

The Northland



Summer 2009, Volume 65, No. 4

The Archbishop's Letter

Dear Northland Readers,

By the time you read these words, school terms will be ending and students and teachers will be completing work around final exams, graduation exercises will be commencing, and all will be looking forward to the summer break. I am composing this letter in a week when I have attended three university graduations, two in theological colleges and the third in my alma mater from which I graduated in the early 1960's.

As I took part in these three very different university settings, I listened to highly qualified educators and leaders in church and society reflect on the life and challenges of today's world. I noted the academic and other achievements of this year's graduating classes and I was profoundly impressed. While I am deeply grateful for the solid training and breadth of education I received through my university years, I was also made very aware of how much the world has changed since the time when I was a student. The post World War Two world in which I was trained for my life's work was still a very structured society, whose authority structures and the assumptions

on which they operated were only beginning to be questioned and challenged. Students and others who spoke out were subject to reprimand or worse, and the parameters of acceptable criticism were narrowly defined. Not so now, and those of us who were shaped and formed by the standards of a youth long past have had a difficult time adjusting to a new kind of society where broad inclusivity, open transparency, and demonstrable personal integrity have become the

benchmarks of meaningful authority, rather than the sterile institutional power bases of earlier times.

Those who graduated in the forums which I attended this week have had a very different kind of training. Classroom instruction is much more interactive, and student input and engagement is openly sought and encouraged. Formation for life is the aim, and the means to achieving the goal goes far beyond the narrow confines of strict academia to include an expectation, if not outright requirement to become involved in a wide range of other activities in the various university programs and wider community life. Those who addressed graduating classes were honorary graduates who had paid their dues in terms of personal sacrifice in speaking out against injustice and on behalf of the vulnerable and voiceless in the most troubled places on earth. In being honored through the conferring of degrees *honoris causa*, these graduates brought

honour to the universities and inspiration to a new generation of graduates, their families and teachers.

Returning to the Diocese of Moosonee from these academic events, I quickly became immersed in many issues, including the continuing business of the training of leadership for a changing northern church, both lay and ordained. The work of ministry demands a high level of competence, and ministers need to be committed to a lifetime of

learning and expanding knowledge and experience. But today's leaders are not only those who have completed courses of study or read many books. Those who choose to worship and be part of Christian communities expect leaders who personify the faith which they preach and teach. The days of, "Don't do as I do, do as I say" have no positive effect any more - if they ever did. Church members and



Archbishop Caleb Lawrence performed the confirmation of Jeremy Napash and Paulina Lameboy in Waskaganish, QC.

enquirers demand authenticity in those who represent the faith. They are impressed when the teachings are demonstrated in lives lived with confidence which is not arrogant, and humility which is not obsequious. It involves a trust and certainty in the truths of the Gospel, while being conscious that there is much to learn and experience, from within the Christian community and the wider world.

As we continue in our Christian journey as part of this northern diocese, I am deeply grateful for the many teachers around me who demonstrate God's love and who stretch and challenge me to delve ever deeper into the truth which sets us free and builds us up in God's Kingdom. Leadership is authenticated by deep trust, and I am grateful for the trust which we have in one another, even when we differ, or make mistakes. Often it is here that some of the most profound learning takes place, when we have failed and need to seek and receive forgiveness and then rise again. The privilege of being called to leadership in this church in this place is one for which I am ever thankful. I could never exercise this without the quiet, unassuming leadership of so many others who care for me in all kinds of ways.

A number of years ago, at a stewardship weekend in this diocese, the principal speaker shared with us an outline of different styles of leadership. He said that a leader is someone who is:

- (1) **Inspiring** – *who can excite others and raise their vision*
- (2) **Visionary** – *one who can see possibilities*
- (3) **Engaging** – *can connect people to one another*
- (4) **Interpreting** – *can make the difficult seem simple, and work out solutions*
- (5) **Teaching** – *can bring resources together, and help people learn*
- (6) **Enabling** – *an organizer who helps people get things together*
- (7) **Supporting** – *will walk alongside others and be there for them*
- (8) **Monitoring** – *checking to see that everything is in place, messages are delivered, people are involved, holds people accountable*

May God continue to call and equip people for leadership at all levels of life, and give us the grace to accept God's love and goodness, modeled and shared by others around us.

Sincerely yours, in Christ,

Caleb J. Lawrence

Archbishop of Moosonee

Editorial

As the Easter, 1984, edition of *The Northland* went to print inside the front cover was "Not an Editorial". It explained that as of then no editor, successor to the Rev. Tom Corston, had been named. In the summer of 1985 I wrote "This is the sixth issue of *The Northland* which I have assembled I think it was about that point that I realized that I had become the defacto Editor! Now, ninety six issues later I am writing my final editorial and I have been thinking a lot recently about how much has changed.

When I first assembled the magazine, articles were submitted often written in long hand. Each article was then typed and the articles compiled into the order I wished before being sent to a printer in Orillia as "the roughs". There they were retyped and formatted and the magazine returned to me as "the proofs" to be corrected as necessary, returned to the printer and then printed and mailed. This process, if all worked to plan, took about six weeks. Of course there was the time the proofs got lost in the mail! In that issue of Summer 1985 I answered the question as to what I did with *The Northland*. I wrote "I worry a bit, pray a lot and we all eat several meals from trays while the final process is spread all over the dining room table"!

Gradually copy began to be submitted by email, often with photographs, in hard copy following by mail. The articles were edited, printed and a disc sent with the hard copy to a local printer who formatted the magazine and returned it in hard copy for final edit. As the printing was done locally between other jobs which the printer had the time line was again several weeks long. I still worried

and prayed but the dining room table was no longer commandeered.

Now, most articles arrive on my email and those for which I get permission to use from another source are scanned, corrected and added. All the articles are then emailed to the Synod office where they are formatted into the magazine as you see it today. The newsletters are mailed directly from the office and the whole process can be completed in a week. Should I need to check a submission I email the author, when I need some Moose Notes, I email the parishes and response is so much faster that two decades ago.

The way of work has changed but this still remains your magazine, a communication vehicle for The Diocese of Moosonee. I do hope that you will continue to support the people who will be putting together future issues as you have supported me by sharing the life of your parishes, your stories, your successes and your ideas.

