

Anglican Fellowship OF **PRAAYER** Canada



AFP-C NEWSLETTER - Vol. 18, No. 2

SUMMER 2010

NIGHT HOURS

HERBERT O'DRISCOLL

I have always loved movies. Once my parents realized with a shock that I had seen nine movies in one week. Suffice to say that, in those far-off days, it cost only four-pence for an after-school (if you hurried) matinée. That memorable week,

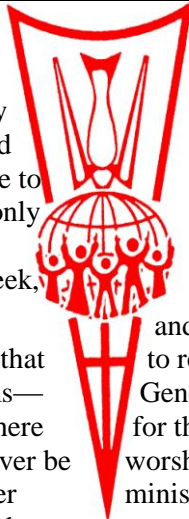
I must admit, surely happened during school holidays!

I mention this because I have been recalling something that used to puzzle me when I watched black and white films—which, of course, were the only kind then. Whenever there was a scene with someone sleeping, the room would never be dark—unlike my own curtained bedroom. The character always seemed to sleep in a pool of light. This intrigued me perhaps because night hours in films, softly lit, never conveyed those feelings of loneliness or fearfulness that I knew night-time could have in real life.

One indication of the power of night hours to affect us is the extent to which scripture speaks often, and very realistically, about night. The reason stems from something we easily forget. In that long-ago world, when the sun went down, darkness fell. There was no sudden blaze of light in public places and homes. A small oil lamp, Yes, if absolutely necessary. In larger places, a blazing torch as long as it lasted. But the world became dark. In every sense, night fell on human life. No wonder the night world could become a fearful place, full of people's projected fears, not to mention genuine dangers.

The thought occurs to me that we rarely think of Jesus lying awake in the dark, perhaps in the room where he must have lodged in Capernaum, or in the guest corner of the house in Bethany that he loved and appreciated so much. Sometimes, when I have found sleep elusive and have felt life crowding in on me, I have tried to imagine him lying awake, thinking about an incident that had happened during the day, perhaps something that threatened him, or hurt him deeply or filled him with despair. I have often thought what it must have been like for him during the last nights of his life, coming back

- continued on page 2 -



MESSAGE FROM GENERAL SYNOD

*THE RT. REV. GARY WOOLSEY
NATIONAL DIRECTOR*

Dear Friends,

I am writing this from General Synod in Halifax which is being held at St. Mary's University. Bishops, clergy and laity from across Canada gather once every three years to reflect on the ministry of our church since the last General Synod and to consult with each other to set a course for the next three years and even longer. There are times of worship, Bible Study, presentations from the various ministries of our church, listening to our partners from other parts of the Anglican Communion and our ecumenical partners, discussion of motions and fellowship.

Part of the learning component is for delegates to visit the many displays and to see what our church is doing across the country. The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer display has a variety of free pamphlets on the work of AFP as well as some of our



resources which can be purchased. But the main thrust is to

- continued on page 2 -

PLEASE NOTE
NEW ADDRESS FOR AFP-CANADA
P.O. Box 5131
OTTAWA, ON
K2C 3H4

**All correspondence including
Resources, Finances, and Corporate matters**

NIGHT HOURS

- Continued from page 1-

from the city to Bethany, exhausted, deeply troubled in his sleep, dreading the morning.

Jesus must have experienced all these things. Those long night hours must have been all too real for him, as they can be for you and me. I have found it comforting to think of him experiencing what I experience, and I have found it strengthening to seek his companionship in the night hours. Such prayer has no smooth, constructed language, no well-honed phrases, but it is probably the most genuine and deeply felt prayer we can offer in our human vulnerability—and we need never be ashamed of it. Our Lord understands because of his own felt humanity in the night hours.

Centuries before Jesus learned his scripture as a boy, the psalmist had written, “You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day, or the pestilence that stalks in darkness” (Psalm 91:5). Yet as we all know, such reassurances are necessary only because of the very real fears we experience in the night hours, when even small issues loom large, and when slight daylight anxieties become thoughts filled with dread.

