

Northern Lights

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The Journal of the
Anglican Diocese
of Yukon
Spring 2016



For the work done since the mid-1990s and completed during 2015 and 2016, St. Paul's and the Diocese were awarded the Heritage Conservation Project of the Year Award in February.

Thank you for Praying

Day 1 & 16

Whitehorse: Christ Church Cathedral.

The Very Rev. Sean Murphy; Licensed Lay Ministers: Beverly Whitehouse, Gaya Tiedeman, David Robertson, and Elsa Cheeseman.

Day 2 & 17

Fort Nelson: St. Mary Magdalene. Toad River, Alaska Highway, Mile 150-506

Licensed Lay Minister in Charge - Ford Hewlett, Aqiu Zhang, The Rev. Glen Gough & Sarah Gough; Licensed Lay Ministers: Jeanie Arva, Mark Tudor and Kathleen Olson..

Day 3 & 18

Watson Lake: St. John the Baptist; Lower Post, Swift River, Telegraph Creek: St.

Aidan; **Dease Lake; Glenora.** Licensed Lay Minister: Tim Liverton

Day 4 & 19

Carcross, Tagish & Johnson's Crossing

St. Saviour's.
Teslin: St. Philip's. The Rev. Sarah Usher, Len Usher and the Ministry Team

Day 5 & 20: Communities of: **Carmacks & Keno.**

Day 6 & 21: Atlin: St. Martin. The Rev. Vera Kirkwood; The Rev. Dorothy Odian. Licensed Lay Minister: George Holman.

Day 7 & 22: Communities of Faro and Ross River

Day 8 & 23

Haines Junction: St. Christopher's. **Beaver Creek:** St. Columba: **Alaska Highway: Mile 918-1202:** The Rev. Lynn de Brabandere and the Ministry Team

Day 9 & 24

Whitehorse: Church of the Northern Apostles.

The Rev. Rob Langmaid, The Most Rev. Terry Buckle, Blanche Buckle, The Rev. Sarah Usher, Len Usher. Licensed Lay Ministers Eileen Carver, Monica Langmaid, Shelia Robertson

Day 10 and 25

Mayo: St. Mary with St. Mark. Licensed Lay Ministers Charles & Valerie Maier; **Pelly Crossing:** St. James the Lord's Brother

Day 11 & 26

Dawson City: St. Paul's. **Moosehide:** St. Barnabas; **The Klondike Creeks; The Dempster Hwy.** The Rev. Laurie Munro, The Rev. Percy Henry. Licensed Lay Ministers: Mabel Henry; Shirley Pennell, Betty Davidson.

Day 12 & 27

Old Crow: St. Luke's.

The Rev. Laurie Munro, The Rev. Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer & Lay Ministry Team

Day 13 & 28

The Rev. Sarah Usher: Diocesan Administrative Officer; Members of the Diocesan Executive Committee; Diocesan Prayer Partner: Diocese of Fredericton.

Day 14 & 29

Patti Tetlich, Yukon Apostolate. Bishop's School of Yukon Ministries.
PWRDF Diocesan Representative: Betty Davidson
Diocesan ACW President, Blanche Buckle, and all ACW members.

Day 15 & 30

Those retired from Missionary Service:

The Rev. Canon David Pritchard
The Rev. Dorothy Thorpe.
The Rev. Don & Rev. Lee Sax.
The Rv. Canon Geoffrey & Rosalind Dixon.
The Rev. Canon David Kalles.
The Ven. John & Rev. Carol Tyrrell.
The Rev. Fred & Marcia Carson.
The Very Rev. Peter & Barbara Williams.
The Rev. Mary & Lino Battaja.
The Most Rev. Terry and Blanche Buckle.
The Rev. Martin & Ruth Carroll.
Marion Carroll, Aldene Snider, Audrey Aylard.

Day 31 and daily:

The Rt. Rev. Larry Robertson and Sheila Robertson & family.



A Message from the Bishop



Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor. 5:17

I accepted Christ when I was 17 years old. I am almost 62 now so it has been a few years. If there has been one constant over all these years, in the service of God, it is that things are always changing. Often in ways that are very unexpected. I am still amazed that God took a kid from the slums of Toronto (one of the most crowded city areas) and sent him to northern Canada (one of the least populated areas). God certainly has a sense of humour. Life in itself is constant change. Marriage, children, moving, parish ministry, a new language, making new friends, being elected a Bishop (again a loving God with a sense of humour); all these changes, just to name a few. In many instances the change is also a surprise. In life and in service to God we can count on change. The one thing I hang onto is that what God calls us to do, He will also equip us to do. Knowing this makes life exciting and something to look forward to.

The Diocese of Yukon is no different. Change is happening. God is calling us to new paths and new ways. We do not know exactly where he is leading but it is exciting. We have ventured into new forms of ministry. It is hoped that by the fall of this year five parishes will be ministered by the Ministry of Presence Program. Also by the fall the Synod has

asked the Bishop to move into a parish for a trial period of three years. This would enable for ministry to be shared in a other area. We have been delighted at the ordination to the Deaconate of Glen Gough and three other members of the diocese beginning a journey of discernment in regard to where God might be calling them.