I have appreciated meeting many of you when I am in parishes around the Diocese and beyond. The letters which you sent were great to receive. I have been saddened to learn of the deaths of readers over the years but appreciative to hear from new subscribers. This has been a wonderful opportunity. Thank you

Maureen

Handing over the reins



The twins are 18 months old in this picture, taken in December 2008.

As this is the last issue with an Editorial from Maureen Lawrence, with her blessing I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Aimée Mousseau and I am the Communications Officer for the Diocese of Moosonee. I am a mother of 2 year old twins, a girl named Deirdre and a boy named Declan. As a web developer, my husband James has volunteered some of his time, away from his busy daily schedule of tending to two inquisitive toddlers while maintaining his own company to construct the Diocese of Moosonee website, which

should be up and running soon. Some of you may already recognize my name as I have been the Subscription Manager since the start of my time with the Diocese in April of 2008. I say it with a grin; yes it is me who sends those pesky subscription renewal reminders. I am glad to say that they do work.

I have been assisting Maureen with the arrangement and publishing of the newsletter, since the printing of *The Northland* was transferred to the Synod Office in the summer of 2008. With some assistance and guidance from Synod Staff, I will be assuming full responsibility for the in-house publication of *The Northland*. Along with the timeless columns, such as Moose Notes, I have many new exiting ideas for future editions. I would like to see the newsletter gain a youthful spin. That being said, one possible idea is to include a column with interesting and article related website links.

If you have any other ideas for future editions, as well as articles or photographs you believe may be of interest to other readers, please assist me by forwarding all information by post to *The Northland*, PO Box 841, Schumacher, ON, P0N 1G0 or by email to northland@domaa.ca.

I would like to thank those of you who have submitted articles for this and previous editions and hope that you will continue to do so. I look forward to working with you. Also, I would like to thank Maureen for her guidance as I take on this challenge.

Aimée Mousseau

Easter with the Archbishop

Many Bishops use the major festival of Easter as an opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist in the cathedral parish of their Diocese. In the Diocese of Moosonee where the pattern of ministry is ever evolving Archbishop Caleb took the opportunity to celebrate the Easter Service in two locations where there is not, at the moment, a resident priest.

On Easter Saturday we left home just after noon to drive to Val d'Or for a 7:00 pm service of Baptism and Eucharist. We had accepted the invitation of the grandparents of the baby to be baptized to join them for supper prior to the service so planned to arrive around 4 o'clock. Just as we were approaching South Porcupine a police cruiser flew past us. We

surmised as to where he might be headed. As we left Porcupine a fire truck came roaring up behind causing us to pull over to let him past, leaving us wondering if there was a fire ahead. However we soon came to a halt, about the fifteenth car in a line up at a horrific accident. As we were wondering what exactly was going on up ahead two more cruisers and the jaws- of- life vehicle drove past. At that point a truck up ahead did a U turn and as he drove back towards Timmins stopped and said that the accident was serious and that it looked as if the road would be closed.

That was enough for Caleb. He turned the car and we drove back to Timmins passing our home which we had left almost an hour prior, drove highway 655 to highway 11 and on to Matheson, Noranda and finally Val D'Or where we arrived at the hotel at 6:00pm. Fortunately we were able to express our regrets at not being able to get there in time for supper (the advantages of cell phones). We later learned that the accident was fatal and the highway was closed for over four hours.

The service at Golden Valley Church started on time and Amber Tamara Pash-Herodier was baptized in Cree and English in an enthusiastic congregation where she was surrounded by her extended family including great grandparents. The congregation joyfully celebrated Easter with the service of Eucharist.

Next morning we had an early start to drive the approximately 300 kms to the community of Waswanipi. It was a beautiful day with the sun shining off the snow and flocks of snow buntings swooping over the road. We did also see seven separate partridge sitting looking rather silly beside the road. We arrived in time to drive around the community and admire the new school, Vocational College, town houses and duplexes and then to St Barnabas' Church where the Lay Readers were preparing the service. It took some time to organize what hymns would be sung and who would read the scriptures but the congregation waited patiently. After the joyful Easter Eucharist many of the congregation walked to the next building, the almost completed new Seniors Dwelling where the Archbishop blessed the building. We then returned to the church to find that tables had been set up at the back and a great potluck dinner was prepared including moose stew and walleye!

After a noisy laughter filled meal and clean up, a sizeable group made their way to the old St Barnabas Church where the Archbishop deconsecrated the building thus allowing it to be used for secular purposes by the Band. We left from there with much hand shaking and good wishes and arrived home just before 9:00pm, rather tired having driven 1350kms but participated in very special Easter celebrations.



Baptism of baby Amber Tamara Pash-Herodier, performed by Archbishop Caleb Lawrence at Golden Valley Church in Val d'Or. Also pictured are Amber's parents Georgie Herodier and Tanya Pash, grand mother, great grand mother and grand father Pash.

Anglican Council of Indigenous people

By Caroline Chum

**October 29 - November 1, 2008
Toronto, Ontario**

I actually arrived in Toronto on Saturday, October 25th and attended a meeting with the Anglican Communion Working Group. We met Sunday, October 26 - Monday, October 27 and prepared a response to the survey gathered from the Bishops at Lambeth on the St. Andrew's Draft of the Anglican Communion. This document would be presented to the Council of General Synod at their next scheduled meeting in November.

On Wednesday evening, October 29, the ACIP meeting commenced. After picking up more reading material to prepare us for the meeting we spent the

rest of the evening with Bishop Mark MacDonald, who gave us his reports. We also spent time preparing for the presentation to the House of Bishops in Niagara Falls the next day. Thursday morning after Gospel Based Discipleship worship we boarded the bus for Niagara Falls. Our presentation was scheduled for 11 a.m. with the House of Bishops. Bishop Mark started by presenting a short history on the development of ACIP and the Covenant, and the consultations happening in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and Northern Ontario in relation to Area Ministries and self-determination for the Indigenous Peoples in these areas. Freda Lepine gave her report on the meetings that have happened with regards to Manitoba and Lydia Mamakwa presented on what has happened to date in Northern Ontario. ACIP members sat in the back of the room, and it was so interesting to see the reactions of the different bishops. The movement of the "holy spirit" was so powerful when the Primate, Fred Hiltz, asked the House of Bishops to stand and face us and asked them to join him as he prayed for ACIP and blessed us. We then had lunch with the Bishops. We received a lot of compliments, encouragement from many of the bishops present who were very supportive of the "vision" of the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples. I felt very honoured and privileged to be a part of this committee and their work.

