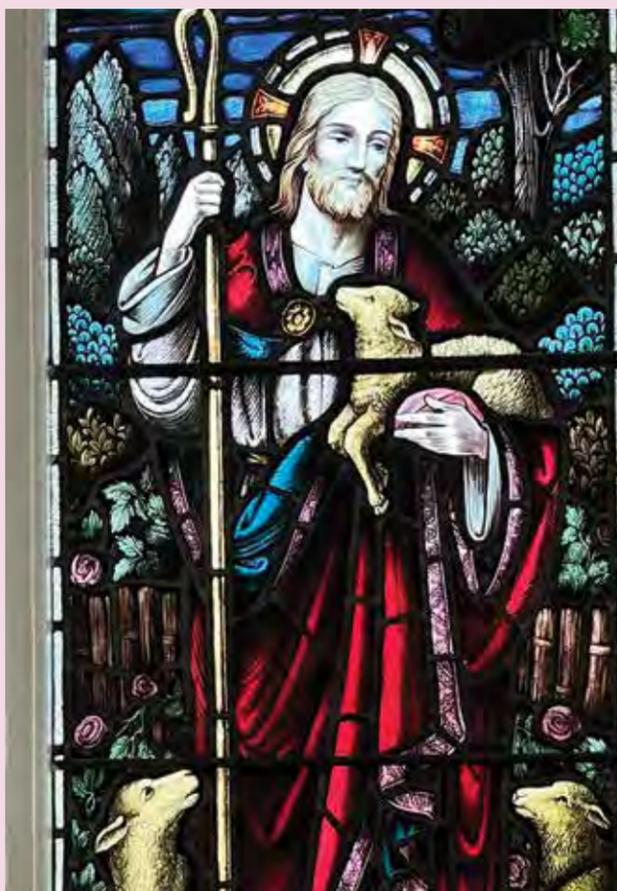
The Diocese of Moosonee – called by God to live and proclaim the Gospel

NORTHLAND

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF MOOSONEE • www.moosoneeanglican.ca • A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL • MARCH 2025



The Bishop's Chair in St. Matthew's Cathedral sits empty - awaiting ...



This stained glass window is located beside the Bishop's Chair.



PWRDF

Phoenix Arising

Article by George Cribbs, Editor.

PWRDF is an acronym standing for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund and this was established by the Anglican Church of Canada in 1959. This was done so that the Church would be able to respond quickly with financial and human resources to work with partners in Canada and around the world to help alleviate human suffering. It is a charitable arm of the church which seeks to bring emergency relief, support for refugees and works towards community development.

Despite its many years of solid work on behalf of the Church, many individual Anglicans have remained unaware of what PWRDF stands for and so it was felt that there was a need to change the name of this charitable arm of the Church.

After consulting with staff members, board members, and many volunteers across Canada the concept of 'partnership' emerged as the dominant characteristic of the organization. This led to the emergence of a new name for PWRDF. That new name is: "Alongside Hope." This name reflects the partnerships which have been the essence of the organization: partnerships with generous donors, parish representatives, as well as, funding agencies, and other organizations.

Needed: A Good Shepherd

Bishop's Profile Provided by Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Diocese of Moosonee.

ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26TH this year, clergy and lay delegates from every parish in our diocese will gather at Holy Trinity Church in Cochrane to elect a full time resident bishop. In the last several years there has been considerable conversation about what we are looking for in the ministry of our bishop. We are praying for a good shepherd: a spirited Presider, preacher, and teacher, a wise mentor in ministry, an able administrator, and a good ambassador for our diocese.

Our Bishop is a good Shepherd

Shepherding the People of God has deep roots in the writings of the prophets, the Gospel of Jesus, the Letters of the New Testament, and the writings of the Church, ancient and modern. The essence of a shepherd's work is to gather, guide, and lead the flock committed to their care.



Archbishops Fred and Anne have been providing episcopal leadership for the people of Moosonee since 2018.

