

Sudbury Manitoulin Deanery Digest

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Pentecost 2018

Anglican Church of Canada: News from General Synod

- **Ministry in Vancouver, B.C.: Setting the stage for General Synod 2019**
By Matt Gardner

One year from today [i.e., July 10, 2018], Anglicans from across the country will pour into Vancouver, B.C. for the 42nd General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. Led by the General Synod Planning Committee, preparations are well underway for the gathering, which will take place from July 10-16, 2019 at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre.

For those new to Vancouver, the life in and around the coastal seaport city could seem unfamiliar. Let's explore the context for Anglican ministry today in Vancouver, and how local concerns find expression within the church.

Multiculturalism and diversity

With an estimated population of more than 630,000 in the city and almost 2.5 million residents throughout the Metro Vancouver area, Vancouver is one of the most diverse and multicultural cities in Canada. More than half of city residents' first language is one other than English.

That cultural diversity also finds expression among local Anglicans. On June 23, the Diocese of New Westminster ordained two deacons and three priests. Notably, all three of the newly ordained priests came from countries other than Canada. The Rev. Hyok Kim was born in Korea, came to Canada to study theatre at Regent College, and resolved to become an Anglican priest after visiting the Episcopal Cathedral in South Korea. The Rev. Marion Man Wai Wong was born in Hong Kong and serves as a curate in a Mandarin and English-speaking congregation. The Rev. Dr. Sharon Smith is an occupational therapist from South Africa.

Meanwhile, the Diocese of New Westminster itself is in a companion relationship with the Episcopal Diocese of the Northern Philippines, and has four Filipino parishes. One of the Anglican priests in the city came directly to Vancouver from the Philippines.

Diverse and inclusive forms of ministry

The diversity of Vancouver's population is also reflected in the diverse forms of ministry engaged in by Anglicans.

One of the most notable examples of Anglican ministry in the Vancouver area is Salal + Cedar, a community oriented around the Watershed Discipleship Movement and reflecting a commitment to the fifth Mark of Mission, "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth." Coordinated by the Rev. Laurel Dykstra, Salal + Cedar has a strong emphasis on environmental activism and social and ecological justice, and is currently gearing up to support grassroots resistance of the Kinder Morgan pipeline.

Another focal point for Christian community is St. Hildegard's Sanctuary, which bases its contemplative ministry on the arts and creative expression. Holding services that incorporate creative and kinaesthetic elements such as painting, poetry, and music, St. Hildegard's recently received a \$15,000 grant from the Anglican Foundation to develop a set of trauma-sensitive liturgical resources.

At Christ Church Cathedral, an emerging LGBTQ-affirming ministry can be found in the form of its Sunday evening congregation known as St. Brigids. Though firmly rooted in Anglican liturgical and spiritual traditions, the St. Brigids congregation is slightly less formal, providing an opportunity for participants to question and grapple with the implications of Scripture and tradition in their lives.

Moving that sense of Christian community into the streets, Father Matthew Johnson is the coordinator of the Street Outreach Initiative, which provides frontline pastoral care to residents in Vancouver's Downtown East Side struggling with poverty, mental illness, violence, alcohol and drug addiction, and dealing with past traumas. Every Sunday morning, as part of the initiative, lay ministers on the front steps of St. James Church invite street-involved newcomers into the church to meet together and to hear the liturgy.

Building community alliances

Concerns of local Anglicans over issues of social and ecological justice often find expression in the Metro Vancouver Alliance (MVA). A coalition of labour, religious, community, academic groups, as well as educational institutions and some small businesses, the MVA provides a forum for local activists to work on issues of concern.

The Anglican Diocese of New Westminster is one of the sponsoring organizations of the MVA, as are five local Anglican parishes. Since its founding in 2014, the MVA has

focused on issues such as affordable housing and public transit, social inclusion, and income justice.

Look for more stories on Anglican.ca as we prepare as a church for GS2019.

- **‘This is a spiritual movement’: Discipleship and self-determination drive upcoming Sacred Circle**

By Matt Gardner

On Aug. 6-11, the **Ninth Indigenous Anglican Sacred Circle** will take place at the University of Northern British Columbia campus in Prince George, B.C.

The latest gathering of the national decision-making body of Indigenous Anglicans will mark another step forward in the journey towards a self-determining Indigenous church within the Anglican Church of Canada. The theme of the event, Making and Strengthening Disciples: Reborn by Water and Spirit, reflects the key role of discipleship in achieving this long-cherished vision, guided by baptism in water and the Holy Spirit.

“The theme was chosen to mark our progress towards a self-determining indigenous church within the Anglican Church,” co-chair Caroline Chum said. “We are all disciples, and we all need to be strong and reborn in water and spirit. This is a spiritual movement.”

The focus on discipleship developed in the course of the February meeting of the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples (ACIP) and subsequent discussions among the planning team, but received a significant boost in March when National Indigenous Anglican Bishop Mark MacDonald attended the World Council of Churches Conference on World Mission and Evangelism in Arusha, Tanzania.

The conference included a heavy emphasis on transforming discipleship, which Bishop MacDonald connected to the agenda for the upcoming Sacred Circle—in particular its work to advance self-determination.

“Over time, Indigenous people have experienced calls for them to be members of an institutional church, and it is very critical, I think, to the health and well-being of our churches, and also critical for self-determination, that we begin to develop discipleship,” Bishop MacDonald said.

“We often refer to it as gospel-based discipleship, contrasting that to institutional-based membership ... We see this as a critical factor in the well-being of individual Indigenous people and their families, but also the foundation and cornerstone of our leadership development.”