We all have our personal resources to turn to at such times. My first resource is something I learned from my mother. I can recall the night she began to teach my brother and me the third collect for Evening Prayer, as she sat between us on the bed he and I shared:

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord, and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In boarding school, where much was still learned by heart, the annual examination in Old Testament, New Testament, and Church Doctrine, set by the General Synod for all children, demanded that I learn, among many other things, the ancient Latin hymn now part of the Compline service. This too speaks of the night and its fears:

*Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That with thy wonted favour thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.*

*From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
From nightly fears and fantasies;
Tread under foot our ghostly foe....*

One resource that has become precious for me in recent years is the utterly simple yet beautiful prayer that ends the Night Prayers section of the *New Zealand Prayer Book*:

*Lord, it is night.
The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in the presence of God.
It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.*

*The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world
and of our own lives
rest in you.*

*The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.*

*The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day.
new joys, new possibilities.*

In your name we pray. Amen

These words hang on a family bedroom wall, done in calligraphy by a friend. The prayer is both simple and profound. It prays for oneself and for others. It knows of both external and private fears. It prepares for the night and heralds the dawn. It is a magnificent pattern of prayer.

This article is taken from Herbert O'Driscoll's book PRAYER AMONG FRIENDS, a Path Book published in memory of Pat Curtis. A copy can be obtained from the Anglican Book Centre (www.afcanada.com) and from local church bookshops.

**MESSAGE FROM GENERAL SYNOD
THE RT. REV. GARY WOOLSEY**

-continued from page 1-

acquaint people with the ministry of AFP and how we can be a resource to parishes and dioceses. We also have had the opportunity to encourage some dioceses to appoint a Diocesan Representative and look forward to expanding our network across the



Left: the Rt. Rev. Gary Woolsey

Right: The Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz

country. There are some delegates who are DRs and they have the opportunity to meet with us at the display booth. Another key ministry carried out by AFP at General Synod is the Prayer Chapel. We were given a seminar room in the Loyola Residence in which to set up the chapel. Archdeacon Black, of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and P.E.I., provided an icon and cross as a focus on our altar. We also made available resources to help people pray and meditate in the chapel: the prayers for General Synod, ‘How to Spend an Hour in Prayer’ leaflet, a set of meditations and prayers prepared by myself that reflect the various tasks of General Synod. We also provided a basket for people to leave their prayer requests which were used continuously by our AFP prayer team.

I want to express my deep appreciation to the members of the AFP National Executive who gave of their time to share in the



L. to R.: Rev. Anne Moore, Janet Stevens, Rt. Rev. Gary Woolsey, Esther Jackson, Archdeacon Charles Black, Marie Woolsey

ministry of the display booth and chapel: Esther Jackson, our Chair from the Diocese of Calgary; the Rev. Anne Moore, from the Diocese of Toronto; and Janet Stevens, our new Treasurer from the Diocese of Ottawa. We were also blessed to have Archdeacon Charles Black of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and P.E.I who shared in the chapel ministry and helped with the logistical arrangements of transportation and our booth display, as well as Marie Woolsey who also served on our display and chapel team.

Peace

+Gary

Bishop Gary Woolsey

AFP-Canada National Director

A Book review by AFP Chairperson

Esther Jackson

**Book: The Sacred Art of Loving Kindness
by Rabbi Rami Shapiro**



With honesty, humour, humility, and an acknowledgement of his humanness, Rabbi Rami Shapiro presents an extraordinary resource to cultivate loving kindness in all aspects of life. We are all born in the image of God, but living out the likeness of God is a choice.

Rabbi Rami's book offers the tools to realize the divinity within yourself, recognize the divinity in others, and to act out the

obligation to manifest God's infinite compassion in your life. Rabbi Shapiro gives insight, and teaches tools to bring inner healing. He introduces the reader to an intense awareness of the wonder and beauty of creation, and an openness to the spirituality, and reality of the world as it unfolds within and around each of us.

Drawing from his personal journey, as well as the sacred practices of the world's major faith groups, Rami Shapiro provides exercises to develop a personal strategy for embracing the world, fearlessly, honestly, and with compassion.

How Do We Make Our Resources Available?



Given that AFP (Canada) has a wide variety of very useful and well presented resources to encourage prayer, we have to decide the best way to make them available to as many people as possible. How do we do that?

