

# Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (Canada)

*Serving, supporting, and encouraging prayer*

Dear Friends and supporters of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer,

Over our 35 years of offering and helping Canadian Anglicans to pray we have been blessed with wonderful leadership - Canon Tom Gracie and Bishop Gary Woolsey to name just two. Each National director has worked alongside a gifted leadership team of volunteers, supporting and equipping those who would ask of our Lord, "Lord, teach us to pray."

Our current leadership has been looking closely at the ways and means to continue this good work. We are using the variety of gifts offered by social media (among them Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube) to connect with people in ways unimaginable to our forbearers. The leadership discerned to continue this good work, while working more intentionally at establishing and supporting local contacts at the Diocesan level - Diocesan Contacts. We are going to put fresh energy into helping each diocese establish a team of people and to connect them to the local community as much as possible. Much continues to change in the Church but the fundamental principle of one person sharing faith-based prayer with another is still as important as ever.

One of the ways this will play out is around General Synod 2019. We will be calling on all of our brothers and sisters across the country to pray in the first 10 days of July 2019. During the Synod, we will coordinate each of the four church provinces within Canada taking one of the synod days to pray for that day's proceedings and all of the delegates by name. On the day of the election for a new Primate we will be calling on *all* to pray for the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in the selection of a new Archbishop for Canada.

As the work of the National Executive has no outside means of financial support, we are asking you, to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you by sharing your energy, your prayers, and your money, in this work to which we believe God has called us by making a donation of any size for which you will receive a tax receipt.

This donation can be made by completing the slip on the back page and returning it with a cheque in the envelope provided, or by making your gift by visiting our website: [anglicanprayer.org](http://anglicanprayer.org) and following the links.

We thank you in advance for your commitment to, and participation in, this important work. If you have anything that you would like to share with us at any time, we are always pleased to hear from you. See contact information below.

Yours in prayer and service,

Ven. Paul Feheley  
AFP (Canada) National Director  
[director@anglicanprayer.org](mailto:director@anglicanprayer.org)

Rev'd Valerie Kenyon  
AFP (Canada) Executive Chair  
[chairperson@anglicanprayer.org](mailto:chairperson@anglicanprayer.org)

## CURRENT WORK OF YOUR AFP EXECUTIVE

*The Rev Valerie Kenyon*

### Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Executive Gathers

July 2018



While for the past several years the Executive of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Canada has chosen to connect with one another for the most part by Skype as a cost-saving measure, it is always a treat when possible to gather in person, for as many as were able, as we did this past July at the convent of the Sisters of St. John the Divine.

Couched in prayer, our meeting provided an opportunity to review the past 12 months, and to discern together God's Spirit and the best direction for the upcoming year. With this in mind, in a world and Church where change is a constant, we took time to consider the different approaches that might reach into the realities being faced at the parish level throughout the Church and how what we do in the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer might be of service.

We began by acknowledging that with a variety of projects that we would like to undertake we could use more Executive members. Having invited into our conversations **Fran Drolet-Smith** from Nova Scotia and **Christine Lynch** from Newfoundland, we were pleased that by our meetings end Fran had agreed to join us as a regular member and Christine offered to help on an occasional basis. We also approached **Deborah Lonergan-Freake** who has also kindly agreed to join us.

We then moved on to consider how the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Canada is viewed both by those within and outside its membership. We concluded that in large part we are seen as a group that organized events and offers resources. While this would continue to be true, the Executive felt that in order to be able to respond more specifically to the needs present in each different regions of Canada, that our focus should move to be more focused on developing and supporting Diocesan Contacts (previously Diocesan Representatives). Ongoing and regular communication between a diocesan representative on the Executive and those in the dioceses would be arranged. Situations could be supported one on one with resources offered responding to existing needs. If you are a Diocesan Contact, we will be in touch with you in late October.

On other fronts: we reviewed the use of the website (7,000 hits in July) and our ongoing commitment to collecting and praying for prayer requests from the AFP Canada website, have decided to have a Diocesan Contact's Corner, and welcomed Paul Dumbrille's latest resource, "A Week of Daily Prayers". We also decided to clarify the Executive roles and responsibilities, while considering how best to retain current Diocesan Contacts and attract new ones in areas not yet covered by the use of videos created for each specific purpose.