After lunch we spent almost one hour sightseeing down by the falls. It was very exciting and moving for me, as I was last at the falls with my late husband, George, and our late friend, Dr. Kempton, when my son and daughter were pre-teens. That evening back in Toronto, we reviewed the agenda. There were updates on the Anglican Indigenous Network, Indigenous Theological Training Institute, Urban Ministry, and Ministry Summit. The next day there was a presentation on the Sexual Harassment Policy by Sandra Kitson from Church House, followed by a presentation on Anti-Racism Training with Esther Wesley and Maylaine Maybee. We had reports on Youth Council, National Indigenous Anglican Bishop and the Ministry Survey. That evening, we were joined by Stanley Sainawap, from KI First Nation, Big Trout Lake. He was there for a presentation on the Area Ministry along with Lydia. They then gave us a copy of the Declaration of Anishinabe (Self-Determining) Ministry that their group had prepared and presented to Bishop David Ashdown. Freda Lepine and Larry Beardy then followed with their presentation on the consultations that have happened so far in Manitoba

and Saskatchewan. More indigenous communities/parishes in Saskatchewan are interested and wish to be included in the discussions. There are even those in urban centres who do not wish to be left out. Willard Martin, representative from Caledonia in B.C. wants more information and advises that his people are ready to journey with Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

On Saturday, we had a presentation from the Governance Working Group, David Philip Jones (Chair), Randall Fairey and Harry Huskins. They had presented the plan the day before to the House of Bishops. They advised that they were very receptive. The name of the presentation is The Anglican Church of Canada National Indigenous Ministry. They did a historical summary from 1967 - Beyond Traplines to the Covenant 1994. The goals of the National Indigenous Governance were to move indigenous congregations toward self-sufficiency, work to appropriately change the canons and constitution of the Anglican Church of Canada to recognize and permit Indigenous self-determination within the Church. It involves Jurisdiction, Authority, Partnership, Flexible Governance Concepts and Flexible Financial Stewardship. They presented a model of possible components of a new Province with their own Metropolitan. Of course, the terminology will probably need to change. The presentation was well received by the Council. In fact, after lunch the Council made a motion to endorse the presentation to the Council of General Synod. Archbishop Terry Findlay reported on his work and what is happening with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He answered questions from the Council.

After lunch, Donna Bomberry had correspondence that had to be dealt with. One was the need for a representative from ACIP to sit on the planning committee for General Synod. After much discussion, a motion was made to have Archdeacon Tom Corston, ACIP member from the Diocese of Algoma, to sit on this committee. The second item was the need to have people participate in the planning of worship for General Synod. It was decided that Bishop Sue Moxley would be asked if she would contact the Roman Catholic Church to see if their indigenous parishes would nominate someone to sit on this committee. There are no indigenous Anglicans in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI and it was thought that we needed their perspective/flavour. The rest of the time was spent on the budget. The church is in deficit and all

committees have been asked to cut their budgets. It was agreed that we would continue to have our two meetings a year and Donna would make the 5% cut elsewhere. All present felt that with all that is happening with Indigenous Ministry that meetings could not be cut. We need the face to face dialogue. It was decided that our next meeting will be held in Regina in March.

Anglican Council of Indigenous People Meeting on March 27 - 29, 2009

The Council had a special meeting just to plan for the Sacred Circle, The Mighty Wind of the Spirit...the New Beginnings.

The first evening we met after dinner, for some social time and sharing. The question asked was, "What are your expectations for Sacred Circle?" My response was the hope that there will be some healing and reconciliation with our friends from St. Philips, Chisasibi, who have cut off most communications with us. It would be so good to see them and to talk to them again. The other sharing that I did was to give the Council the report from our Great Chapter Meeting in February 2009, where the decision was made by the James Bay Deanery to keep the Diocese of Moosonee intact as it is.

The Anglican Indigenous Sacred Circle will be held at the CAW Retreat, Port Elgin, Ontario on August 9 to 15, 2009. Sunday, August 9th, is a travel day, with hopefully everyone arriving in time for Dinner. Saturday, August 15, 2009, will be the travel day home. The planning group used Gospel Based Discipleship, morning, noon and night, specifically the Gospel Readings for the Sacred Circle dates. This gave the group the opportunity to study the word and worship together. Bishop Mark played the guitar and we sang along. ACIP will be providing full travel expense coverage for 1 Clergy, 1 Church Elder and 1 Young Adult (ages 19 - 30) to attend and participate in our Sacred Circle...no more than 3 people from each community may attend. Together we will worship and sing using Gospel Based Discipleship daily, meet daily in small talking circles, hear about new developments in our ministry, hear from new area missions as they are being implemented, hear about Church governance ideas for General Synod in 2010, and set directions for the Church and for the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, and lots of singing together at the evening Gospel Jamborees.

Bishops of the Council of the North are invited; Archbishop Terry Findlay will also be attending. John Wright of the Anglican Foundation wishes to volunteer, and he will be invited to set up a display, and possibly tend the Sacred Fire. The First Nation Grand Chief of the area will be invited. The First Nations of the Region, Huron, will be invited to participate. There is no Anglican presence in the Huron area. Therefore, the United Church will be invited. Barbara Shoomski volunteers to assist in daily worship. The group assigned tasks, and some volunteered for the work. People are needed to provide orientation, lead talking circles, plan the Gospel Jamborees, Emcee, etc. Work was found for everyone on the committee. Tom Corston will be the daily reporter for the week. We celebrated the Holy Eucharist before our final dinner together on Saturday evening. Arthur Anderson, our Elder, resigned from the Council. His wisdom and knowledge will be greatly missed by all. Once again, it was a very good meeting and I felt spiritually renewed.

"A Joyous Celebration for the Parishes of Moosonee and Moose Factory"

*By the Reverend Captain Rodney
Brant Francis, Regional Dean of James Bay*

Everything went wonderfully well as the parishes of



*The Rev. Nirmal Mendis
Photo taken by Donald Faries*

Moosonee and Moose Factory came together on the evening of May 27th to celebrate the official beginning on new ministry for their parishes and the Rev. Nirmal Mendis.

Even the weather cooperated as we made the journey across the river from Moosonee on a beautifully warm spring afternoon.