The people of Moosonee are praying for a bishop who will lead with confidence in the name of The Good Shepherd himself. We trust that, having read our Diocesan Profile, he/she will set out clear priorities for his or her ministry for the first three to five years. We trust too that the bishop will encourage all of us to look for signs of the movement of the Holy Spirit calling us into the future. We look to our bishop to help us with visioning in our parishes so that each one embraces the opportunities to grow healthy, vibrant communities of faith with a positive profile in the wider community we serve.

Our diocese is largely Indigenous and we look forward to our bishop's guidance in the emergence of truly Indigenous (Eeyou/Eninew/Ililiwak/Ojibwa) expressions of cultural and traditional beliefs and values within the Church, especially for See "Bishop in Profile" on page 2.



"Bishop in Profile" continued from page one.

the Indigenous communities. We welcome and invite our bishop's guidance in conversations about the documents approved by Sacred Circle, 2023 - *Our Covenant and Our Way of Life* - and their impact on ministry and governance throughout the diocese.

Our Bishop is a Spirited President, Preacher, and Teacher

People throughout the diocese have spoken of the bishop as "having a good aura ... it is clear that the Holy Spirit is in him/her." We pray for a bishop whose own love of God shines through their countenance, word, and manner of being among us. We pray for a bishop who exudes reverence and joy in presiding and competence and conviction in preaching. We look to be inspired by the teaching of our bishop, encouraging us to be faithful followers of Jesus. We long for a time in our communities ... celebrating baptisms and confirmations, leading Bible studies, and training people for the ministry or catechesis. We hope our bishop will seize every opportunity to meet with those to be confirmed ... chatting about the vows of baptism they are about to claim as their own, the nature of confirmation and the prayer associated with the Laying on of Hands with Prayer, with a particular focus on petition, 'Empower him/her for your service', or as we pray in Moosonee, 'Empower him/her first the work you call them to do.' We yearn for a bishop who has a real interest in young people, engaging them in conversations about their life as followers of Jesus and encouraging them into active ministries in the life of their local church.

Our Bishop is a Wise Mentor in Ministry

At ordination, a bishop vows, "to take counsel with the priests, to guide the deacons, and strengthen all others who minister in the Church. (BAS, p. 637) We look for a bishop with a great commitment as pastor to the pastors, encouraging them in every way in the exercise of their ministry, offering encouragement in Christ, wise counsel, and clear direction as may be necessary from time to time. Much of this work is accomplished through regular gatherings of Clericus and in personal time spent with each of the clergy, ideally around the anniversary of their ordination. Knowing that one of the most important minis-



Archbishop Anne Germond made Archbishop Fred, the Assisting Bishop, her Commissary for the Diocese of Moosonee at the diocesan synod held in June, 2024 when the decision to seek for a residential bishop for the Diocese of Moosonee was made.

tries of a bishop is identifying and nurturing vocations to ordained ministry, we hope our bishop will spend considerable time in chatting with people who may be discerning a call. We expect our bishop to have a strong guiding hand in shaping a diocesan process like ACPO in naming candidates for training and formation for ordained ministry. We expect our bishop to have a lead role in the work of the Bishop Tom Corston School for Ministry - in its mandate and organization, in course offerings and certificates and diplomas, in its relationships with other Diocesan Schools for Ministry and Missional Leadership. Likewise, we look to our bishop to offer support and encouragement for those called to the office and work of a lay reader in the Church. Working closely with the Warden of Lay Readers, he/she will ensure good training and mentoring is in place.

Our bishop will be a vigilant ambassador for the ministry of all baptized, helping us to fully embrace St. Paul's teaching about how the Spirit graces many people for many varieties of service - some liturgical, some pastoral, some catechetical, some diaconal, some political in the interests of God's will for what is good, right, and just for all. In all things, our bishop models for us all the very nature of servant leadership in which we "seek not our own glory, but the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ" (BAS p. 656).

Our Bishop is an Able Administrator

Moosonee needs a bishop with strong administrative skills, a bishop who leads from the long held Anglican Tradition that we are "episcopally led and synodically governed."

