

Northern Lights

161

The Journal of the
Anglican Diocese of
Yukon
Winter 2011



Diocesan Clergy lay hands on Rev. Laurie Munro during her ordination service in September

Thank you for Praying

Day 1 & 16

Parish of Whitehorse: Christ Church Cathedral.

The Ven. Dr. Sean Murphy; The Rev. David Pritchard & family; Rev. Martin Carroll, Ruth Carroll & family; Licensed Lay Ministers: Gaya Tiedeman, Beverley Whitehouse.

Day 2 & 17

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

The Rev. Dn. Don & Lana Thompson and family; Licensed Lay Ministers: Glen Gough, Jeanie Arva and Mark Tudor

Day 3 & 18

Watson Lake: St. John the Baptist

Lower Post, Swift River.

Telegraph Creek: St. Aidan.

Dease Lake; Glenora.

Captain Rob Langmaid (Evangelist)
Licensed Lay Minister: Tim Liverton

Day 4 & 19

Carcross, Tagish, Johnson's Crossing St. Saviour's.

The Rev. David Pritchard and family

Teslin: St. Philips

The Rev. Dn. Sarah Usher and the Ministry Team

Day 5 & 20

Communities of: **Carmacks & Keno.**

Day 6 & 21

Atlin: St. Martin.

The Rev. Dn. Vera Kirkwood & family.

Licensed Lay Minister: Dorothy Odian.

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

Lynn de Brabandere and the Ministry Team

Day 9 & 24

Whitehorse: Church of the Northern Apostles.

The Rt. Rev. Larry Robertson, Sheila Robertson, The Most Rev. Terry Buckle, Blanche

Buckle; The Rev. Dn. Sarah Usher, Len Usher & family



Day 10 and 25

Mayo: St. Mary with St. Mark.

Pelly Crossing: St. James the Lord's Brother.

The Rev. Stephen Martin and the Lay Ministry Team; Licensed Lay Minister: Betty Joe.

Day 11 & 26

Dawson City: St. Paul's. Moosehide:

St. Barnabas; The Klondike Creeks; The Dempster Hwy.

The Rev. Laurie Munro, the Rev. Dn. Percy Henry. The Ven. Ken Snider (Honorary Asst.) and Aldene Snider. Licensed Lay Ministers: Mabel Henry; Shirley Pennell, Betty Davidson.

Day 12 & 27

Old Crow: St. Luke's.

The Rev. Laurie Munro, The Rev. Dn. Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer & family and the Lay Ministry Team

Day 13 & 28

The Rev. Dn. 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: Evelyn McDonald and all ACW members.

Day 15 & 30

Those retired from Missionary Service:

The Rev. Dorothy Thorpe.

The Rev. Bruce Aylard & Audrey Aylard.

The Rev. Don Sax & The Rev. Dn. Lee Sax.

The Ven. Ken and Aldene Snider.

The Rev. Geoffrey & Rosalind Dixon.

The Rev. Canon David & Alice Kalles.

The Ven. John & The Rev. Dn. Carol Tyrrell.

The Rev. Fred & Marcia Carson.

The Very Rev. Peter & Barbara Williams.

Marion Carroll.

The Rev. Mary & Lino Battaja.

The Most Rev. Terry and Blanche Buckle

Day 31 and daily:

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

Our Bishop Writes ...



And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

(Luke 2:7)

As I read this verse I picture in my mind Joseph, tired, depressed, disappointed in his home town. Maybe he is even upset and angry. His wife Mary about to give birth at any time and everyone is too busy to notice or care. Bethlehem was probably two to three times the normal population. Everyone there, like Joseph, was there to register at the insistence of the Roman Government. For the locals it was a goldmine. All inns were full, (probably there was only one small one), everyone who had a spare room had it rented. Everyone was busy; one group trying to register and get out and the other making money and dealing with the crowds there. No one had time to see and experience the miracle that was taking place. Even with the shepherds, it took a sky full of angels and a bright star to make them notice the babe in the manger.