St. Thomas' Chapel was looking lovely with the Communion Table decked out in a beautifully beaded white leather frontal, all its fine linens and

shiny silver. The elements for presentation during the service were all laid out at the back of the church and it was quite evident that the parishes were excited about this new chapter in their life and ministry. Shortly after 7:00p.m. the service began with the singing of the processional hymn and from there on everything moved as smoothly as clockwork. There were presenters and participants from both congregations and everyone fulfilled their roles exceptionally well. The Reverend Captain Rodney BrantFrancis lead the service and preached the sermon, Mrs. Bertha Faires chose the hymns and along with Mr. Thomas Jolly provided the musical accompaniment, The Reverend Captain Lisa BrantFrancis along with Mrs. Ronnie Wesley assisted in the administration of the Holy Eucharist and St. Thomas' Choir did a wonderful job in leading the singing. Lots of pictures were taken during the celebration and there was even time to pose for some more perfect shots after the service ended. In fine Anglican fashion following the singing of the final hymn and picture taking everyone adjourned to the basement for fellowship and a lovely assortment of refreshments. We laughed and visited until we were afraid that we would miss the last water taxi of the night back to Moosonee.

As we said our good-byes and made our way to the dock everyone commented on how wonderful the service had been and how it was filled with much joy. All in all, it was a great kick-off to this new partnership that Moosonee and Moose Factory have begun. I'm sure that not every moment of this venture will be filled with much joy; but I am sure that it will be a wonderful learning experience for all involved and I pray that it strengthens the work and witness of these two vibrant congregations.

Please continue to pray for Church of The Apostles, Moosonee and St. Thomas', Moose Factory as they move forward in building God's Kingdom in their respective communities. May the Lord grant them blessing and success in all that they do.

Community Outreach

By the Reverend Margaret M. Dempster

With the support and encouragement of the parishioners of St. John's - Matheson and St. Mark's - Iroquois Falls, I have been able to provide worship services and pastoral care to the inmates at

Monteith Correctional Facility for the past several years.

This is a rewarding ministry. Most of my duties have focused on the women who are incarcerated at the facility. They are a long way from home, and many have linguistic and cultural difficulties.

One incident that comes to mind was a First Nation's woman who did not speak English. Her mother died, and another inmate had to relay the message to her in Cree. She was not able to attend her mother's funeral. At the time, my mother had also passed away. I led a remembrance service for both of our mothers. Even though the woman could not speak English, it was a service of the heart. Inmates, several staff members of the facility, and I shed tears, and lined up to embrace her.

I provide worship services two or three times a month at Monteith Correctional Facility. Occasionally, I am asked to pastorally care for someone who is on a suicide watch, or when there as been a death in the family, or if someone in the community has requested me to visit an inmate.

Being far from my own family, I spend Christmas Day and Easter with these women. At times, I feel they attend worship for the coffee (institutional coffee is supposed to be horrible), and sometimes, I feel they attend worship just to get out of their units. However, most times I feel that they are spiritually impacted by our times together.

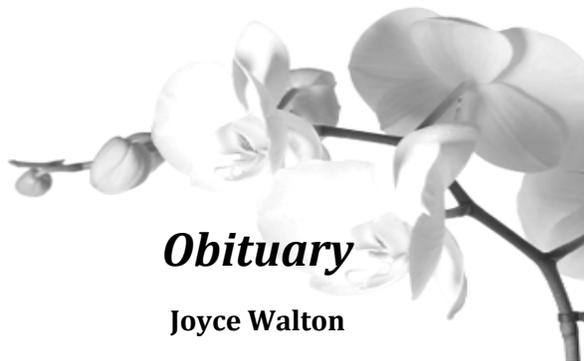
To my complete surprise, and I must admit bewilderment, on April 23rd I was awarded the 2009 Community Service Award at a Volunteer Recognition Banquet in Timmins, put on by the Monteith Correctional Facility. The award rightly belongs to my parishioners for supporting me in this vital ministry.



The Rev. Margaret Dempster receiving the award from Bob Cook, Superintendent of Monteith Correctional Facility.

The two people in uniform are unidentified.

- photo taken by Marlène Miron



Obituary

Joyce Walton

Joyce Walton, a life long member of St. Luke's Parish in Hornepayne, died early on 27th March, 2009. During the years Joyce had served as President, Secretary and Treasurer of the ACW; Synod Delegate; Rector's Warden; Lay Reader and lay Pastoral Visitor in the Hornepayne Hospital. Following cremation and a memorial service celebrating her life, interment took place beside her husband Dennis in the columbarium in Hornepayne Cemetery.

In a letter to her rector the Archbishop noted that her death is a loss not only to her family, St. Luke's Parish and the Hornepayne community, but to the whole diocese. "I am grateful to God for her life, her steadfast faith, her ministry and her love shared so openly with others. I am particularly grateful for her ministry to children and young people, and to those who were shut-ins at home or institutionalized. May she rest in peace and rise in glory, in the nearer presence of the Christ whom she served so faithfully within his Body, the Church."

MOOSE NOTES

ST. CHAD'S CHURCH, SCHUMACHER

The congregation of St Chad's congratulates our Rector's warden, Don Critchley, on his election as District K commander of the Royal Canadian Legion. At his election Don said "I want to expand my experience and get to know the different branches and zones and help out as much as possible. We look after young people in Cadets and people in Track and Field and of course we still put a lot of emphasis on helping the veterans who are still with us. Serving the community is why we exist and we will continue to support the hospital and homes for the elderly." Best wishes Don on this interesting new challenge.

St. Luke's Church, Hornepayne,

By the Rev. Hal Graham

Regional Dean Hal Graham recently wrote to the Hornepayne parish: "I wanted to congratulate you on selecting and supporting people for further study in leading worship and for your readiness, as a church, to take on new forms of ministry.

We looked back at the past, just a little, during our Great Chapter meeting and that's okay sometimes. Doug spoke on the Friday evening about "Baptism by Fire". He was thrown into situations that were not at all like his seminary preparation and he had to learn by doing. I suspect that some parishioners figure that a priest has been trained for every situation and that lay people simply don't know all these answers. For myself, I did find my "formation" while studying theology to be very helpful BUT I still frequently feel like a beginner.

You have people with varied experience and much training at St. Luke's. These are qualities that you can value and share as you develop new skills of ministry. Your ministry at St. Luke's will be unique, based on the people and characteristics present in your church community. Don't underestimate what you already have and don't be afraid to put your abilities into practice. On the other hand, I hope that you continue to grow. None of us ever completely arrives and after we become "experts" it is good to look around and see some area where we can begin anew."