There is a need to appreciate afresh the principles of Anglican Polity. There is a need for diocesan-wide

education regarding our canons and policies. There is a need to strengthen ties between the parishes and the synod office. Inherent in a bishop's ministry is their role in this task and it can be accomplished in large measure through meetings of select vestry when the bishop is visiting a parish. The bishop can clarify roles and responsibilities of wardens, treasurers, and others, and can assure them that the Synod Office is ever ready and willing to help them fulfil their duties. Of particular concern in our diocese is the need for widespread stewardship education with respect to the provision of financial resources to support our ministries, local and diocesan. We look to our bishop to be glad and well prepared in gathering us in synod, in Executive Council, in assemblies, and in Great Chapter. We look to our bishop to set the tone for our work - that our vision be clear, our resolution firm, and our zeal unabating. We look to our bishop for good will and good cheer in all we are about as the Church throughout Moosonee.

Our Bishop is a Good Ambassador for Moosonee

Moosonee is a member diocese of the Council of the North, the dioceses that are supported by a fair share of the block grant from the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. We pray our bishop's voice in that council will be strong, positive, and hopeful. We look to our bishop to share our stories in yet wider councils of the Church - the Provincial Synod of Ontario, the General Synod, and the National House of Bishops. We hope our bishop will be glad to accept invitations from bishops and dioceses in the South that are eager to learn more about ministry in the North. We hope that he/she will cheerfully tell our stories



The Northland

A publication of the
Anglican Diocese of Moosonee

A Section of the
Anglican Journal

Editor: George Cribbs

Publisher: Archbishop
Anne Germond

Proofreader: Catharine Cribbs
Published Quarterly in March,
June, September, and December.

Materials may be sent
electronically to:
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or mailed to:
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Timmins, ON

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Articles and Photos should be
submitted by one of the following
dates in order that such material
may be included in a subsequent
issue of the paper:

January 15th

April 15th

July 15th

October 15th

All material submitted for inclu-
sion in the Northland is subject to
editing without exception.

Printed by
Webnews Printing, Inc.
North York, ON

www.facebook.com
Anglican Diocese of Moosonee.

and invite prayerful and financial support reflected in the spirit of Diocesan Companion Relationships. We hope our bishop will forge a strong relationship with The New England Company which has long supported ministry in the North of Canada.

While much of that ambassado-
See "Searching and Praying" on page 7.



Honourary Degree: Honourable Man

Article by Archbishop Anne Germond, Bishop of Moosonee: comments made by Archbishop Anne when presenting a degree to Canon Cliff Dee at Thorneloe University's Fall Convocation, 2024.

I'LL BEGIN MY REMARKS this evening about Canon Cliff Dee: pastor, educator, spiritual guide, mentor, and the recipient of the Degree Sacred Theology (honoris causa) by quoting Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop and Commissary for the Diocese of Moosonee, and Canon Bryan Finlay who serves as the Chancellor of the Diocese. Both have worked closely with Canon Cliff and both bear testimony to the fact that he is most worthy of the honour being conferred upon him.

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Archbishop Fred Hiltz:

"Cliff Dee - a priest of our Church who had given his entire ministry to serving in the North. Modest and humble and constant in his labours, he has lived among the Cree long enough to understand their ways of being, thinking, and marking ritual associated with the great passage of life. Cliff has been a wonderful itinerant priest and pastor travelling great distances to meet the pastoral and sacramental needs of many people in far flung communities. Cliff has vast knowledge of the history of Moosonee. I hope it can be committed to writing someday. Finally, Cliff is one of the cheeriest priests of our Church. Whenever I call and say to him, 'How are you today?' the response is invariably, 'oh, just fine and dandy.'"

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Chancellor Bryan Finlay:

"To my mind, Cliff is the finest example of the northern priest. ... Fluent in various Indigenous dialects, committed to the spiritual welfare of those in his charge, and with a true ability to walk in the footprints of Indigenous people's. One is struck by his pastoral ability whether it is exemplified by his living in the communities of the north, visiting those who are sick both at home and in the hospital, by administering the sacraments, or by simply singing along with his people in their own language."