Our primary objective is do our best to provide and make available our resources so that as many people as possible will be encouraged in prayer. All else is secondary. With that in mind, here is our current approach:

1. We do not distribute our resources to make money. We charge for them to cover our costs. If the person "buying" them from us wants to give them away, that's absolutely fine with us. Unfortunately we do not have the financial means to provide them at no cost to everybody who asks for them.
 2. AFP Diocesan Reps (DRs) are given a "Ready to Go" kit so they know what resources are available from our national storehouse. We cover the cost of the "Ready to Go Kit".
 3. We encourage DRs to show and make resources available to others in their Diocese, or who they otherwise know. They can provide people with an order form; or refer them to our website, www.anglicanprayer.org, where they can be informed of how they can order resources directly; or DRs can have a supply of resources on hand. We encourage DRs to have a supply on hand of the particular resources they think will be useful for others, and they can either "sell" them to cover their costs or give them away. For orders from the Resource Coordinator valued at over \$50.00, DRs are given a 10% discount.
 4. Our Resources can be viewed on our website, www.anglicanprayer.org, and many of them are downloadable. If anyone wants to download and copy our resources we are quite happy for that to happen. We hope that in doing so, the quality of design and production we have put into them will be respected as much as possible.
 5. As we go forward we hope to have both a format on our website that is optimized for reading on line, as well as a format that is best for downloading and printing. We are not there yet.
- We will gladly receive ideas on how we can improve our distribution of resources. If you have suggestions, please contact Paul Dumbrille, paul.dumbrille@sympatico.ca, 613-225-0806, PO Box 5131, Ottawa, ON K2C 3H4.

The A.F.P. Representatives' Prayer
(AFP Representatives' Handbook)

O Father, grant your blessing, that I may fulfill my ministry as a Diocesan Representative. I can hope to do this only because you are with me to help me. Help me to grow in prayer and by your Spirit give me the right words so that I may encourage and teach others to pray in the knowledge that they are the children of a loving heavenly Father through Jesus Christ our Lord, who ever lives to pray for us. Amen

**AFP National Director
Leads Diocese of Rupert's Land
Clergy Conference**



The Conference (May 25 – 28), held in Pinawa, Manitoba, was led this year by our National Director of AFP, Bishop Gary Woolsey. The theme – ‘Leadership – Inner and Outer – Into the Next Decade’ consisted of seven addresses that touched on such topics as: Leadership begins with Me; Key Principles for Leadership in Parish Ministry; Goals for Growth and Development and Mission Minded for a New Decade. A key

component of the sessions was the small group discussion that followed the addresses. Team building and sharing our journey of ministry allowed the participants to support and learn from one another.

Also meeting in Pinawa and staying at the Conference Centre was Archbishop Weisgerber and other Roman Catholic clergy, of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Winnipeg. Night prayers were hosted by each of the two communities.

The planning committee created a wonderful schedule which included a variety of worship experiences, social occasions and free time. Bishop Don Phillips and some of the clergy were able to take time from the Conference to attend events in Winnipeg for the National Day of Healing and Reconciliation.



*Far Right: Bishop Don Phillips
With 2 of his clergy*

**Annual ‘Blessing of the Wheels’
St. Martin’s, Calgary**

On Sunday, May 30th, St. Martin’s Anglican Church hosted its annual ‘Blessing of the Wheels’ Service. In spite of cold and wet weather, some 20 members of the Chinook Wings Motorcycle Club joined with the congregation to offer thanksgiving for their ‘wheels’.

Children brought scooters, tricycle, skate board, and toy cars. The front of the altar displayed the children’s wheels as well as motorcycle and bicycle helmets and a bicycle wheel.



The preacher, Bishop Gary

Woolsey (a.k.a. The Biker Bish and CB handle – ‘The Silver Fox’) shared with the children how important it is to ‘use your head’ when using their wheels. Like bikers, they need to practice their skills at the beginning of the riding season and always ‘think ahead’ when riding near cars and trucks. In his sermon, the congregation provided the content as Gary allowed them to reflect on experience, i.e. putting safety chrome on their motorcycles in order to be visible, and how this might reflect on our faith, i.e. being seen by our good works in order to glorify God. Then in reverse he retold the Gospel reading of Peter walking to Jesus on the water, shifting his focus from Christ to the wind and the waves, and then sinking. People in the congregation related personal experiences of focusing on troubles or ‘pot holes’ and then being discouraged or depressed. For bikers, it is a known fact that if you focus on the pot hole, you will actually hit it!

Everyone could relate to the need to ‘refocus’ from time to time in order to be the people of God. During the last hymn the congregation processed outside where the parish priest, Christine Conkin, and Bishop Gary sprinkled participants with



blessed water. Special prayers and blessing were also given to 4-wheeled vehicles (one being a car to be used by a new teenage driver) and ‘Shelby’ who is training as a ‘care dog’ for the disabled.