There is much change being discussed in our National Church. There will be a motion brought to General Synod to change the Canon of Marriage to include the Marriage of same sex couples. For the last three years conversations have been going on in the National House of Bishop, in the Council of General Synod and throughout much of the Church. What the outcome will be no one knows. But change will happen and regardless of the outcome there will be much healing that needs to take place.

Change is part of our lives. How do we deal with it? We need to remember we are not a group of individuals who are out to get whatever we can for ourselves. We are part of the Family of God under the Lordship of Christ. We are called to serve our Lord and we serve our Lord by serving the people God has called us to minister to. We are a family and we are to do what is best for all and not just what is best for ourselves as individuals. If we can act in this manner we have the promise of Scripture that what God has called us to, He will also equip us to do.

Change is happening. We are not the same people, we are not the same Diocese, we are not the same Church we were 10 years ago; one year ago or even last week. God is not finished with us yet. We are a new creation and we are becoming a new creation. May God walk with us in this change. Happy changing to all.

Your Bishop, *Larry Robertson*

The Makeup of the Leadership in the Diocese of Yukon

By Bishop Larry Robertson

When I compare our Diocese with others in Canada I see many differences. One of the big differences is that we are primarily led by volunteers. The vast number of the people who make up any body of our church are non-stipendiary and voluntary. Let's have a look.

Spiritual Leadership of Parishes

We have 13 active parishes.

- 3 are stipendiary priests
- 2 Diocesan stipendiary staff (bishop and administration officer)
- 3 Ministry of Presence (2 lay and 1 deacon) - Volunteers
- 8 Clergy (retired or having other Jobs) - Volunteers
- 14 Licensed Lay Ministers - Volunteers

Of the 13 active parishes only 3 have paid Clergy (23%). The other 10 Parishes are fully run by volunteers (77%)

Then when you look at all the Licensed people in the Diocese doing ministry, 16% are paid and 84% are volunteers.

This is by financial necessity. This is part of the reason why the Diocese of Yukon puts a priority on training. Without local training we would be like sheep without a shepherd. The Bishop School of Yukon Ministry seeks to train Shepherds to care for the people. This is also why we seek to enlarge our Ministry of Presence program.



Lay Minister Shirley Pennell, Rev. Laurie Munro, Deputy Premier Elaine Taylor, Lay Minister Betty Davidson & Rector's Warden Kathy Webster with the plaque.

The Diocese and St. Paul's Awarded

Acceptance Letter for the Heritage Conservation Project Award

On behalf of the congregation of St Paul's Anglican Church in Dawson City, I wanted to express our appreciation for this wonderful award. This year marks the culmination of many years of work to restore our Church. One of the early memories I have of Dawson City, in the middle 80's, is seeing the old church in the middle of the road while the foundation was filled in and levelled. Over the years, at Christmas time, the old Church was heated by a Herman Nelson heater so that our community could celebrate Christmas together, and we had to keep the service to a short period of time since that was all the heat in the building.

In 1996, thanks to grants from the Community Development Fund (CDF), the Anglican Foundation, YTG Historic Properties, and donations from many in our community, the interior walls were repaired, and repainted, the flooring replaced through the hard work of Hån Construction and many others. Thanks to the expertise of Sally Pedersen and Betty Wells, the stained glass windows were restored and rebuilt. Volunteers from the Church restored, sanded and refinished the pews, which had once belonged to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. During that summer, every Sunday, our congregation went into

the old building to see the marvelous progress, and a picture was taken with us standing, surrounded by construction. This marked a turning point in the life of St. Paul's.

This year, again thanks to the Community Development Fund, and Historic Properties, the final restoration projects have been completed. Due to the hard work of Vogt Enterprises, the roof, and much of the ceiling, which was decayed, worn and drafty, was replaced, along with the decayed footings and rot in the walls. Big B Contracting restored its paint, Crain Ventures dealt with the lighting and fans, Mike Crelli worked on drainage issues, Twin Peaks built our eavestroughs, and Williams Construction is completing repairs to our storm windows.

Without the support of Historic Properties, the Community Development Fund and our other grantors, and the wonderful people of Dawson City, St Paul's Anglican Church would be sinking into the ground. Instead, it has been restored to its original function and has many years of service ahead. We are so very grateful and give thanks for your generosity. We especially want to thank Bruce Barrett, from Historic Properties, for his help over the years, and Cheryl Goulet and Gisele Maisonneuve, our advisors from CDF. Please come and visit our church when you come to Dawson City.

Betty Davidson,
Chair of the 2015-16 Restoration
Committee

**SUMMER EDITION DEADLINE:
JULY 15, 2016**

Pancakes at Northern Apostles

On Shrove Tuesday we ran our Pancake Supper and were pleasantly surprised with the attendance of about 80 people. It was a great evening of fellowship, as people invited their friends for the great meal of pancakes and sausages cooked by the men of the congregation. One of the exciting things of the evening was the number of people with no church affiliation who came to the church hall for pancakes. The absolute highlight of the night was the massive dessert table, organized by Margaret with help from others. This was a new addition to our pancake supper, which we hope will continue at future suppers. Over all, our pancake supper was a good time of fellowship and connecting with the community.