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Archbishop Anne Germond:

Serving in northern Indigenous communities requires a special kind of commitment - one that embraces the challenges of isolation, cultural diversity, and the pressing needs of underserved populations. Canon Cliff's ministry in these regions has been a shining example



The Reverend Canons Cliff Dee and Tom Stradwick at St. Matthew's Cathedral.



The Reverend Canons Diane Hilpert-McIlroy and Cliff Dee at St. Matthew's Cathedral.

of what it means to live out Christ's call to serve *"the least of these."* His ability to bridge cultures with respect and humility has made him not only a spiritual leader but also a trusted friend and advocate for those he serves.

While he has been a parish priest in just about every community in the Diocese of Moosonee and having served in the James Bay community of Waswanapi since 2009, Canon Cliff has also played a pivotal role in the training, education, and formation of lay people, deacons, and priests.

It is not culturally practical for First Nations people to leave their Cree communities to travel to the south for training and since southern training programs are not specifically relevant to ministry in the northern diocese, as an alternative, the Diocese of Moosonee developed two theological programs aimed at training church leaders, both lay and ordained, in First Nation communities in the James Bay region of Ontario and Quebec. Over the years, Canon Cliff Dee has been an integral part of



The Reverend Gladys Matoush and Canon Cliff Dee at diocesan synod.



The Reverend Canon Cliff Dee and Archbishop Fred Hiltz at diocesan synod.

both of these. The first was a training program entitled, *Mahmow Kiskinohamahsotaw*, (let us learn together) which Canon Cliff was the coordinator of for many years. Mahmow encouraged vocations to the ordained ministry from the Cree people and developed Indigenous lay leadership with an emphasis on healing and creating renewed relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous members of the diocese. The program was in part a response to its commitment to healing, renewal, and reconciliation arising from the painful legacy of the residential schools. The second place that Canon Cliff played a role in learning was through the Bishop Tom Corston School for Ministry which offered the ability for learners and those in formation to connect with others in the diocese and learn with a group of peers. This school consisted of four terms over the course of a year, each condensed into a three-day weekend in Cochrane. Those busy weekends were packed with three-hour lectures from speakers from the

diocese and across Canada. Along with a curriculum including Scripture, liturgy, and history, each term has a component of Indigenous teaching on topics such as Indigenous spirituality and history. Between these weekends students were also required to complete fieldwork in their home parishes.

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With dedication and grace

Canon Cliff taught church history and in the words of Canon Patricia Dorland he embraced his roles, *"with dedication and grace."*

At the provincial level of the Church, Canon Cliff also served on OPCOTE, the Ontario Provincial Council of Theological Education - a council that connects educators from the seven diocese within our province to discuss theological education.

So, Canon Cliff, congratulations on being awarded a Doctorate of Sacred Theology - a distinction that reflects not only your desire for academic excellence but also your profound dedication to the Church and its mission. This honour is a testament to your years of service and unwavering commitment to the faith and the people you serve.

Your ministry has been marked by a deep sense of vocation and purpose. As an educator and mentor, you have guided countless laypeople and clergy in their spiritual journeys, imparting not only theological knowledge but also the wisdom and compassion that can only come from a life rooted in prayer and service. Through your teaching, you have inspired others to grow in their faith, empowering them to serve their communities with love and humility. Your tireless advocacy for locally raised clergy has been a cornerstone of your ministry. Recognizing the unique gifts and perspectives of Indigenous communities, you have worked to nurture vocations that honour their rich cultural and spiritual heritage. By championing the formation of local leaders, you have strengthened the Church's presence and mission in northern communities, ensuring that the faith continues to thrive in ways that are authentic and deeply rooted in the lives of the people. Your dedication and faithfulness have left an indelible mark on the hearts of many and this honour is richly deserved. Congratulations.