2000 years later, things have not changed. We as a people are still so busy that we really do not notice the miracles

around us. What will it take to get us to take a break from our busyness to see Christ in the world around us? This Christmas season, let us make a special effort to see Christ in our communities. Yes, going to church is part of it. So is, maybe, a group of people visiting the elderly and singing carols to them. So is inviting someone lonely or alone to have a meal with you. So is helping at a Christmas dinner for those who have nowhere else to go for one. You see the real miracle of Christmas is God coming into the world to reveal Himself to us. As we reach out and do these simple acts in Christ's name He reveals Himself through us. Our acts of love are God in Christ breaking into the world. God will work miracles of love through us as He touches the people we reach out to. Also, in allowing God to work through us to touch others, we may find He has left a little of His miracles in our own lives.

Friends, may God work miracles through your actions this Christmas. May Christ, once more, come into the lives of others through you. May you be truly blessed with the miracle of Christmas in your life this season. If possible remember to take time to be with your family.

From my family to yours

Merry Christmas and remember to keep Christ in Christmas.

Bishop Larry and Sheila Robertson



Changes to the Anglican Parish of Whitehorse

The model of ministry that we have known for nearly three years, the Anglican Parish of Whitehorse (APW), has come to an end in October, 2011. Under Bishop Larry Robertson's direction and with the support of the Vestries of both Christ Church Cathedral and The Church of the Northern Apostles (CNA),

Archdeacon Sean Murphy has left Northern Apostles to become full-time Rector of the Cathedral. Bishop Larry takes over Archdeacon Sean's leadership role giving oversight at Northern Apostles. Financial expectations for both Churches with the Diocese will remain the same, with CNA now paying for the "cost of ministry" rather than specifically for its share of Sean's salary and benefits. The two churches will continue to share the cost of secretarial. While the Cathedral and Northern Apostles will now be "separate" again, the two Churches will continue their close fellowship and work together in different ways for the cause of the Gospel in Whitehorse and beyond.

The APW was set up to enable more effective ministry and mission and better stewardship of financial resources. The two Churches shared the cost of Archdeacon Sean's salary and housing. The vision of the APW included outreach to, and ministry with, the outlying communities of Teslin, Carcross and Haines Junction. Archdeacon Sean, with the agreement of the two Whitehorse churches, was appointed first as Interim Rector, and later as Rector.

Over time, the APW evolved from a two congregation Parish with ministry and outreach to the rural communities, to being a five congregation Parish, including the Whitehorse Churches, St. Phillips, Teslin, St. Saviour's, Carcross,

and St. Christopher's, Haines Junction.

Overall, there have been some very positive results in the APW model. A Ministry Team, which met regularly to pray, plan and develop ministry throughout this far-flung Parish, was a key feature and worked very well. Sharing leadership and other gifts, we were able to reach out and offer Sunday services and pastoral ministry to St. Phillips, St. Saviour's and St. Christopher's, though on a limited basis. Also to be noted are the Whitehorse ministry - equipping workshops, joint Cathedral CNA services, and twice monthly Eucharists at Copper Ridge Care facility. The model put both Whitehorse Churches on a more secure financial footing and helped to engender a deeper sense of shared Christian mission in the community. Certainly, there have been some positive signs of growth and development of ministry at the Cathedral and CNA during the APW years. Development of Cathedral First Nations ministry under The Rev. Martin Carroll's leadership has been very encouraging. So we give thanks to God for using the model to bring the five Churches to where we are now, so we can go forward with confidence and hope.

With the new direction of the congregations becoming separate again, The Rev. David Pritchard will continue to give leadership at St. Saviour's, Carcross, with twice-monthly services, and the Rev. Deacon Sarah Usher will continue to oversee ministry at St. Phillip's Teslin, with one Sunday service a month. The Rev. Martin Carrol remains in leadership of First Nations ministry at the Cathedral. Lynn De Brabandere moves to St. Christopher's, Haines Junction to offer a full-time "ministry of presence" to help build the Church in this community.