Pancakes at St Paul's- Funds For the Needy in Pikangikum

The proceeds from St. Paul's annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper are always donated to a worthy cause. This year \$320 was donated to the PWRDF project in Pikangikum, a remote, fly-in First Nations' community in Northern Ontario. The goal of the Water Project is to provide a source of safe drinking water and safe sewage disposal to

homes in the community of 2200. Of the 450 homes in the community, 95% do not have clean water or waste water services.



World Day of Prayer at St. Paul's



On Saturday, Mar 12, 16 very excited people attended the World Day of Prayer service at Richard Martin Memorial Chapel.

This year's service focused on Cuba, and had a very different format from other years. The committee was made up of representatives from the Anglican, Catholic and Gospel Chapel Churches, and loosely followed the children's service provided by the Women's inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC).

We sang songs in Spanish, praised God in many ways, put together a puzzle of Cuba, made yarn dolls, composed a

group prayer for children, and ate foods based on Cuban recipes. Donations were sent to needy groups through WICC. A good time was had by all.



Heritage Designation of the Old Log Church and Rectory

On July 17 2015 a ceremony was held to celebrate the designation of the Old Log Church and Log Rectory as a Yukon Historic site and the Old Log Church and Rectory as municipal historic sites. An opening prayer was given by Rt Rev Larry Robertson followed by a welcome by Councillor Jessie Dawson of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation. Speeches were given by Minister of Culture Elaine Taylor, Whitehorse Mayor Dan Curtis, Yukon Heritage Resources Board Chair Anne Leckie, Bishop of Yukon Rt Rev Larry Robertson, and YCHS President Linda Thistle. Speeches were followed by an unveiling of plaques. The ceremony was well attended by members of the heritage and church community, many faces familiar to the Old log Church Museum could be seen in the crowd. Refreshments were served at Hellaby Hall following the ceremony with classical guitar music in Stringer Park provided by Nicholas Mah.

The Yukon Church Heritage Society/Old Log Church Museum are proud to be stewards for the protection of these important landmarks in the city of Whitehorse and Yukon Territory. Designation of these buildings ensures that they are recognized and protected for the future.



Messy Church Continues to Grow

Messy Church continues to grow. We had 45 people attending the last monthly meeting. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Messy Church it is a monthly Church Service on Sunday afternoon from 3pm - 5pm. We begin with crafts, have a short time of worship and then have a meal together. This is a family event for the whole family, including adults. The worship is contemporary with lots of music. The Crafts seek to blend with the message and have several levels of difficulty. Some of the crafts can be messy, hence the name Messy Church. This important ministry of the Cathedral has grown to the point that we are in need of helpers. People to help with crafts, some to cook and serve and some to just be general helpers. No experience necessary. Contact the Dean if you would like to help.



Top Left - Yummy food served to people attending Messy Church

Above - Zorion showing off his handiwork at Messy Church

Bottom Left - The Messy Church meal is shared round a common table, but some children wander back to the crafts they left earlier.

Annual Northern Apostles Ladies Night

Here we are again. How long have we been doing this? We decided that to say 20 years was good enough, because many of us are not that old. ARE WE? A wonderful group gathered, all ages, to enjoy an evening of friendship and relaxation and to remember what this time of year is all about. We are thankful for Jan who leads us in joyful song and gets us motivated to take this time for ourselves. As always, yes, we Anglicans had a table full of treats to share and stories to tell. May be we should think about doing something like this a few times during the year to keep us strong and together. How about it?



Newly Baptized and New Citizens at St. Paul's



Myrna Butte-
worth (center) was
recently baptized.
Here she stands
with her sponsor,
Diane Baumgartner
and Rev. Laurie
Monro.



The Soliguen
family has been living
in Dawson for a few
years now, and have
recently become
Canadian citizens.
A congregational
welcome was extended
to everyone.

News from the Cathedral

Bibe Study



The Tuesday Bible Study meets at lunchtime in the Old Log Rectory.

Dean Sean Murphy at a Tuesday Bible study



Working on the Parish Calendar



David Robertson (People's Warden), and Mary Robertson (Treasurer)



Left-to-right Blanche Buckle (ACW rep), David Robertson (People's Warden), Anne Coates (Rector's Warden), Irma Cockney (member-at-large), Mary Robertson (Treasurer), almost completely hidden - Don Cheeseman (Member-at-large), Dean Sean Murphy, and behind him Beverley Whitehouse, (Member-at-large).



Northern Lights magazine is published by the Diocese of Yukon and its goal is to inform people everywhere about the life, work and mission of the Anglican Church in the diocese and to inform the churches of Yukon about each other, thus strengthening the bonds of mutual appreciation. Opinions expressed herein are those of the writer or contributor and not necessarily those of the Diocese of Yukon.

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