MOOSONEE MOMENTS



Archbishop Fred Hiltz spoke with the children of the congregation at St. Matthew's Cathedral about why we light candles on All Saints Day.



Lay Reader Emeritus, Norwood Harkins, and Lay Reader Suzanne Bernier were both licensed at a ceremony at St. Mark's Anglican Church in Iroquois Falls in late November; Canon Tom Stradwick officiated.



The Reverends Barr Huether, Diocese of Kootenay, Valerie Isaac, Diocese of Moosonee, and Ann Martha Keenak, Diocese of the Arctic all participated in the PWRDF (Alongside Hope) conference recently held in Hamilton, Ontario.



Archbishop Fred Hiltz and Canon Patricia Dorland posed with Charlene Kooses and James Archibald after their confirmation at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Cochrane in December.

The Companions Program September 2025 – July 2026

The **residential Companions** program is an immersive opportunity to experience a contemporary monastic community rooted in the Benedictine tradition. It is open to women aged 21 and up regardless of Christian denomination.

Companions live, work, and pray alongside the sisters, learning from them but also sharing each companion's own gifts with the sisters and their ministries. They will:

- Learn to cultivate peaceful and creative ways of living in a diverse intentional community
- Appreciate silence and solitude as well as community and service for a healthy life
- Put down deep roots of spiritual intimacy with God and each other
- Develop a personal path to ongoing spiritual growth
- Discern individual gifts and vocations.



Application start and end (both programs):
Opens January 1, 2025 –
Closes May 15, 2025



Open to women of all Christian expressions, **Companions Online** is an opportunity to become "monastics in the world," living a Benedictine rhythm of prayer, work, study, and recreation. Online Companions learn to develop practices that support and nurture their spiritual life from the comfort of their homes.

They meet regularly for classes and discussion groups, and commit to times of personal prayer at home. They share in book studies, participate in online worship and screen films relevant to spiritual growth and self-understanding. Online Companions also develop spiritual disciplines that follow the liturgical year.

Cost:
Residential Companions: sugg. \$100.00/month.
Companions Online: sugg. \$50.00/month.
If cost is a hindrance, assistance is available.

To learn more about either program, or to apply, email Shannon Epp, Program Coordinator, at companions@ssjd.ca, or phone St. John's Convent: 416-226-2201, ext. 342

The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine



St. Peter's-on-the-Rock, Kirkland Lake, celebrated Epiphany on January 6th with a service and a wonderful turkey dinner.



Holy Trinity Church Upgraded Article by Kim Skidmore, Holy Trinity, Cochrane.

LAST YEAR, THE PARISH OF HOLY TRINITY once again reaffirmed the vision of providing an Anglican ministry for future generations by moving forward with a multifaceted upgrading project - including but not limited to: exterior basement waterproofing, new basement flooring, accessible basement washrooms, improved stairway and exterior lighting.

The goal was to provide a community space for all ages to utilize. Of course, our presence on the main street of town has always been an asset to our ministry; even during the construction there was speculation on whether or not, "the Anglicans were putting a pool in their basement." Local contractors were hired and they have been committed to being a part of our vision.

A project of this magnitude for a small congregation would not have been possible without the support and faith of many national, diocesan, and community partners who believed in our vision and were equally committed to our fu-



Steven Hardy Palmer performed in Holy Trinity Church in Cochrane as part of the parish's efforts to raise funds for their beautiful, memorial stained glass windows.

ture as a Christian presence and an integral part of the social network of our community; and for this we are eternally grateful. We give thanks to: the Anglican Foundation of Canada, the Diocese of Moosonee, the Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary of

Cochrane, a local charity foundation, the Corporation of the Town of Cochrane, individual community members, and the ongoing support of past and present parishioners of Archbishop Anderson Memorial Anglican Church, Holy Trinity Anglican Parish.



Suzanne Bernier Lay Reader: St. Mark's Anglican Church Iroquois Falls, ON.