Archdeacon Sean Murphy

Reflections on the Diocesan Executive Meetings

There are some who, at the mention of a meeting, turn the other way and run. But within our Diocese there is a group of dedicated individuals that arrive smiling at a meeting that will monopolize their entire weekend.

I am talking of the 11 members of the Diocesan Executive Committee. They give up their time, energy, days from work, and sleep, to come together to do the necessary business of our beloved church. These individuals work as a team and need your gratitude for all they do.

Five of the 11 members have to travel extensively to attend these meetings in Whitehorse. John flies from Vancouver; Betty comes 6 hours from Dawson City. There is also, Maggie from Mayo, who finishes her week as a teacher on Friday and rushes to make the meeting on time. Don and I have to take two days off work to make the 10+ hour drive from Fort Nelson to Whitehorse not to mention 10+ hours back again. And there are still 6 others living in Whitehorse who take time from their work, ministry, and family time to extend their work week with 12 extra meeting hours!

Now, I don't want you to feel sorry for us, I'm not even expecting this group to receive your accolades for doing this important work; for I would expect the other 10 members feel the same as I do when I say my walk with Christ is greatly enriched by this time. Let me share what I mean.

With respect to David Letterman, I present to you, "Glen's Top 10 Reasons Why I Attend Executive Meetings..."

10. I learn about a kid who shouldn't be able to read, who ends up going to university to be a teacher.

9. I hear about the love of Christ that goes with visiting elders in their homes and prisoners in their cells.

8. I can mock atheists as I travel in awe through His creation of the Rockies, wild herds, and pools heated by the centre of the earth.

7. I get to worship, pray and sing with 11 people that feel like a congregation of 100.

6. I witness Christ bringing joy and laughter to those experiencing sorrow only a parent can know.



Deacon Don Thompson (Fort Nelson), John Bethell (Chancellor), Glen Gough (Fort Nelson), Rev. David Pritchard (Whitehorse), Rev. Mary Battaja (Whitehorse), Maggie Leary (Mayo), Archdeacon Sean Murphy (Whitehorse), Betty Davidson (Dawson City), Rev. Deacon Sarah Usher (Diocesan Administrator), Bishop Larry Robertson (Diocese of Yukon), missing is Carole Laurie (Whitehorse).

5. I hear of new ministries returning to old places, showing God can work beyond finances.

4. With all the white collars, purple shirts, and crosses sitting in the restaurant with me, I see those at other tables behave better, talk nicer, and show genuine care for family and strangers alike.

3. I realize there are 26 leaders (only 8 paid) assisted by many other volunteers keeping Christ known in 12 communities in our sparsely populated Diocese.

2. I hear the equivalent of \$1.00 for every man, woman and child in the Yukon (\$35,000+) was raised to help the poor and suffering living in the Horn of Africa.

And the number 1 reason why I attend executive meetings is...

I can see God's love working even in a meeting, moving the mundane to entertain in one sign of the cross.

Submitted with Christ's love, and the utmost respect for my 10 coworkers for Christ,

Glen Gough
Fort Nelson, BC

**SPRING EDITION DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 20, 2011**

Liturgical-Parties-R-Us

On Sunday, June 5, The Church of the Northern Apostles celebrated its 25th anniversary. To mark this occasion we had a church service followed by a luncheon.

The planning for this celebration started in the fall of 2010 with Linda Gerein, Nancy Brady, Sarah Usher and me, Jan Tulloch spear-heading the plans. At Northern Apostles we like to have fun, so I suggested we call our group Liturgical-Parties-R-Us! Over the winter we collected pictures from the congregation (new and old) and put together a slide show which everyone enjoyed.

As we went down memory lane during the slide show it became apparent that there are many people who have had their lives touched by God over the past 25 years. The music for the Sunday service was taken from the "original" yellow song book and different members of the congregation helped to lead the service with Bishop Larry as our celebrant - a wonderful example of circle ministry. And of course an important part of any Anglican event is the food!

We had a lovely luncheon following the church service. Everyone left that day with both stomachs and "spiritual tanks" topped up!