“Behold I Make All Things New”!

Bernadette Njegovan



This past year I have spent some time going through old manuals of WA/ACW at our synod office. As a new deanery president of ACW I felt compelled to learn more of our history. One of the greatest treasures I came across was early information regarding

“Little Helpers”; a parish program for children from baptism to seven years of age.

Once a week the children are encouraged to drop a few coins into their personal mite box and say this little prayer. *“God bless the missionaries all over the world and all the Little Helpers, for Jesus sake. Amen.”*

I love this for many reasons. As a long time primary teacher I have come to know the incredible benefit of attaching a physical aspect to any lesson taught. The rote labor of getting together those few coins, dropping them into the mite box where the child can no longer see them, reinforces that they are weekly in fact, giving to others. *“God bless the missionaries all over the world”* is the first phrase of the prayer. Putting others before themselves.

I pray we always take time to teach our children to pray “J.O.Y.”!

Jesus - 1st, Others - 2nd, Yourself - last.

Let’s attach a child friendly prayer to our PWRDF mite boxes

in the fall and encourage our children. Perhaps “J.O.Y. TO THE WORLD” – *“Lord Jesus, I love you. I pray for all girls and boys around the world. Please Lord; lead me to be a “helper” of others. Amen”.*

If you would like to see a copy of the 1950 annual “Little Helpers” form of service please email the diocese of Brandon synod office. It has great ideas for time together when the mite boxes are received.

Showing the children a few “slides or curios” might be tricky, but the amazing photos in the family calendar PWRDF put out last year should do the trick! diobran@mts.net

Peace Through Prayer In Christ,

Bernadette Njegovan

Toronto Diocesan Prayer Conference God Yearning to Hear

Oct. 22 & 23, 2010

St John’s Anglican Church York Mills
19 Don Ridge Drive, Toronto

*This then is how you should pray,
“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name”*

Come to the 2010 prayer conference where you will enjoy three inspiring theme talks from **The Rev. Mike Flynn**. Along with uplifting music provided by Trinity Streetsville, you will have the opportunity to attend two of fifteen workshops. This year’s conference is designed to give you a new awareness of God’s outrageous love for you.

Registrar: John & Carol-Anne Foty
71 River view Gardens
Toronto M6S 4E6
416 767 0253
cafoty@rogers.com

See your parish prayer representative for details,
or go to the web address. (After August)

<http://www.toronto.anglican.ca/prayerconference>

Workshops:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Dr Wanda Malcolm | Forgiveness and reconciliation |
| 2. Dr. John Stevenson | Prayer and Stress |
| 3. Rev. Canon Anne Moore | Beginning to Pray with Others |
| 4. Rev. Dr. Drew MacDonald | Response to Rev. Michael Flynn
(P.M. only) |
| 5. Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat | Our Prayer for Environmental Response |
| 6. Gary Glowacki | “The Bridge”: The Marginalized Are My Parish |
| 7. Richard Konieczny. | Prayer is the Work |
| 8. Rev. Stephen Kirkegaard | Let Prayer Inform Your Life (P.M. only) |
| 9. Wendy Passmore | Intimacy With God |
| 10. Rev. Andy Leroux | Holy Spirit’s Work |
| 11. Rev Anne Crosthwait. | Contemplative Fire/Fresh Expressions |
| 12. Elizabeth Scuse | Prayer and Depression |
| 13. Rev. Diana McHardy | Spiritual Direction with Ignatian Methods |
| 14. Sister Elizabeth Rolfe Thomas | Sharing your Spiritual Journey |
| 15. Terry Wedge | Prayer of the heart (AM only) |

Betty Gracie

Lunch prayer reps meeting

The Bishop’s Conference on Prayer

Diocese of Huron

THE POTTER’S HAND

Saturday, October 23, 2010

(9:30 am – 4:00 pm)

St. Paul’s Cathedral
472 Richmond Street
London, ON

Sponsored by the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED – Cost \$20

REGISTER BY OCTOBER 8TH, 2010

Register by mailing your name, address, phone number, email address, and whether you are including a cheque or will pay at the door to:

The Rev’d E. Jane Fletcher
5280 Howard Ave.
Oldcastle, ON N0R 1L0

**Refreshments provided,
please bring your lunch.**

Contact: The Rev’d E. Jane Fletcher
ejanefletcher@sympatico.ca

Guest Speaker: The Rev’d Mary Bell-Plouffe, an Anglican Church minister in Eastern Ontario, and true storyteller.