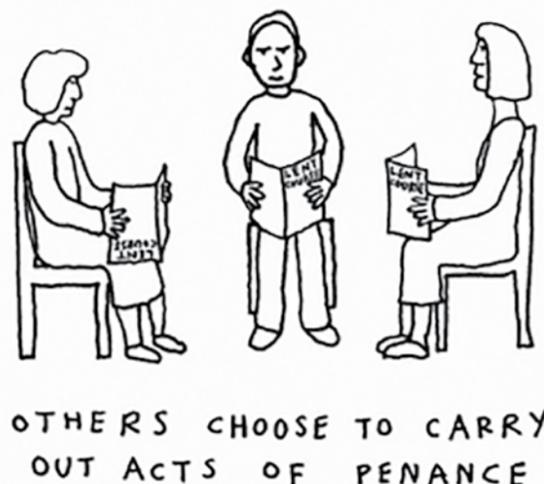
MY NAME IS SUZANNE BERNIER and I am a member of St. Mark's, Iroquois Falls. I was recently licensed as a lay reader: I lead services of Morning Prayer once a month.

I am a member of the Bishop Tom Corston School of Ministry and have taken courses through Huron University College. I am also a graduate of Northern College, Porcupine Campus with a diploma regarding Social Services Worker with a certificate of Personal Support Worker. I left the diocese between 2003 and 2010 to work for the Canadian Red Cross as a home care worker in Gravenhurst, ON where I was a member of the parish of St. James.

I came back home to Iroquois Falls and soon after welcomed my first grandson, Benjamin, and two years later, Jonathan. In 2019, my son, Mark Olaveson, died at the age of 33 from complications with surgery. He was a teacher at Ecole Secondaire Catholique et Publique L'Alliance in Iroquois Falls.

In October, 2024, I attended a lay reader's conference in Parry Sound. I enjoy meeting people from other areas. That being said, St. John's Convent in Toronto is one of my favourite places to spend Christmas at their Christmas retreat. I am presently a discerning Associate of SSJD (*The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine*). Last July, I attended Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls for another retreat and met some very interesting people. I am grateful to Bishop Victoria Matthews for her inspiration.

LENT



“Searching and Praying” continued from page 2.

rial role is exercised beyond the diocese, there is also a need for it within the diocese - in particular in the James Bay Deanery, all of which comes under the governance of the Cree Nation. Building relationships with Chief and Council within each community is of vital importance. In a number of communities, the church and the rectory are the property of the Nation. The bishop can be a real advocate for attention in their maintenance and upgrading. The bishop can also have a considerable voice in negotiating support for the ministry of the Church from the perspective that we provide an ‘essential service’ in the communities. Forging good relationships with Cree government at all levels, including Cree Health and Social Services and Cree Compensation Board could be of great benefit in accessing support for our abiding commitment to a ministry of pastoral presence in every community; in acting on words of

apology regarding the Church’s complicity in the Indian Residential Schools, the harms inflicted on generations of children and their families, and the inter generational trauma borne by many to this day, and our commitment to gatherings in the interests of healing and reconciliation.

≈ The Care of Our Bishop

At ordination, a bishop makes many vows in caring for us. And we too make a vow which we must take seriously - that it is to “uphold our bishop” (BAS p. 635).

In the exercise of ministry as Bishop of Moosonee, one is required to be on the road for extensive periods of time, away from home and family. We recognize that such extended travel can be very tiring. In managing his/her time, we will encourage our bishop to plan for and to take Quiet Days, Continuing Education Opportunities, an



National Indigenous Archbishop Chris Harper, Archbishop Anne Germond, Bishop of Moosonee, and Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop of Moosonee have all provided leadership to our Church and diocese.

Annual Retreat and a full vacation in the interests of their well being – physical, emotional, and spiritual. We pledge to uphold our bishop in our prayers

every day that he/she may know the grace, strength, and guidance of the Holy Spirit in all the cares associated with being Shepherd of Christ’s flock in Moosonee.

There Is Life Here! Article by Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Diocese of Moosonee.