Pictured below are the sisters Paige and Hailey Weller and Craig Neacappo at their Confirmation, performed by Archbishop Lawrence at St. Peter's on-the-Rock in Kirkland Lake.



St. James Memorial Church, Geraldton

By the Rev. Hal Graham

A Significant Day for All Canadians

On June 11th, 2008 Prime Minister Harper made an historic apology in the House of Commons. This apology was about the abuse of aboriginal students at residential schools. It pertained not only to individuals but to harmful relations with a national people; the first people of the land. The official policy of the government of Canada, over many generations, had been to assimilate aboriginal people. There was a great imbalance of power so that dignity and culture were ignored and worse; criminals within the government-sponsored and church-run school system were not held accountable.

Part of the prime minister's statement reads: "**The government of Canada sincerely apologizes and asks forgiveness of the aboriginal peoples of this country for failing them so profoundly.**" **"We are sorry."**

St. James' Memorial Church in Geraldton Ontario would like to recognize the significance for all Canadians of this apology. On the first anniversary, June 11, 2009, the church bells will be rung at 3 p.m. An open invitation is extended to **all** members of the community to gather at 2:30 PM for a ceremony outdoors (weather permitting) which will involve aboriginal participation. After the bell ringing people will be invited downstairs to the church hall for a light meal including soup and bannock.

St. Matthew's/St. Paul's Church, Hearst

By the Rev Hal Graham

A retirement dinner was held on May 1st at St. Matthew's / St. Paul's Church in Hearst for the Rev. Douglas Richardson along with his wife Christine. Doug appreciates the culinary art and this pot-luck did justice to that sensibility in quality, variety, and quantity.

Doug has completed almost 30 years of ordained ministry of which the last 13 have been in the parish of Hearst and Hornepayne with visits to Constance Lake. Doug was also Regional Dean of Kenogami

Deanery for much of that time. On those Sundays when Doug would be leading worship in Hornepayne Christine would lead a service of Morning Prayer in Hearst. Both Doug and Christine exercised a ministry of healing through prayer. It was typical of Christine to pick up her guitar at the retirement dinner and lead us in favorite hymns and choruses for that is another part of the healing and spiritual growth offered in their ministry.

Forty-five or more church members and friends listened as Archbishop Caleb Lawrence spoke about Doug's years of service and the couple's combined ministry to the community. The Archbishop joked that a recent commentary suggested seven years was an ideal length of time for a priest in a parish but then quickly added that the same book anticipated fourteen years for a bishop! (The archbishop is coming up to thirty!) Archbishop Lawrence also presented Doug, an avid fisherman, with a new fishing rod on behalf of the diocese.



Susan Jansson, rector's warden, acted as master of ceremonies and presented Doug and Christine with a beautiful solid alder-wood chest, lined with cedar, on behalf of St. Matthew's / St. Paul's. A local artisan had used wood-burning to replicate the church building on the surface of the chest. Inside the chest was a throw for a sofa and two complete towel sets made of bamboo. It was a fun and light hearted evening so Christine modeled the wrap around towel. Doug spoke a word to us from deep in his heart as he said that the church was much different now than it had been thirty years ago. He added that the church will be much different again, thirty years in the future, but it will still be the church and it will still be there if we step out in faith.

Members rose and spoke to Doug and Christine and to the assembled group about fond memories and rich experiences over the past thirteen years. Christine's mother, Katinka was in attendance as were The Rev. Andy Jones from Hornepayne, Father Jean Marc Pelletier, The Rev. Hal Graham and other associates who brought best wishes for the occasion.

Thanks to St. Matthew's / St. Paul's members for organizing this dinner and we send our love and prayers along with Doug and Christine as they settle in Terrace Bay.



The Rev. Doug Richardson and his wife Christine during his retirement celebration.

St. John the Evangelist, Mistissini

By the Rev. Iris Montague

A long time dream has been realized. We now have an elevator and are able to take our elders and those with limited mobility downstairs to the parish hall so that we can all enjoy fellowship together. Through the generosity of parish members, we were able to finance the whole thing ourselves. While the elevator was still in the planning stages, one of our faithful lay readers began having problems and was in a wheelchair before the final installation. It is



Open door leading to the new elevator.

truly a blessing to have this elevator.

While doing the construction work for the elevator, we were able to enlarge the Sunday School room and create a better storage room. The Sunday School has been thriving this past year with anywhere from 20 to 45 children on any given Sunday. As well as the dedicated teachers, there are always others willing to help out. It is especially gratifying to find our teen members happy to help. It really sets the tone for worship when the young ones come skipping in saying things like, "Jesus' house, Jesus' house" and "Yeah, Sunday School."

Our Lenten study this year was focused on the prayer book. We then had a service where each part was explained. People found it quite helpful to understand why certain things are done.

Holy Trinity Church, Cochrane

by Edith Belair

In 1908, one hundred years ago, a young priest after hearing about a railway survey crew working to the south, took off on snow shoes from Moose Factory and travelled south to bring the word of God to the workers at Lake Commando. That priest was our own Bishop Robert Renison. He arrived in Cochrane and on the shores of Lake Commando celebrated the first Christian service to all who came.

Now in 2009, the parishioners of Holy Trinity Archbishop Anderson Memorial Church are celebrating one hundred years of Anglican Ministry. To honour this occasion we held a history night and pot luck supper where many traditional dishes were served. During the meal many people shared stories of their family's role in this parish. All details were recorded on a Time Line Chart. As you look along the years you can see when families arrived and the births, baptisms, confirmations, weddings and burials of family members took place. We all had a wonderful time and learned many interesting things about the pioneer families.

On June 7th, which was Trinity Sunday, we had a Thanksgiving Eucharist Service commemorating Holy Trinity's one hundred years of Anglican Ministry in Cochrane and surrounding area. During the service Jack Mann gave a short account of St. Alban's Anglican Church in Brower. There were many pioneer families living in that area and when the church was closed the descendants of those who first came to Brower now worship at Holy Trinity.

After the service we all continued our celebration by sharing lunch together. After lunch we were presented with a beautifully decorated cake to honour the past one hundred years. We sang Happy Birthday and the children were able to blow out the candles. What an end to a beautiful day!