After the potter has placed the clay on the wheel, the first task becomes centering it. In our lives as well, our first task is to centre ourselves and our lives on God. With Christ as our centre, our faith and hope stay true. We won’t wobble under stress or collapse under the strain of life. We will hold firm with Christ as our centre.

As the potter stretches and shapes this lump of clay, a form appears, a form that will be used to hold liquid or food or flowers or oil, a form that has a purpose and a mission. We too are formed for a purpose and a mission, the mission to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. This form is fashioned with water, just as we are fashioned in the waters of new birth in baptism. This spiritual formation allows us to withstand the heat of the firing process as we are challenged in our daily walk with our Savior. As we spend time in the fire with Christ beside us we grow stronger in our faith. We are strengthened for proclamation and service. Each vessel is unique. Each vessel is a different hue and depth of colour. Each vessel is made for God’s purpose. Come and discover the vessel that God has named you to be in His sight and in His grace.

Taste and See

GROWING IN THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER

Getting prayer “right” seen as a process

By Carolyn Seabrook

[Reprinted from the May 2010 edition of the Ottawa Diocesan Newspaper, “CrossTalk”]

Our main pathway for communicating with God is through the language of prayer. Sometimes we wonder if we’re “getting it right” in terms of our prayers. Although we may not always get it ‘right,’ participants at the *Taste and See* conference at Saint Paul University, March 6, 2010 learned that that’s okay. We are each in a “process of getting it right,” said Brother Scott Borden, a Benedictine Anglican monk with the Order of the Holy Cross, who was the keynote speaker for the



Brother Scott Borden in St. Paul’s Chapel continue to grow in our prayer lives, and this can’t happen unless we leave the comfort of what is familiar to us and move towards some unfamiliar territory.” The *Taste and See* conference was an opportunity to grow in the practice of prayer. The more than 100 participants from over 30 Dioceses of Ottawa parishes and several guests from neighbouring dioceses and other denominations were not disappointed with their chance to explore some varied and creative ways of praying. Workshop topics and facilitators included: *Images as Opportunities for Prayer* (The Rev. Dr. Linda Privitera), *Praying with Scripture* (Paul Dumbrille), *Christian Contemplative Tradition* (The Rev. Gregor Sneddon), *Embodied Prayer – the postures and gestures we use* (The Rev. Kevin Flynn), *Praying with Icons* (Father John Jillions) and *From Silence to Silence – the use of silence and song in prayer* (Barclay McMillan).

When we find a prayer tool that ‘fits’ for us it may help to bring more of our own person into our prayers. The more we can grow in this way the more nourishing our prayer life will be. But, as Brother Scott pointed out, it may be like trying on new shoes at first. “You’re not really sure if they’re going to fit for a week or two.” Having a vibrant prayer life means we sometimes have to shed our inhibitions – those things that restrict our relationship – with the understanding that God does not listen for perfection but rather for an open and honest heart. Brother Scott encouraged participants to engage in honest dialogue with God and to leave plenty of room for listening for God’s reply. He said that it is important to listen with the “ear of our heart” (a felt/compassionate way of listening) as opposed to the “ear of our mind” as God is

always speaking but we are only available when we quiet ourselves to receive. As we become more attuned to the beauty of the world and the wonder of Creation we also become more aware of the ways in which the world is hurting and in need. We “Taste and see that the Lord is good” and in doing so we open ourselves and our hearts to a heightened awareness of those things that are also bitter and offensive in our world. In Brother Scott’s closing remarks he said that “prayer gives us the power to live with the ugly.” Our heightened awareness of the brokenness of our world draws us ever closer to the One who promises hope eternal and through prayer we ask God to show us how we can be part of His transforming work. Our challenge is twofold: to open ourselves fully in prayer and to leave room to hear God’s response. Conference participants indicated they felt “energized and inspired” and “spiritually renewed” through their participation in the worship and workshops during the day. They also enjoyed the opportunity to look at some Diocesan displays during the break. The excellent turnout and enthusiasm of participants in this year’s *Taste and See* conference bodes well for a similar event on Congregational Prayer which will be held May 13-14, 2011 with keynote speaker, the Rev. Jane Vennard, who teaches prayer and spirituality at Illiff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. She is the author of several books on prayer and teaches and leads retreats in ecumenical settings.





