

Sudbury Manitoulin Deanery Digest

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June 29 2018 No. 28

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Pentecost 2018

Anglican Church of Canada: News from General Synod

Edmonton Equally Anglican group raises banner for LGBTQ-affirming ministry

By Matt Gardner

On the last Sunday of every month, the evening Eucharist at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Edmonton takes on a distinctly rainbow-coloured hue.

The monthly worship service is the focal point for area members and friends of Equally Anglican, an LGBTQ-affirming ministry. Although the ministry first took shape in the Diocese of Toronto preceding the first vote on amendments to Canon XXI on Marriage in the Church at General Synod 2016, Equally Anglican has taken on a life of its own in other parts of the country.

At Holy Trinity, the Eucharist is organized by the Equally Anglican group and welcomes, and includes, LGBTQ people in the worship as intercessors and as guest preachers. Intercessions and sermons at the service have a particular focus on LGBTQ concerns, but all centre around what co-organizer and lay reader Matthew Mercer Deadman calls “the radical love-for-all as taught to us by God.”

“From my layman’s perspective, it’s a reaffirmation that the Good News applies and is about everyone,” Mercer-Deadman said. “I think particularly now in the LGBTQ community, a lot of the focus quite rightly is shifting to the needs of the trans community, and I feel that it’s important that we remind ourselves and we remind our neighbours that we are all made in God’s image...”

“Being made in God’s image encompasses everyone, regardless of race or sexual orientation or gender identity or gender expression. It’s just so much bigger than that, and the sacrificial and redemptive love of Jesus is part of that incomprehensible largeness.”

In dioceses from Ottawa to New Westminster, many congregations have adopted the symbols of Equally Anglican in a show of support for the LGBTQ community, particularly during Pride Month—using its distinctive logo on banners outside their churches or during Pride parades.

For Edmonton Pride this year, Equally Anglican had a presence at both the Pride Parade and Pride in the Park, with co-organizer Imai Welch attending along with other “clergy-allies” from the diocese wearing their clerical clothing. Supporters also planned to attend the local LGBTQ-organized social evenings known as Fruit Loop, engaging with the local community and helping to reinvest proceeds into the local LGBTQ community.

In Toronto, supporters of Equally Anglican are participating in Pride activities such as the annual Church on Tap event on June 22 at Christ Church Deer Park, a fully inclusive celebration of the Eucharist with Bishop Kevin Robertson presiding—Canada’s first openly gay bishop—as well as live music, words from local queer activists, and an evening “Gospel Drag” show.

Equally Anglican origins

Equally Anglican began in 2016 as the brainchild of the Rev. Philip Josselyn-Hamilton, assistant curate at Trinity Church in Aurora, Ont.

“I think that in so many ways, the church has not traditionally been a place that LGBT people feel like they can have a voice or have a meaningful contribution into the life of the church,” Josselyn-Hamilton said.

“Equally Anglican was almost sort of reminding the church that we’ve always been here, and that you can’t get through most Sundays without singing a hymn written by one of us, or directed by an [out] choir director/organist who is L, G, B, or T. I thought it was time for us to say to the rest of the Anglican Church that the way that the vote went in 2016 actually mattered to their friends and their parishioners and their clergy, even.”

In the lead-up to the vote on same-sex marriage at General Synod, Josselyn-Hamilton led local Anglicans and members of the LGBTQ community in producing three videos depicting gay or lesbian couples active in the Anglican Church of Canada, whether as clergy or lay people. Each video received tens of thousands of views on Facebook.

“My hope was just that we would get even just a few people to see these videos, feel humanized about the issue, and then maybe vote more gently at the synod,” Josselyn-Hamilton recalled. “Even if they were maybe conservative on the issue of same-sex marriage, at least maybe in their working groups, they would have a bit of a context for people who are already in their neighbourhoods [and communities].”

The extension of Equally Anglican to Edmonton began when the rector of Holy Trinity asked anyone elected to a second term in the vestry to pick a ministry focus. One vestry member chose the LGBTQ community as an outreach ministry. Having heard of Equally Anglican in Toronto, the members asked permission to use the name before spinning it off and making it their own (“Toronto-inspired, but not Toronto-directed”).