THERE IS IN DOWNTOWN TORONTO an Anglican Church graced on either side of its front doors with banners that read “There is life here!” What a great message - concise, inviting, and hopeful.

It reminds me of the theme of life in Jesus in John’s account of the Gospel. The sixth chapter opens with the feeding of the multitude and is followed by what is commonly known as the Bread of Life discourse in which Jesus is engaged in conversation with four groups of people.

First - the crowds. They are eager for more signs of the miraculous works he is doing. He teaches them **“that whoever comes to him will never be hungry, and whoever believes in him will never thirst.”** (John 6:35). Second - the religious authorities. They question Jesus’ authority in declaring himself to be **“the living bread come down from heaven, giving life to the world, and that those who eat this bread will not die but live forever.”** (John 6:51) Third - the disciples, a great many more, it seems, than the twelve. They find his teaching **“that those who eat his flesh and drink his blood abide in**

him (John 6:56) difficult to comprehend. **“Many”**, writes John, **“turned back and no longer went about with him.”** (John 6:66) Fourth - the Twelve. Jesus asks them, **“Do you also wish to go away?”** (John 6:67) And Peter responds, **“Lord, to whom else can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”** (John 6:68)

We are living in a time when many people, certainly in a North American context, have turned back from Jesus and are no longer following him. The reasons are multiple and some are a shame on the history of the Church itself. Statistics on the decline in attendance at worship and affiliation with the Church represent a downward trajectory over some forty to fifty years, especially sharp in the last twenty-five. My ministry has spanned all those years and I must say that it is always with great sadness that I pray with the whole Church in the Litany of Penitence in Ash Wednesday, **“We confess our failure to commend the faith that is in us.”**

While I, indeed all of us, could wallow in such failure, we could and should on the other



Before Christmas, Archbishop Fred Hiltz invited the children of the congregation at St. Matthew’s Cathedral to have a close look at the crèche and he explained what it represents.

hand consider how we might renew our capacity to commend the faith ... and that is a choice I want to make. It is a choice that demands real intent and commitment, moving us beyond a privatizing of our faith to a confident and joyful sharing of our faith. And we will need some good mentoring in doing that well. Among many expectations of our new bishop this is surely one of them - encouraging us to live our promises in baptism more fully,

and encouraging us to embrace afresh our calling as a community of disciples, faithful to Jesus and his Gospel of life for the world.

“There is life here!” That’s my prayer for our diocese, that people will come to know that “there is life here,” and in every parish, life in Jesus that is new, spiritually abundant and eternal; life that is a blessing for the entire community.

That’s my prayer. May it be yours as well.



Helping Hands

Article by Erin Liley, Staff Writer and George Cribbs, Editor.

BISHOP VICTORIA MATTHEWS was obliged to resign her position as episcopal administrator of the Diocese of Moosonee and Dean of the Cathedral in the spring due to serious health concerns. This placed both the cathedral and the diocese in a quandary. The diocese has a shortage of priests and most of the diocesan clergy are non-stipendiary and live far away from the City of Timmins.

Archbishop Fred Hiltz, the commissary for Archbishop Anne Germond, responded to the challenge of finding clergy to address the need. He found many different priests to volunteer their time and skills to assist the cathedral and diocese. The Reverend Valerie Isaac from Kapuskasing and Lay Reader Joanne Jenkins of Timmins certainly played their part but a substantial amount of time lay between the impending electoral synod in late March and the resignation of Bishop Matthews.

Archbishop Fred Hiltz made many trips to Timmins from his home in Toronto in order to fill the void left by the vacancy. He has enjoyed the musical support provided by Peter Cobert and Nicola Alexander and the various ministries of members of the congregation. Nevertheless, this still left many Sundays when there was no one within the Timmins area who could lead the congregation and so a diligent search was made for clergy who could come from far away to the continuation of services at St. Matthew's Cathedral.