Thoughts from the Dean of Edmonton

by the Very Reverend Lee Bezanson
Dean and Rector, All Saints' Cathedral
Diocese of Edmonton

Last October, as the newly minted Dean of the Diocese of Edmonton, I attended our Diocesan Synod and was witness to an extremely moving presentation by Fiona Brownlee, representing the Council of the North. She gave an eloquent testimony about the challenges and hardships of being the Church in a northern milieu. She detailed issues concerning the wide diversity in standards of living that our brother and sister clergy faced on a daily basis. To say the least it was a presentation that touched all of us, and served to open the eyes of many.

From that presentation it became obvious that the Diocese of Edmonton was going to try and do its part to support the efforts of ministry in the north both by prayer and by tangible forms of support. The question became which

Council of the North Diocese? All were deserving but for the present only one could be chosen. In a conversation with Bishop Jane, I happened to mention that I thought the Diocese of Moosonee might be a good choice. My reasoning was not based on an inexhaustible supply of facts and figures about that part of the world. In fact, I had never been there. No, my reasoning was much more personal and stemmed from a chance encounter some twenty-eight years earlier, while at seminary in Montreal, with an Anglican Bishop who was making the round of seminaries speaking to the students. His name

was Caleb Lawrence and he left a lasting impression on my mind as exemplifying what I believed and hoped that all priests and Bishops might be. He spoke with passion and conviction, and carried himself in a manner that radiated both physical strength touched with gentle humility. I never forgot that meeting.

In any event, it was decided that the Diocese of Edmonton would explore ways of developing a partnership with our brothers and sisters in Moosonee. I was tasked to be the Edmonton liaison and as such entered into discussion with the Very Rev. Sharon Murdoch, rector of St. Matthew's Cathedral in Timmins, Ontario and the Dean of Moosonee. It soon became apparent that there truly is no substitute for actually visiting the place that you hope to get to know better. From my previous ministry as a military chaplain, the time honoured saying that "Time spent in Recce is seldom wasted" never seemed more true. Thus, I flew from Edmonton to Timmins via Toronto and began my Moosonee adventure.



Left to right: Pat Dorland, CJ Adams, Jean Morin, Anne Dyas & Edith Belair, The Very Rev. Lee Bezanson & Mary Ann Parsley

~ picture taken by Richard Moore

Arriving at the Timmins airport I was met by Dean Sharon who was graciously welcoming. Sharon was a source of wisdom and insight and had spent a great deal of energy organizing an itinerary that was guaranteed not to waste a minute of time. Fresh from the airport she conducted me to the beautiful cathedral church of St. Matthew where I met with a selection of the diocese's ACW who were having their Annual General Meeting. This afforded me the wonderful opportunity of talking with a representative

body of people whose parishes I wouldn't have been able to visit. Without exception, the ladies were warm and welcoming and very open in sharing some of the respective needs of their parishes. Following that I met with Archbishop Lawrence and his staff and engaged in an extremely helpful dialogue. Our conversation helped me understand the reality that this diocese is over 350,000 square miles of rugged country and as a result, communication between parishes can be

problematic. There are certain ways that communications can be improved through the utilization of various audio-visual techniques. But things like internet capabilities, teleconferencing and the like are very expensive.

On Thursday morning I received my first lesson in how large Moosonee really is by taking a two hour bus ride to Cochrane in order to catch the train, aptly named the Polar Bear Express, to Moosonee. This train is a veritable lifeline to the northern regions of the Diocese and was absolutely filled with people returning to their homes. It was very interesting to note the number of people who had obviously been doing their shopping in Cochrane and who now had to ship their foodstuff and other items home. This brought to mind Fiona Brownlee's comments about how expensive basic food is in the North and how people have to go to extreme measures simply to survive. After almost six hours of train travel I arrived at Moosonee on the western shore of James Bay. From there I was scheduled to travel to Moose Factory in order to link up with the parish priest, Father Nirmal Mendis. This necessitated me taking an "ice taxi" across the frozen Moose River. An ice taxi is simply any vehicle with both clearance and excellent suspension that can negotiate the frozen undulations. It was like being on a roller coaster. What was somewhat disconcerting was the fact that the spring melt had just started and there were definite signs of melting all precariously close to the taxi I was in. That aside I successfully made the journey to Moose Factory and had a wonderful meeting with Father Nirmal and a couple of devoted members of St Thomas' parish, Marion Maybee and Bobby Chilton. We spent almost two hours together talking about the parish, its people and its colourful history as one of the oldest Anglican churches in Canada. One of the things that was quite important to these people was their desire to develop a regular system of ongoing mutual support for both Moosonee's youth and the parish leaders with their opposite numbers in Edmonton. It was important for them that as people of Christ that we maintain regular communications between dioceses despite the distances that separate us. In other words, friendship and fellowship is the greatest gift that we could send and receive.

As I was walking about the Moose Factory community, looking at the old St. Thomas' Church, with its historic stained glass windows, and the

building which used to be the headquarters of chief factors of the Hudson Bay Company I felt a connection to history. I also had the sobering realization by looking at a map in a convenience store, that though I felt I had travelled a long way and had spent hours in travel time, that in reality I had only covered a small portion of the Diocese and that Anglicans resided in places like Eastmain, Waskaganish, Wemindji, Kashechewan all many hours and miles from where I stood. Archbishop Caleb's words about the challenges of parishes communicating with each other really struck home with clarity.

I departed Moose Factory and Moosonee by train for the journey south and arrived in Cochrane where the next morning I was privileged to meet with the select Vestry of Holy Trinity, Cochrane. The rector, the Rev. CJ Adams and vestry members hosted me to a breakfast in the parish hall. Over muffins, cheese, juice and coffee we spent two hours discussing needs. This community covered a variety of subjects, a need to develop an exchange of electronic resources in areas of Lay Reader training, Christian education, Stewardship, and Youth related ministries. They, like Moose Factory, also saw the value of building concrete bridges between our two peoples so that we could meet, worship and celebrate together. Developing a system of regular communication and support was deemed as essential.

My last moments in Moosonee were spent in worship at St Matthew's Cathedral, Timmins, where I was honoured to preach at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services. I left Moosonee on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, filled with memories of a wonderful people, and a great Diocese.

In retrospect I came home from Moosonee laden with many ideas about how we, in Edmonton, might be able to lend a tangible shoulder of support to our brother and sister Anglicans in Moosonee. These ideas ranging from simple to complex have been briefed to our Executive council and I am aware that several of our parishes are actively interested in pursuing a linking or partnering with Moosonee parishes. As the Edmonton diocese contact person I am available to speak to any parish about Moosonee and to help suggest how they may develop a support plan to an individual parish. I can be contacted either through email at: cathedraldean@telus.net or by calling the cathedral office at 780-428-6323.