Mercer-Deadman described the monthly Eucharist service as “sort of a halfway point to reintroduce not just LGBTQ people back to the Anglican Church, but to reintroduce the Anglican Church back to LGBTQ people.”

“In the grand scheme of things, it’s not meant to be a separate-but-equal congregation,” he noted. “It’s just seen as another Sunday night service for the parish of Holy Trinity, but is more outwardly and specifically affirming for the LGBTQ community.” At Holy Trinity, Equally Anglican is looking towards more community outreach, possible fundraising, and coordinating with other LGBTQ faith groups in the city.

Proud Anglicans at Fierté Sudbury Pride

Submitted by Rev. (Deacon) Patti Brace

LGBT+ Anglicans and allies/supporters, come and be a visible presence in this year's Fierté Sudbury Pride march on Saturday, July 14. Gather on the Minto St. side of Memorial Park in downtown Sudbury from 1:30 for the 2 p.m. start time. All are welcome. Please bring signs saying what parishes you are from or bearing witty comments/messages you think people need to hear about the place of LGBT+ people in the church. We will have a banner to carry and should also have tasteful “Proud Anglicans” sashes, in a variety of colours, to wear. St. Peter’s United Church, along with members of other area United churches, will also be marching. For anyone who may find the walk a challenge, we will have a pick-up truck to ride in. For more information, please contact Patti Brace at pbrace@fibreop.ca.

Please feel free to insert this notice in your Sunday bulletins!

News and Events:

1. Deanery Council News:

a. **CAMP MANITOU Season 2018**

Camp Manitou is opening soon for 2018. Each congregation in the Deanery is asked to please add this Diocesan Camp to your prayer list for great team leadership in each camp and that God will lead children and families. And keep praying from now to first week of September and beyond as the Board of Directors then evaluates and starts working toward summer 2019. There are still some volunteers needed - contact Shari Blasutti at blasuts59@gmail.com or Trevor Marshall at marshall.trevor@gmail.com Camp opens in late June with a Work Camp, followed in July by 1 week camps for senior girls, junior girls, senior boys and junior

boys and in August by nature camp, and three family camps with a close-up work week in early September. All registrations can be completed online at the website below. If any of you are interested in volunteering in any way or interested in providing bursaries for campers or donating your time talent and money in any way, please go to the camp website: www.manitoucamp.org

2. Algoma [News](#):

a. Thorneloe University News

Posted: June 11, 2018

i. President, Provost, and Vice-Chancellor

Thorneloe University invites nominations, applications, and expressions of interest for the above position. Details are available from the Diocesan website here. Visit our Website.

ii. Theology Course

THEO 3900 – Special Topics in Theology: Christian Mystics and Spiritual Discipline (The Rev. Dr. Spencer Boersma)
 “Since with all my soul I behold the face of my beloved, therefore all the beauty of his form is seen in me.” ~ Gregory of Nyssa.

This course will survey the history and theology of Christian spirituality focusing on those unique individuals often identified as “mystics” and what their lives and writings have to teach us about relating to God. What does it mean to experience God? How does one practice Christian spirituality? In doing so, the course will also explore various virtues and spiritual disciplines such as reading of Scripture, prayer, fasting, meditation, etc. with special focus on how these practices are taught and adapted to meet human needs, including mental health and disability.

Classes will take place 9 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Two written assignments

One in-class presentation

No exam

Registered students may request to stay in the Thorneloe Residence at no extra cost (please place your request no later than June 11, 2018)

Required Textbooks

Foster, Richard. Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth. New York: HarperCollins, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0-0618-0039-9

Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2015. ISBN-13: 978-0-8308-9911-1

Registration Fees:

For credit: \$450

To audit: \$330

Registration Deadline: June 18, 2018

To register: 2018SP/SS (Fillable PDF)

There are no pre-requisites for this course

More information and info available at

<http://thorneloe.ca/theology>**b. T-Shirt design Contest for CLAY 2018** (from Diocesan Treasurer Jane Mesich)

Hi Everyone:

My son, James, is involved with PWRDF Youth Council. They are doing a T-shirt design contest. The new design will be unveiled at CLAY 2018 in Thunder Bay in August.

Please help us spread the word to the youth in your diocese.

The link to the website page is below:

<http://www.justgeneration.ca/help-the-pwrdf-youth-council-design-its-next-t-shirt/>

Thanks.