The months of August, September, October, and November have seen a wonderful array of Anglican clergy coming to Timmins to bring the Gospel and to celebrate the Eucharist with the parishioners. The clergy from outside of the diocese who came during the four months of interregnum are as follows: The Reverend Canon Grayhame Bowcott, Diocese of Huron, Archdeacon Marie Loewen, Diocese of Algoma, The Reverend Canon Diane Hilpert-McIlroy, Mentor for Clergy, in the Diocese of Moosonee, Bishop John Chapman, retired,

Diocese of Ottawa, Bishop Michael Bird, retired, Diocese of Niagara, and The Very Reverend Peter Wall, retired Dean of the Diocese of Niagara. And the list goes on!

One of these interesting clergy who has visited Timmins is The Reverend Canon Grayhame Bowcott who serves as the Rector of St. George's, Diocese of Huron and he also serves as the Program Director of the Licentiate in Theology Diploma Program at Huron University. He was interviewed by Erin Liley for the *Northland*. He explained why he accepted the invitation to come to St. Matthew's. He is thankful for the ministry of Archbishop Fred Hiltz who ordained him as a deacon in 2010 and to be able to support his work in the Diocese of Moosonee. Moreover, Canon Grahame grew up in Northern Ontario - Foleyet, Geraldton, and Cochrane - and it was a chance to revisit some of the places of his childhood. Canon Grayhame was amazed at how much Timmins has changed since his last visit. He also acknowledged that he was given a very warm welcome at St. Matthew's and he appreciated the chance to visit with the congregation and enjoy a time of fellowship as well as joining in with the singing.

Canon Grayhame indicated that he could feel that there was vocational ministry to explore in Timmins. He has welcomed Warden Toby Tong into the courses of the Licentiate in Theology Program. He also said that he had a feeling that there were others in the community longing to explore theological education and perhaps to places where God was enabling them for future ministry. Canon Grayhame's two passions for ministry include raising up leaders for future service in the church and helping congregations to grow beyond their walls in forming new relationships and community partnerships.

Bishop John Chapman responded to Erin Liley's questionnaire by saying the following: "I was first elected Bishop of Ottawa in 2007. Since then, at various gatherings of bishops,



The Very Reverend Peter Wall, retired Dean of Niagara.



Archdeacon Linda White, Diocese of Algoma.



Bishop John Chapman, retired Bishop of Ottawa, and his wife Catherine.



Bishop Michael Bird, retired Bishop of Niagara.

I have heard and followed the Diocese of Moosonee's story. So, when Archbishop Fred called asking me if I would like to help out at the cathedral, I was delighted to say yes! Needless to say, I was not disappointed. The folks were a delight, warm, and inviting. It was a pleasure to be able to serve our Lord with the people of Moosonee and the people of St. Matthew's."

Archbishop Fred Hiltz, as Archbishop Anne's Commissary, is currently in charge of the functions of St. Matthew's Cathedral. He observed that, "the congregation has the potential to grow when someone has a lot of time to devote to it." For now there will be meetings once a month and if need be more than once a month until such time when we get an incumbent." Archbishop Fred is continuing to find clergy who are willing to meet the ongoing need at St. Matthew's. The Reverend Karen Coxon has agreed to come to the cathedral for a period of three months. Reverend Karen will be coming to Timmins from the Diocese of

Ottawa in March and staying at St. Matthew's for three months. As Archbishop Fred points out, the stability of the church comes with someone who does pastoral work, who is a guiding hand and who can hold up a vision of the Cathedral praying and who lives the Gospel. "People have come to know me; they think that they can trust me, and they know that I have their best interests at heart. Without a resident priest, they know that the congregation is going to be taken care of." Archbishop Fred added that he enjoys coming to the cathedral, that he is retired and has his health and that he continues in the service of the Gospel.

It is especially interesting that all of these wonderfully different individual participating priests have all touched the people of the Cathedral. There have been wonderful sermons. Whilst there is something special about having an incumbent, it is an outstanding opportunity and experience that is being offered to the congregation at St. Matthew's Cathedral.

