

Anglican Fellowship of Prayer

Volume 27, No. 4

Thanksgiving 2019

Serving, Supporting, and Encouraging Prayer

Prayer: For Such a Time As This

A letter from National Director Paul Feheley

The Book of Esther contains difficult stories in terms of the treatment of women and persecution against the Jewish people. Esther, the beautiful Jewish wife of the Persian king Ahasuerus (Xerxes I), is not sure whether she should approach the king re the impending massacre of her people and her cousin Mordecai persuades her with these words: "For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." (Esther 4:13-14)

Our Church has come through a General Synod where important decisions were made that have angered some and brought relief to others. Much work has been done on the development of Indigenous self determination and an important presentation was made on human trafficking. The whole Church gladly celebrated the election of Archbishop Linda Nicholls as our new Primate. We are very pleased to announce that Archbishop Linda has agreed to continue a longstanding pattern of the Primate being a patron of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer.

The General Synod was supported by our prayers with each of our four church provinces within Canada taking one of the synod days to pray for all of the delegates by name. On the day of the election for a new Primate all were called to prayer for the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in that selection of a new Archbishop for Canada. Our work was acknowledged in his opening address by Archbishop Fred Hiltz.

One of the challenges that we are facing as a church is decline both in numbers and in finances. Many parishes are struggling to literally "keep the lights on". We do not know what God is calling us to do and to be in our parishes, dioceses and as a denomination but the Fellowship is rededicating our work and prayers, "for just such a time as this". Our Church needs a great deal of prayerful support to determine its future and direction and the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer is there to help.



...continue on page 2

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS (continued)

Our hope as the National Executive is to foster a deep love of prayer and encouragement for the Church to discern the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. We have no paid staff and so 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.

Your donation can be made using the form on the back (and envelope enclosed), or by making your gift by visiting our website: anglicanprayer.org and following the links. We thank you in advance for your commitment to this important work 'at such a time as this'. If you have anything that you would like to share with us at any time, we would gladly hear from you.

Yours in prayer and service,

Archdeacon Paul Feheley
AFP (Canada) National Director
director@anglicanprayer.org

Rev'd Canon Val Kenyon
AFP (Canada) Executive Chair
chairperson@anglicanprayer.org



Current Work of the AFP Executive

Val Kenyon, National Chair

New Beginnings

The autumn is for many more of a New Year's event than January 1 ever is for it marks the time of year of new or renewed beginnings. It is a season of fresh notebooks full of blank pages aching to be filled, and long sharpened pencils with perfect erasers. It is the time of year we try new things, or rediscover former passions. Energized by the cooler temperatures, we find our rhythms being restored as we get back to the tasks of daily living with the warmth and leisure of summer behind us.

On the National Executive of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, this season has us marking some new beginning of our own. We are very pleased to welcome to the executive the Rev'd Elise Chambers and Ms. Elizabeth (Libi) Clifford. Both Elise and Libi hail from the Diocese of Huron and are offering their time and energies in support of the work of the AFP National Executive. Elise will be a member at large for the moment, while Libi will be stepping into the role of treasurer. Thank you Elise and Libi.

Farewell

Also this season we are saying goodbye to Tony Day, long time member of the Executive who has served in a variety of capacities over the years. We shall miss you Tony with your passion for prayer and your commitment to the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer. Thank you for your many years of faithful service. We know you will continue to hold the ongoing work of this Executive in your thoughts and prayers.

Our New Primate

In July at General Synod 2019 Archbishop Linda Nicholls became the 14th Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. During this season of new beginning we hold especially our new primate in our prayers as she leads our Church in God's mission, visits the many dioceses and territories spread across this land, pastorally cares for bishops, working in particular with the National Indigenous Archbishop with respect to the emerging of the self-determining indigenous Church, representing us in the Anglican communion, writing and speaking prophetically to the issues of our times, all while forging relationships with people of other faith traditions and all people of good will dedicated to the building of a truly just, healthy and peaceful world.

*"Think of all
the beauty
that is still left
in and around
you, and be
happy."*

~Anne Frank

ORDER OF ST LUKE HEALING CONFERENCE

Carman, Manitoba

7-9 pm Fri. Sept. 27

9-3 pm Sat. Sept. 28



Speaker: Order of St. Luke Chaplain Rev. Dr. Murray Still

Theme: 'From our wounds we are healed'

Cost: Free Will Offering. But please Register at the church office so they'll know the number of people for Coffee Breaks & Lunch

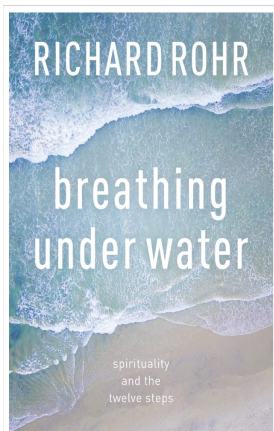
Grace St. John Church
80 2 Street SW, Carman, Manitoba

Office: 1-204-745-3584
grjohnchurch@gmail.com

The Manitoba Chapter of the Order of St. Luke the Physician belongs to the world wide OSL Ecumenical Christian Healing Association. Contact: Manitoba OSL Secretary Hazel Birt hgbirt@shaw.ca Text 1-204-470-1917

Book Review

Breathing Under Water, Spirituality and the Twelve Steps.
By Richard Rohr



Addiction, from the obvious substance dependence on alcohol or drugs, to process addictions like food, shopping or sex, is common in our communities.

When we learn to identify our addiction, embrace our brokenness, and surrender to God, we begin to bring healing to ourselves and our world. In *Breathing Under Water*, Richard Rohr shows how the gospel principles in the Twelve Steps can contribute to recovery.

Richard Rohr begins with: "Twelve Steppers sometimes thought they had left the church for the Wednesday night meetings in the basement; and many upstairs in the sanctuary presumed that their "higher" concerns were something different from "those people with problems" down below. The similar messages between the two teachings assure me that we are dealing with a common inspiration from the Holy Spirit and from the same collective

unconscious. In fact, I am still convinced that on the practical (read "transformational") level, the Gospel message of Jesus and the Twelve Step message of Bill Wilson are largely the same message, even in some detail, as I will try to show in this book."

I was born into the Anglican Church and have attended most of my life. After realizing my life was unmanageable and I am powerless in the face of my addiction, these days, most of my time spent in an Anglican Church is in the basement at twelve step meetings. I have found Richard Rohr's description of the relationship between the twelve steps in addiction recovery and the Gospel has helped me integrate my recovery and spiritual journey.

If you or a loved one are dealing with addiction then this book can make a difference. "I did not come for the healthy, but for those who need a doctor." Jesus (Luke 5:31-32)

Due to the nature of this review, the identity of the reviewer is kept anonymous.

Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (Canada)

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newsletter@anglicanprayer.org

Next Newsletter: Advent 2019
Submission deadline: October 28, 2019



Creator of the fruitful earth, you made us stewards of all things. Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness, and steadfast wills to use your bounty well, that the whole human family, today and in generations to come, may with us give thanks for the riches of your creation. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Collect for Thanksgiving, Book of Alternative Services



PRAYER: FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS **Anglican Fellowship of Prayer Annual Appeal**

The AFP is financially supported entirely by your generosity. Your donation is used to cover the cost of newsletter printing and mailing, and helps us provide prayer resources. We are a charitable organization in accordance with the provisions of the Canada Income Tax Act. Please use enclosed envelope.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!