In Sunday school, they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Tommy seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs. Later in the week, his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and said, "Tommy, what is the matter?" Little Tommy responded, "I have a pain in my side, I think I'm going to have a wife"

Sermon preached at the Ordination of Deirdre Roach to the Diaconate

By the Rev. Canon Donald M. Landon

It is a great joy to be here at Deidre's ordination. Thank you Deidre for asking me to give the sermon and thank you, Your grace, for endorsing the invitation.

Where did I meet Deidre and Robert? It was in west Toronto at the Church of the Advent, a church known for its warm welcoming fellowship and also for its ethnic diversity.

When I was young the Anglican sermon typically made three points. I am following that tradition tonight and I will limit myself to three topics. So, if you are looking for a much longer sermon, you are going to be disappointed.

Here are the three themes:

Journeying with Christ

Ministering for Christ

Empowering by Christ

Journeying with Christ

Christians see life as a journey on which the living Christ is our spiritual companion and guide. Each person's journey is unique. Deidre, the path you have followed brought you from your early life in New Liskeard....to teacher's college in North Bay.....and on to a teaching career in Timmins that spanned 34 years.

Your journey led you into marriage and motherhood and into active membership in the Anglican Church

Eventually you were guided into training for ministry at Trinity College....into hospital chaplaincy....and then to what's happening tonight, your ordination as a deacon.

Hearing your story may stir the rest of us to reflect on our own journeys. Are you and I conscious of walking, day by day, with the Lord?

Sometimes the going is tough; sometimes the way ahead is scary; but walking with Christ is always an adventure, and His sustaining presence makes all the difference.

The hymn "O God of Bethel" has these lines:

"Through each perplexing path of life our wandering footsteps guide" (Common Praise # 555)

Christ's guidance always makes our journey fulfilling.

Ministering for Christ:

On to the second topic: ministering -serving others for Christ.

This theme runs through tonight's readings:

Isaiah, at worship in the temple, hears God's call to serve, and answers "Yes". (Isaiah 6:1-8)

St. Paul, in the second reading, challenges us to offer ourselves in Christ's service. (Romans 12:1-13)

Jesus, in tonight's Gospel, turns upside down the usual idea of greatness. (Mark 10:35-45)

The truly great are not the "high and mighty". The truly great are those who give of themselves in humbly serving others. Jesus Himself set the example, living among us "as One who serves",,

(Luke 22:27) and He calls every person to do the same.

A deacon, in her or his servant-ministry, is to be a living sign of Christ-like service, in the Church and in the wider community -- a role-model -- a reminder of the servanthood to which everyone is summoned.

Deidre's servant-ministry as a deacon is to be focused in giving pastoral care in the Timmins and District Hospital. Could any ministry be more demanding? reaching out with healing compassion to people of all sorts and all conditions.

What about the rest of us?

Our caring for others can be expressed in a multitude of ways. It might be delivering meals-on-wheels to shut-ins....or being a Big Brother to a fatherless boy....or taking part in a march for justice where justice is blatantly missing. It might be as simple as phoning someone who is lonely....or squeezing the hand of someone who is sad.

Do you know the quotation that begins, "I shall pass through this world but once"?

Here it is:

"I shall pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do, let me do it now; let me not defer it or neglect it. For I shall not pass this way again."

Etienne de Grellet

Empowering by Christ

In North Bay I had a colleague, Canon Cleator, who at this point in a sermon would often ask, "Are you still with me?"

Deirdre, in your ministry there will be challenging times -- times when you'll be thinking, "How can I handle this?" "How can I overcome that?" The Bible promises that, when we ask, we'll be given the help we need. St. Paul records the risen Christ assuring him, "My Grace is all you need". (2 Cor. 12:9)

In another letter Paul makes this ringing affirmation: "I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me." (Phil. 4:13)

Jesus Himself says, "Ask, and you will receive." (Matthew 7:7)

For physical power-sources, we debate the merits of hydro-electric and nuclear, wind and solar.

But spiritually we have a power-source that is limitless and utterly reliable- the risen Christ's helping power, His Holy Spirit.

If you want words that ask for the Spirit's help, you can pray a well-used hymn:

"Breathe on me breath of God, Fill me with life anew. That I may love what thou dost love and do what thou wouldst do." (Common Praise #649)

RECAP

Are you ready for a recap?

In my class on preaching at Trinity College, we were told that one effective way to structure a sermon goes like this:

First, indicate what you're going to say, then say it and, finally, remind your hearers of what you've said

The first two I've done. Now is the time to sum up my points.

First, JOURNEYING

Like Deirdre, do we see life as a journey? Do we welcome Christ as our daily Companion who'll guide us onto paths that are good and fulfilling?

Second, MINISTERING

Like Deirdre, are we answering Christ's call to servanthood? Are we accepting the opportunities that keep coming to us to bring to others Christ's caring love?

Third, EMPOWERING

Like Deirdre, do we see the living Christ as our inexhaustible power-source? Do we ask His Spirit to help us in Christian living?



“A Community Celebration for the Parish of Wemindji”

By The Reverend Captains
Rodney and Lisa BrantFrancis

The annual visit of our Archbishop is always a cause for excitement and celebration in the community. This year was no exception as plans were put in place for the celebration of confirmation as well as the 35th ordination anniversary of The Reverend Samuel Hughboy and our beloved Archbishop's upcoming retirement. Service bulletins were prepared, the church cleaned and made ready and all the linens, flowers and decorations put in place to make this a special and memorable occasion. Sunday June 14th dawned as a beautifully warm day and some were heard to comment that we could hold the service outside on this day as we used to do in years gone by. However, because that church looked so nice all decked out in red and white and we have all those comfortable pews already in place we decided to hold the service inside. At 11:15a.m. Cheryl Danyluk lead the procession into the church for the start of the service, everyone was welcomed in both Cree and English by Archbishop Lawrence and we began the singing of the first hymn –Walton #56 “O ches-pu-wa-tik Chee-sus – Stand up, stand up, for Jesus”.