Paul Dumbrille Leading “Praying With Scripture” Workshop



[Note: The *Taste & See* event organizing group was led by Paul Dumbrille, AFP Ottawa Diocese Representative, who also led a workshop.]

KINDNESS
Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life and honour.
 Proverbs 21:21
Those who are kind reward themselves, But the cruel do themselves harm.
 Proverbs 11:17


O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; We are all the work of Your hands.
 Isaiah 64,8
 

Lydia Mamakwa Consecrated Bishop A Vision Fulfilled



On May 4th, 2010 the Holy Spirit was blowing powerfully in the school gym at Kingfisher Lake in Northwest Ontario. The gym had been beautifully transformed into a holy sanctuary for the consecration of Lydia Mamakwa as bishop. People from other northern communities had flown in, as well as our Primate, Fred Hiltz, National Indigenous Bishop Mark McDonald, and

most of the bishops from the Province of Rupert's Land. This consecration was a special one: for the people gathered it was a huge historical moment in the relationship of the Indigenous people to the Anglican Church. The Anglican Church had passed a Canon that allowed Indigenous people to elect their own bishop within their own tradition and process. Archbishop David Ashdown (bishop of Keewatin), had supported the election and consecration of a bishop in the Northern Region of the diocese in which he serves.



For those of us who are not Indigenous, I feel it is impossible to truly comprehend the emotion of this consecration but on May 4th it was palpable. I believe that true partnership in our shared church will only be achieved when the Indigenous people have obtained their autonomy within the Anglican Communion and then come alongside as full partners.

This moment in history in our church has been a very long time in coming. In the 1960s Bishop Stiff was encouraged by people in the north to train local people to administer the sacraments. There were many catechists who already led worship and preached. This program became known as T.A.I.P. (Train An Indian Priest), and continues today but its name has been changed to Dr. William Winter School of Ministry. Bishop James Allan followed Bishop Stiff and in his 16 years as diocesan bishop continued to encourage people in the north to equip themselves for ordained and lay ministry. Bishop Allan saw Lydia's gifts when she was very young and has been praying for her every day since that time, and continues today. His words when Lydia recently visited him at the care home in Winnipeg were, "Something is now complete for me." When Bishop Tom Collings came he nominated Archdeacon William Winter for an Honourary Doctorate at St. John's College for all his service and leadership in the north. It was a very emotional moment when Dr. William Winter came forward in his wheel chair to bless Lydia in her

Episcopal ministry. Lydia had worked for him as his secretary for many years. Everyone was so thankful that William had lived to see this day where his vision of the north had been fulfilled. Bishop Gordon Beardy from Muskrat Dam had been elected Suffragan Bishop with Tom Collings and then after Bishop Tom's retirement he became the first Canadian Aboriginal Diocesan Bishop. The difference between his ministry and Lydia's is that he was serving a diocese that still had a great deal of 'Non-Aboriginal power', whereas Lydia is serving a region of the Diocese of Keewatin that is all Aboriginal (from Sioux Lookout up to the Hudson Bay, from the Manitoba border to the Diocese of Moosonee). The first language is Ojibwe and in some communities many people do not speak English. The only access is by plane or winter roads. A huge gift from Wasaya Air was a Golden Ticket for Lydia to fly free anywhere in the region.



The consecration was embodied by 5 nights of Gospel Jamboree with wonderful Gospel singing and prayers. Sunday evening Lydia and James came forward for prayers and everyone gathered around (200 people). After the

prayers we formed a huge circle and danced around the hall praising God.

Lydia is a beautiful servant of God and God's people. She grew up in Kingfisher Lake in a family with six sisters and one brother. Her parents are still living and work very hard in the church and community. Her husband, James, is the chief of Kingfisher Lake and they have two sons (Sonny and Jeremy) and 2 grandchildren. Their third son, Reuben, was one of the many young people in the north lost to suicide; he took his own life when he was seventeen. They know deeply the pain of the lost youth in the north. Lydia has served on the National Eco Justice Committee and on many other Indigenous Committees to bring the Gospel - and justice and change - to her church and her community. She and James are passionate about empowering their people to equip themselves for service and to celebrate who they are as God's people. Lydia's gift of humility will serve her well in her Episcopal ministry as she entrusts herself to the wisdom of Christ's teachings and Christ's love and grace. *Thank you to Rev. Diane Guilford for this article.*