Jane Mesich, Diocesan Treasurer, Diocese of Algoma

3. Future Events to Mark on Your Calendars:**a. Church of the Ascension****Wednesday Eucharist and Bible Study**

Bible study is now done for the summer, but we will be having Eucharist every Wednesday at 9:30am through the month of June.

Church of the Ascension [Dominion] Canada Day Weekend Breakfast - June 30 8:30 - 10:00am

Start Canada's Birthday weekend off with a great breakfast and even better company! Choices for breakfast will include: eggs, sausage, pancakes, oatmeal, toast, fruit, juice, milk, coffee, tea. Free-will donation accepted. For further details, or to volunteer, speak to Fr. Aidan or the Wardens." [See attached poster.](#)

Golf Tournament – Sept. 23rd

Join us for the annual golf classic on Sunday September 23rd at Cedar Green Golf Club. The cost is \$45 with a shot gun start at 3pm – this includes 9 holes, power cart, dinner and a chance to win prizes. If you cannot make the golf tournament consider joining us

for dinner. For registration, please sign up at the Church of the Ascension or call Ken Winfield 705-566-3258.

Summer Worship Services

Summer hours are 10 Am from July 1 to Sept 2, 2018

b. **Church of the Epiphany**

Summer Worship Services

10 AM through to Sept 2, 2018

c. **Partish of Copper Cliff and Lively**

Summer Worship Hours

10 AM: July in Christ Church Lively
August in St. John the Divine

d. **Parish of Elliot Lake/Massy**

Summer Worship Hours

St. Peters Anglican Elliot Lake—9.30 am
Faith Lutheran Elliot Lake—11.00 am—1 ST.and 3.RD sunday
Zion Lutheran Massey 2nd. Sunday of the month at 1.00 pm
Gowan Gillmore Sagamok 2.00 pm at Harvey Owl house
every 4th Sunday

e. **Parish of St. Alban's Capreol**

Prayer Request:

Nora, a member of our St. Alban's flock, was born nearly four years ago with a serious heart defect.

"Thank you to all for your love and prayers. Nora is recovering at home with her mother Elizabeth and big brother Nolan. Nora has follow up visits scheduled through the summer at Sick Kids Hospital. Please continue to keep Nora in your prayers as she continues to heal."
Fern (Nora's granddad).

Nora is now recovering at home.

Valerie Tryon

f. **Deanery Daily Vacation Bible Schools**

July 2-6 2018 St. John's Copper Cliff - 9AM -12 PM

Aug 13-17 2018 The Church of the Ascension - 9 AM -12 PM.

This is also an opportunity for this Deanery to sponsor a child (suggested donation of \$20 per child covers materials and snacks) which can be forwarded to Linda Goodale at 1386

Sunnyside Road Sudbury ON P3G 1J1. If you would like to volunteer to help, also contact Linda at 705-522-1639. Thanks to those who have already sponsored a child and volunteered.

- g. **Lutheran Women's Social Monday, September 17:** This event was cancelled earlier this year has been rescheduled for September 17 at noon at Trinity Lutheran Church, Sudbury. The day's events will include a light lunch, the program based on a Six Word Memoir and a time of fellowship with one another. **All Anglican women are welcome to attend this time of fellowship.** While a reminder will be published in late August, this is an advanced notice so that calendars can be marked. Pam Radunsky.

The deanery Digest will not be published from July 14 to August 17 for the Editor's vacation.

We will resume sending the Digest to you August 24. In the meantime, please feel free to send us fall schedules and events vis the email below.

We send the Deanery Digest weekly on Fridays, usually before 10 PM.

Feel free to send me and Allison Cline-Dean (our Webmaster) any and all events and news. Articles are also very welcome. You can use either my personal email as above or the Deanery email address above.

We would like to receive items by the Wednesday evening before Friday. Some items may be repeated due the date of the event. If you have some news and/or articles and miss the Sunday cut off, please send directly to either personal e-mail address above. We will gladly include parish events, special events, and worship times. Please make sure all info is as accurate as possible, and any poster type submissions are as camera ready as possible to be included as **PDF attachments** to the Digest.

Improvements: suggestions are always welcome.

Safe Unsubscribe lives here. If you want us to remove your name from our newsletter list, just send us an e-mail.

Dave Stamp
Council Secretary/Digest Editor