Meeting details and agenda

This year's gathering marks the first time that a Sacred Circle has taken place in British Columbia. Until this year, Lethbridge, Alta., host of the third Sacred Circle in 1997, was the furthest west the event had been held

Though ACIP had decided on 92 delegates at its February meeting, Indigenous Ministries coordinator Ginny Doctor said that the number of delegates was "way over 92 now ... We have a full house." Most of the proceedings will be in English, but tools will be available for any delegate who requires translation.

With self-determination being one of the main agenda items, Doctor said that a key priority would be "getting everyone onboard and making sure people understand what that means for us as an Indigenous church," as well as developing a constitution for the Indigenous church.

"Lots of people still think [self-determination] means separation, but it doesn't," Doctor said. "I think it's going to be a much stronger partnership with the Anglican Church than what we've had in the past.

"If you go way back, our Indigenous people were always looked upon as being like children and had to be taken care of. But now what we're really saying is we can take care of our own, we can take care of our ministry, just let us do it and give us the opportunity. And there are some people who are afraid of that. But we'll see what happens."

Urgent items for discussion at Sacred Circle include proposed changes to Canon XXI on marriage and Canon XXII on Indigenous ministry, to be moved forward for General Synod 2019.

A range of other issues will be addressed through several focus groups, based on topics that have frequently come under discussion in the last one or two years. For example, one focus group, originally planned to concentrate on the opioid crisis, has been expanded to include all forms of substance abuse.

Delegates will be able to self-select which focus groups they wish to attend. Each focus group is a "real working group", Doctor said, and will be expected to come out with proposed actions for ACIP, the General Synod, or the office of the National Indigenous Anglican Bishop.

New this year: Livestreaming

Anglicans who wish to follow proceedings at Sacred Circle may view the event through livestreaming video on the Anglican Church of Canada website and Facebook page. In addition, comprehensive coverage will be provided through daily reports on Anglican.ca and the Anglican Journal.

Above all, members of the church are encouraged to pray for delegates as they attempt to discern the movement of the Spirit at what the National Indigenous Anglican Bishop said would be a “very consequential meeting.”

“We certainly hope people will pray for us ... There will be a lot of consequences of this,” Bishop MacDonald said. “We pray for God’s guidance and wisdom in moving ahead.

“We are constantly aware of the challenges in our communities, both those on reserve and also urban areas as well. And we hope to see this emphasis on discipleship make a positive contribution to the health and well-being of the larger communities that we’re a part of.”

If you are interested in proceedings from this “Sacred Circle Conference”, go to the following link: <https://www.anglican.ca/>

News and Events:

1. Deanery Council News:

a. Deanery Council Meeting

Mark your calendars: the next meeting of our Deanery Council is October 20 at St. John the Divine in Copper Cliff with a 9:30 AM start time.

2. Algoma News:

Posted: July 19, 2018

a. Thorneloe University is advertising for the position of Assistant Chaplain Please see the link below for details.

http://dioceseofalgoma.com/UploadedFiles/files/Job%20Postings/Assst_%20Chaplain%20Ad%202018.pdf

b. The Rev’d Canon Caldwell “Cal” Allison Roe McMillan

It is with sorrow that we share the news of the death of the Rev’d Canon Cal McMillan in Nova Scotia on Saturday August 4th, 2018 surrounded by his loving wife Mary, and family. We give thanks for Canon Cal’s faithful and devoted service to Christ’s church for over half a century, and for his ministry in the Diocese of Algoma from 1995 to 2000. He served as the Incumbent of St. Alban the Martyr in Capreol and St. Mark’s in Garson. He also served as Regional Dean for Sudbury/Manitoulin for three years, and was made an Honourary Canon of St. Luke’s Cathedral in May 1999 on the 125th Anniversary of the Diocese.

Christ was central to Canon Cal's life. He said: "Everything else that I am depends on this central factor." Canon Cal always encouraged his parishioners to practice the love of God in the wider community, including how to stay open to those who found themselves on the margins of society. His strong desire was to encourage people of different ages and spiritual temperaments to work and worship together, and to offer their best in God's service. He had a love for the Book of Common Prayer and its reverent, worshipful style, but he also embraced the 'inclusive, involving and pastoral Book of Alternative Services'.

Following his retirement from active ministry in August 2000, Canon Cal and Mary moved to the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia where they enjoyed the closeness of friends and family. They maintained their friendship with Algoma and parishioners they'd connected with over the years. He and Bishop Anne have been in regular contact since her consecration, praying for each other in their daily life and work. They enjoyed a conversation on the phone a few weeks ago and gave thanks for the 'ties that bind' us together in the love of Christ.

Canon Cal's obituary is found at
<http://www.whitefamilyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/127331>

Please hold him and his family in your prayers as they prepare to say their formal goodbyes. May he rest in the peace of Christ and rise again in glory.

- c. Lay Readers Conference 2018
 Information is now available for the 2018 Lay Readers' Conference in Thunder Bay. See the link to our Diocesan website below (.)

Serving Christ with Hearts, Hands & Voices:

<http://dioceseofalgoma.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=content&PageID=1094&PageCategory=117>

Sorry I wasn't able to create an actual right click link for the info. Copy/paste the Diocesan Web site link above; the Conference info link is at the bottom of that page.

3. Future Events to Mark on Your Calendars:

a. Church of the Ascension

Golf Tournament - Sept. 23rd

Join us for the annual golf classic on Sunday September 23rd at Cedar Green Golf Club. The cost is \$40 with a shot gun start at

2:30pm – 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. Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively

Summer Worship Hours

10 AM: July in Christ Church Lively

August in St. John the Divine Copper Cliff

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. Deanery Daily Vacation Bible Schools

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.

- f. 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.

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.

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Dave Stamp
Council Secretary/Digest Editor