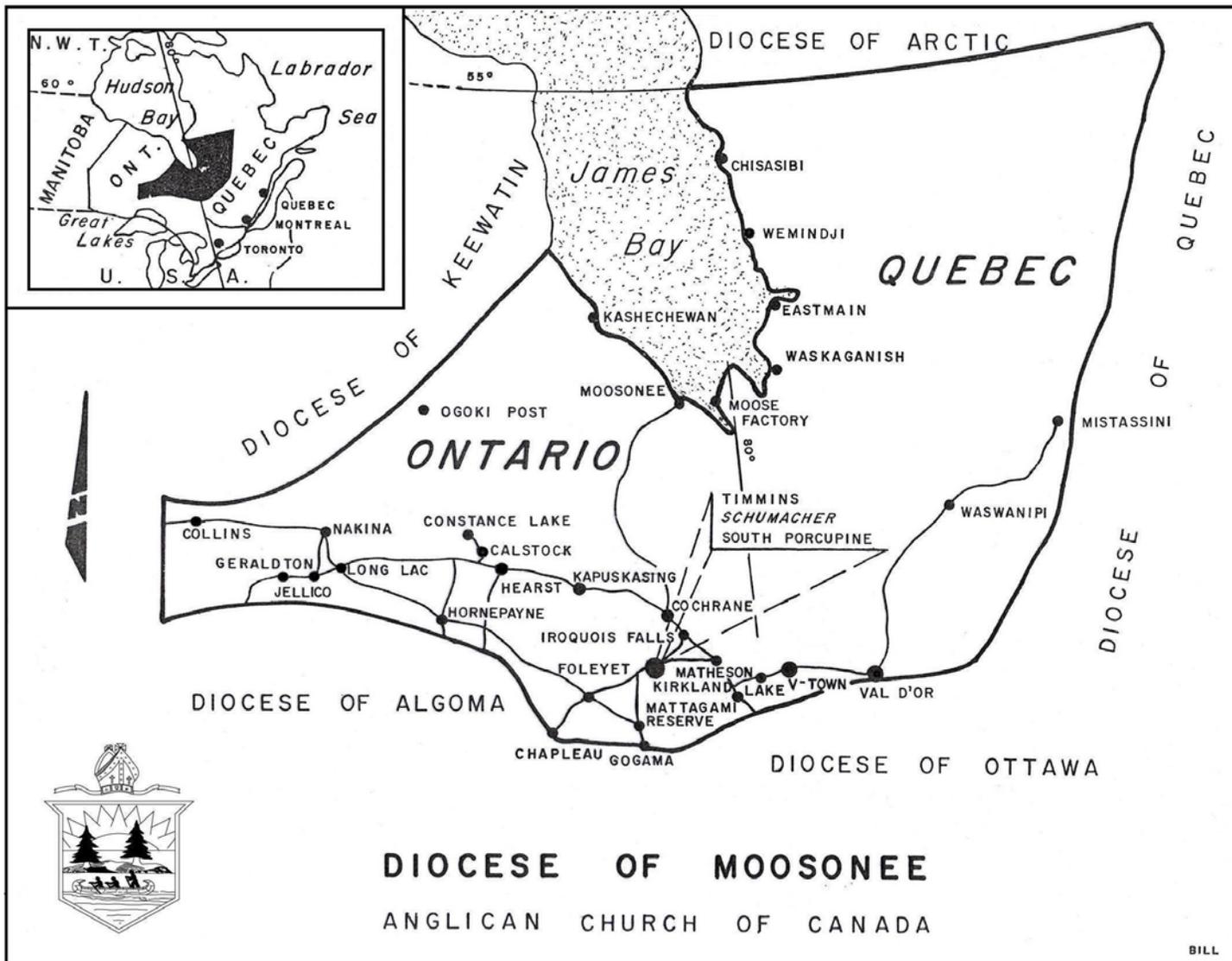
As we proceeded to the proclamation of the word The Very Reverend John vanNostrand Wright, Executive Director of the Anglican Foundation, read the Old Testament lesson, Layreader Raymond Atsynia shared with us the New Testament lesson in Cree from the David Masty New Testament translation and then Layreader Marion Maybee read the gospel reading upon which the Archbishop based his sermon for that day. Archbishop Lawrence explained how he understood the parables of the growing seed and the mustard seed because of his experience of growing up on a farm. He likened his ministry as Archbishop to that of being one who sows the seeds of the gospel in the lives of those he meets in his travels around the diocese and beyond. In addition, he called all of us present to join in sowing the seeds of the gospel in the lives of others each day through our words and actions. God's kingdom grows and flourishes as we sow the seeds of love, hope and goodness in the lives of those whom we encounter day by day.

Following the reading and preaching of the word twelve individuals were presented for Confirmation. So that all present could understand and know what was happening the candidates were presented in both Cree and English by The Rev. Cpts. Rod and Lisa BrantFrancis. It was wonderful to hear the confirmands answer in clear loud voices and to sense their excitement as they made for themselves the promises made on their behalf at baptism. Especially exciting was the presentation of a mother and her three daughters for confirmation and we know that it was a great source of pride for their family as all four of them went forward together for the laying on of hands. After all presented had received the laying on of hands and all the prayers were said we joined together with the newly confirmed in sharing the Lord's Supper. The Reverend Samuel who was celebrating the 35th anniversary of his ordination was present with us on that morning and able to assist in the administration of the Holy Eucharist. We ended the morning portion of our celebration in fine Cree fashion with the shaking of hands and greeting of all present.

Later in the day we made our way to the arena where we waited patiently for the community to gather for the continuation of our celebration. At about 6:20p.m. approximately 300 hundred of us sat down to a wonderful feast of traditionally cooked goose with all the trimmings. Once the feast was well under way cakes, gifts and well wishes were presented to The Reverend Samuel on the occasion of his ordination anniversary and Archbishop Caleb as this was his final scheduled visit to us before retirement. Following the parish presentations, gifts and good wishes were also given on behalf of the Chief and Council of the Cree Nation of Wemindji.

Then came the tradition of cake sharing – pieces of all the confirmation cakes and the other celebration cakes were shared with one another as we prepared to head home after a wonderful day of celebration.

We are thankful to the Creator for a fantastic day of celebration, for the faithful love and ministry of the Reverend Samuel Hughboy over his 35 years of ordained ministry and for the care, kindness and love of our beloved Archbishop Caleb Lawrence over the past thirty years of his Episcopacy. Truly the Lord has blessed us abundantly and we are filled with praise.



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