Jan Tulloch

Church of the Apostles Hits 25 Years of Age



The chefs from the Pancake supper in March 2011



Music at the church picnic May 2011



St. Pauls, Dawson

Summer came to an end in Dawson with the completion of the projects mentioned in our last issue. At right, Evelyn McDonald, MLA Steve Nordick and contractor Jack Vogt cut the ribbon at the new Thrift Shop Entrance, watched by the newly arrived Reverend Laurie Munro.

The Thrift Shop (seen below) is a vital part of Dawson's social fabric as well as assisting in St. Paul's finances. Also at right are scenes from a silent auction and a pancake breakfast which we held as fundraising events during the summer.



Dawson prepares for the annual Ecumenical Christmas Pageant by doing a photo shoot to get the necessary pictures in September. This year's shooting, arranged for September 18, was done at the Jack London Square. Families from all the congregations participated and fun was had by all.



Seeing beyond ourselves - A God initiated human response!

Over the summer as events in East and Central Africa unfolded, we were all horrified at the pictures we saw on our televisions and read about in our newspapers and heard on our radios – those graphic pictures of Somalis walking miles in the hope of reaching the refugee camps in Kenya and the famine and drought throughout the region.

On a Wednesday in July, Diana Mulloy, a member of the Cathedral in Whitehorse, shocked and concerned at what she was seeing, approached Bishop Larry Robertson with a plea for prayers. That same day 'yours truly', while preparing for a service at Copper Ridge Extended Care facility, was looking for something for his short homily. I had a copy of Our Daily Bread, opened it and Mark 6:37 jumped off the page, "you give them something to eat". At once I knew I had to do something. That night at a meeting I approached Bishop Larry Robertson and said I wanted to do something to raise funds for the tragic events in the Horn of Africa. And so a two and one-half month journey in faith began.

A bank account was opened in the local branch of the Bank of Montreal. An official launch took place in the foyer of the Territorial Government building on July 26th with the Premier, the Senator, the Federal MP and the Grand Chief of the Council of Yukon First Nations present to speak in support of the Horn of Africa Famine and Drought Relief Fund. The Premier announced that his Government would be donating \$25,000.00 to the Red Cross.

A series of events unfolded over the weeks – a table at the Fireweed Farmers' Market every Thursday for six weeks; a Tuesday luncheon at the Cathedral with hamburgers and hot dogs or soup and sandwiches; and an art auction with over forty works of art donated by local artists.

Prior to the September 16th deadline for matching Federal Government funds, \$28,000.00 was forwarded to the Primate's World and Development Fund of the Anglican Church of Canada, a registered eligible charity for the matching grants. As of October 12th, over \$6,000.00 is in the bank account. The account will remain open until early November with one final event, a community dance spearheaded by a local woman who did the same kind of fund raiser for the Haiti relief fund.

Bishop Larry Robertson and I, as trustees for the relief fund, are so grateful for the generous response of Anglican parishes, groups and individuals throughout the Yukon to the extent that the goal



Rendezvous Rotary Club member, Anne Kennedy presenting a cheque for \$2,000.00 to Bishop Larry and Rev. David for the famine relief fund

of \$33,000.00, a dollar for each Yukoner has been exceeded.

Special 'Kudos' to our Bishop for not only embracing this initiative but for becoming actively involved. He and Diana Mulloy spearheaded the art auction; he worked at the Tuesday luncheons preparing food, volunteered at our table at the Fireweed Farmers' Market and was involved in a lot of the publicity activities of the campaign (see the picture – "a picture is worth a thousand words!")

The whole initiative was about giving average Yukoners who might not donate regularly through some national or international agency like the Red Cross or Oxfam, an opportunity to give to a locally initiated campaign, could hear about its success regularly in the media and watch the thermometer in the Bank of Montreal reach its target. Having said that, the mission of the Anglican Church in the Yukon was visibly 'out there' where God wants us serving Him.

Reverend David Pritchard, Trustee.