*Rev. Diane Guilford,
DR for Rupert's Land, &
Bishop Lydia Mamakwa*

Diocese of Calgary-ACW Conference

April 23/24

The Rt. Rev. Gary Woolsey
The Annual ACW Conference was held at Holy Cross Anglican Church with the National Director of Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, Bishop Gary Woolsey, as the guest speaker. The theme – “Grounded in Love – Called to Serve” helped the participants to reflect on God’s love for them as a foundation for being focused on loving service to others. Bishop Gary led people to think about their experiences of love in their early childhood. But with so much misguided attempts at love, it is always necessary to explore the truth of God’s love as seen through Jesus Christ. As we connect ourselves to this life-giving love – the vine and the branches parable, then we too can experience the real love that is ours in Christ Jesus. In his second address, Bishop Gary encouraged the participants to explore ways of expressing this love as leaders in our families, church, and community. If we experience God’s love, then the rightful response will be that of gratitude. A second quality that should be at the heart of this loved-disciple is ‘encouragement’. The ACW purpose speaks to these qualities and all are called to find ways of expressing in word and deed gratitude and encouragement so that the ministry of each person will enhance the Body of Christ. In his last address, Bishop Gary focused on how to express love in service. This first requires us to spend time reflecting on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Then comes the ‘testing of our wings’ when we step out in faith to serve others with our imperfect selves. Many take great risks in loving service, knowing that they are called to serve and yet uncertain of the outcome. There are times when we feel so overwhelmed by the tasks of service, or ‘the trees’ of the forest, that we can become discouraged and want to withdraw from our involvement in the church, community organizations, family, etc. This is the time to re-focus on the big picture, ‘the forest’, in order to get God’s perspective on life. In this

way we can re-engage with the loving service that God desires for us.

Bishop Derek Hoskin celebrated the Eucharist and Installed the Officers and Board Members. The Conference expressed its thanks to the Reverend Kirsi Bird who had served as ACW Chaplain and welcomed the new Chaplain, The Reverend Jeanne Hunter.

**Rupert’s Land AFP
Diocesan Prayer Journey
Travels to Peguis**

The Rev. Diane Guilford



On January 3 the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer started the year in a great way by traveling to Peguis for worship. We gathered at 3 pm with 30 people from the community to be spiritually fed with Communion and Prayer. After worship we were physically fed with Freda’s amazing soup and others serving bannock, sandwiches and dessert. We gave thanks to God for being so ‘present’ in our midst as we experienced the Spirit flowing in and through each person as we shared worship and fellowship. We have now journeyed to all the rural areas in the diocese except for the Western Beaches, which we still have to look forward to in 2010. It has been a privilege and blessing to worship throughout the rural diocese, giving thanks for the wonderful leadership and beautiful Anglican communities we’ve experienced. It was a blessing to be in Pembina Hills just as these 5 churches were in the midst of their discernment for Local Collaborative Ministry. We are especially grateful for the music team (Nancy Aasland and Bev Josefchuk) that travel with us with their guitars and amazing voices, but especially for the spirit they bring to these services. The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer would be happy to receive invitations from parishes within Winnipeg to host a prayer service as part of our Diocesan Prayer Journey. The focus is on prayers

for the leaders of the parish, the needs of the community both within and outside the church, and prayers for our diocese. We are always interested in welcoming new members to AFP. We are part of an international organization and our focus is to provide resources, workshops and opportunities to promote and offer prayer. Rupert’s Land AFP group has initiated the ministry of individual prayers for clergy and lay leaders the first and third Friday of the month. A small prayer group prays with Bishop Don and Nancy every month. Our prayer is that all people in our diocese would know the power of prayer.

**A Prayer for a Church
In God’s Will**

**Eternal God,
You call us to live with faith
in a world filled with so many
challenges.
Help us remember that Jesus
talked of our being in the
world, but not of the world.
Teach us through your word,
and in our prayers to learn
and understand who You
would have us be and what
You would have us do, so
that we may fulfil our calling
as Christ’s body here on
earth.**

Diocesan Representatives

Request additional newsletters from
Paul Dumbrille
paul.dumbrille@sympatico.ca
or *Win Mizon*
winken@sympatico.ca

AFP-C Newsletter Editor

Winnifred (Win) Mizon

519-433-7485

winken@sympatico.ca