Our last conversations dealt with how best to serve at the upcoming General Synod in 2019 to be held in Vancouver. While we would not have a physical presence, in addition to other prayers and in particular praying for each delegate by name that will be present, we would like to aim to have every ecclesiastical province commit to taking one day each, between July 11 and July 14 to pray for all that will be happening at General Synod. On July 15, all would be encouraged to hold the election of our new primate in prayer. AFP representatives/contacts would both prepare prayers for each of the days and connect with others in each of the provinces to organize opportunities for parishioners to participate in a variety of ways across all of Canada. More details on this will be forthcoming. Please watch for them and for information from your Diocesan Contact.

As always please don't hesitate to be in touch with thoughts and feedback.

## PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT

*By Paul Dumbrille*

Loving and Gracious God,  
 in this time of discerning and making decisions about the future  
 of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Canada,  
 we pray that we may be: genuine in our self-reflection;  
 tireless in our commitment;  
 patient in our discernment;  
 loving in our discussions;  
 open in our search;  
 imaginative about our future;  
 and daring in our faith.  
 May we be guided by your Holy Spirit  
 to follow the way of Jesus in faith.  
 Amen.

~~~~~

## GOD CARES

*By Marjorie Cooney*

God cares when the trials of life overwhelm you  
 And threaten to drown you in sadness and woe;  
 God cares when life's very foundations are shaking,  
 When deep waters of trouble would fain overflow.

God cares and remembers 'mid daily frustrations  
 When the enemy whispers just what is the use?  
 God cares whenever your heart is nigh breaking  
 And for doubting in Him there seems lots of excuse.

God cares in life's race when you think you are losing  
 Understands when life's doors seem to shut in your face;  
 He's promised His love will remain with you always,  
 Turn tears about face with a smile in their place.

God cares when the road seems rough and uncertain,  
 Understands when life's burdens grow heavy and grim;  
 He bids you look upward when hope has deserted,  
 He bids you stop doubting, find anchor in Him.

Please mail to: Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Canada,  
P.O. Box 78084, Meriline, NEPEAN, ONTARIO K2E 1B1

Enclosed is my donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. Rev'd

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_

We do not receive any financial support from the National Church. Donations are used to cover the cost of printing, mailing newsletters and correspondence and helps us provide prayer resources. AFP (Canada) is a charitable organization in accordance with the provisions of the Canadian Income Tax Act.

## BOOK REVIEW

### Leap Over a Wall: Earthy Spirituality for Everyday Christians

by Eugene Peterson

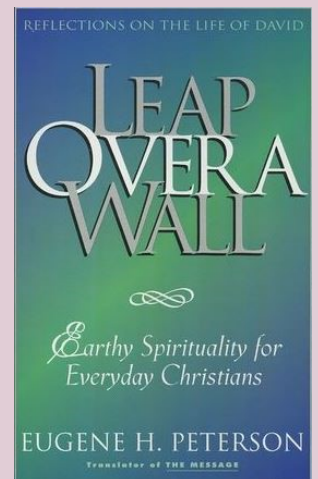
New York: Harper Collins, 1997.

*Reviewed by Carol Langley*

This is a book for everyone: preacher and parishioner alike because everyone loves a story! And here, in this lovely, easy to read book on King David, we see Peterson not only as a brilliant biblical expositor but also as a masterful storyteller.

In each of the 20 chapters in the book Peterson brings to life a major event in the life of King David and skillfully shows how David's story is also our story. As Peterson puts it, "David's story...doesn't show us how we *should* live but how we *do* live." He goes on to say, "...in that living, if we keep our eyes open, stay honest, and avoid pretense, we encounter God alive, God in covenant with us, God pulling the best out of us...By taking the David story seriously, we find that we're taking our own stories seriously, realizing just how God-shaped, God-influenced, God-graced these storied lives of ours in fact are."

Thanks to this book I finally realized how the David story which takes up so much space in our Scriptures is also our story. Like David, each one of us is a complicated mixture of sinner and saint, and each event in our lives whether it be good or bad, is an opportunity to encounter the grace of God for this God of ours delights in participating in the ordinariness of our everyday lives. It is in that everydayness of God-with-us that we will be able to exclaim along with David, "Yes, by thee I can crush a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall!" (Psalm 18:29)



## BOOK REVIEW

This work is licensed under a  
Creative Commons  
Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike  
4.0 International License.



newsletter@anglicanprayer.org

Next newsletter: Advent 2018

Submission deadline: Oct 29, 2018

Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Canada  
P.O. Box 78084, Meriline, NEPEAN, ONTARIO K2E 1B1  
www.anglicanprayer.org