Photo by Cozmo Ace Malzarby

St. John the Baptist, Watson Lake

This summer the Town of Watson Lake celebrated a successful Reunion in conjunction with the annual Discovery Days celebrations. This year's theme was "Days of '98". Our Anglican Church Thrift Shop entered a float entitled - "The Thrift Shop--Always behind the Times", and we were delighted to learn we had won First Prize. These photos show Cassandra Hanchar and her cousins busy throwing recycled stuffed animals from our Float. In one afternoon, they have stored away fun-filled memories of their parish's work in our Community.

submitted by Dianne Amann



NORTHERN LIGHTS NEEDS YOUR DONATIONS

Please note that we have placed an envelope in this edition of *Northern Lights* as a gentle reminder that yearly subscriptions of \$10 are due. The costs of producing *Northern Lights* have increased over the years so we do appreciate help in being able to provide this worthwhile magazine. Thank you.

Christ Church Cathedral, Whitehorse



Four Generations pose for a family portrait at Christ Church Cathedral this past spring. Rita Drugan, with daughter, Debbie Sher; granddaughter Natasha Joseph; and great-granddaughter Jada Joseph. Sadly, Rita passed away in October.



In early July, The Rt. Rev. Larry & Sheila Robertson celebrated their 35th Anniversary, as well as a birthday of one of these two. This photo was taken during the snack & fellowship time after one of the Historic Evening Services.



On 3rd July 2011, Ruth Carroll celebrated her birthday. She is seen here cutting her birthday cake, and about to serve Cathedral parishioner Mary Merchant.



On behalf of the Bishop of Yukon, Archdeacon Sean Murphy presents Mike Oram his Lay Readers medalion. Mike was licensed by the Bishop to serve as Lay Reader during the summer and spearheaded/led the Historic Evening song Services held at Christ Church Cathedral each Sunday & Wednesday evening for the summer. Mike and Barbara Oram reside in Edmonton, but were formerly of Yellowknife where Mike was a Lay Reader, and are friends of the Bishop.



On 5th June 2011, "Kluane Mountain Bluegrass Music Festival" brought in a Bluegrass artist (Jim Hurst) from southern USA, to perform in Christ Church Cathedral for a Pre-Festival concert. Members of Church of the Northern Apostles are featured in this photo. Alf Carver is shaking hands with the artist, holding a signed CD.

Photos by Cozmo Ace Malzarby



The James Quong display on loan from the Old Log Church Museum, along with the display of Rectors/Incumbents of Christ Church Cathedral, sit alongside each other in Hellaby Hall.



The Whitehorse Strings Ensemble, posing for their group photo, after their Spring Concert on 29th May 2011, in Christ Church Cathedral. On the right is Michael Brauer, the People's Warden for the Cathedral.



Bluegrass Gospel musicians preform at the "Kluane Mountain Bluegrass Music Festival", located in Christ Church Cathedral, 12th June 2011. This is the first year the festival has been held in Whitehorse, relocated from Haines Junction.



On 5th June 2011, The Ven. Dr. Sean Murphy stands by the main sound operator for the first of two concerts hosted in the Cathedral, by the "Kluane Mountain Bluegrass Music Festival" Society.



Some of those involved in the First Nations sponsored meal for the community, on 25th April 2011, led by The Rev. Martin Carroll.



The "Connections to the Past, Legacy For the Future" display celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Anglican Ministry in Yukon, sits proudly in Hellaby Hall. Shown are 3 of 6 panels.



The Rt. Rev. Larry & Sheila Robertson, serving meals for the First Nations hosted 'community meal' on 25th April 2011.



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.

Subscriptions: \$10 or greater donation per year (3 issues per year)

Editor: Dan Davidson Email: uffish@northwestel.net

Articles, photos and any inquiries including subscriptions, changes of address, donations and correspondence regarding the work of the diocese should be directed to:

Diocese of Yukon, PO Box 31136, Whitehorse, YT. Y1A 5P7

(867) 667-7746 Fax (867) 667-6125

Email: synodoffice@klondiker.com Web site: <http://anglican.yukon.net>

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