

## OUR NEW VISION STATEMENT

*The Diocese of Moosonee – called by God to live and proclaim the Gospel*



*The Venerable Deborah Lonergan-Freake, the Very Rev. Dr. Greg Gilson, the Rev. Patricia Dorland, and the Rev. Dr. Tim Perry from Sudbury joined the Lay Readers of the Diocese of Moosonee at Holy Trinity Church in Cochrane for the annual Lay Readers' Conference.*

## Lay Readers' Conference, Cochrane

*Article by Susan Montague, Warden of Layreaders, St. Paul's Anglican Church, South Porcupine.*

During the weekend of February 21-23rd an enthusiastic group of lay readers and clergy gathered in Cochrane for a time of learning, prayer, and fellowship.

The keynote speaker of the weekend was the Reverend Dr. Tim Perry from the Church of the Epiphany in Sudbury. He engaged us in a series of four talks which he had entitled 'Preaching the Old Testament.' His first talk placed the Old Testament within Anglican theology and worship. The second talk outlined possible reasons we may have for avoiding the Old Testament, countered by reasons to embrace the Old Testament. In his third talk named, 'False Starts,' Tim told us how not to go about interpreting the Old Testament and explained the various contexts of which we needed to be aware in order to go about our exploration and interpretation more aptly. The fourth and final talk out-

lined the do's and don'ts of applying the Old Testament. Tim guided us through an interpretation of Lev. 19:1:18 which, at first glance, may not seem overly relevant to our lives in the 21st century. The talks were a fascinating and informative journey of discovery in which we learned the value of the Old Testament as our story. In it we find the everlasting life offered us by Jesus in the New Testament. We learned that dealing with the Old Testament won't be easy but it is necessary in order that we may have the complete picture of one God, one salvation.

The Very Reverend Dr. Greg Gilson had us each take a much condensed version of the Myers-Briggs Personality Test in order to discover what personality type we were. Based on the outcome of our test, we were each provided with the outline of a spiritual discipline which had been 'tested and proven' to work for our person-

ality type. Some people find prayer difficult or unfulfilling but, when engaged in prayerful activities and types of prayer which suit our personality, we become more likely to be able to successfully immerse ourselves in the prayer experience. The workshop was very interesting and left us eager to try our spiritual disciplines.

Our weekend also included a trip to the local funeral home. It was an enlightening experience to hear the ins and outs of the funeral home as a business following a body of regulations. There are many things going on behind the scenes which we didn't fully understand or appreciate and it was truly heart-warming to hear the compassion for, and dedication to, people experiencing a time of great distress.

These weekends are always spirit-filled, re-energizing opportunities for personal growth and I look forward to the next one!

## Successful Installation

*Article by Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake.*



*Archbishop Colin Johnson and Bishop Tom Corston form a great team for the people of the Diocese of Moosonee.*

“Wow! You Anglicans really know how to celebrate!” That was a phrase we heard around Cochrane several times following the Service of Installation for the Tenth Bishop of Moosonee, the Most Reverend Colin R. Johnson, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario.

Many in the diocese will remember that Archbishop Johnson was installed as Metropolitan at Archbishop Anderson Memorial Church, Cochrane four years ago and succeeded Moosonee's then retiring diocesan bishop, Archbishop Caleb Lawrence, in that office. With the retirement of Bishop Tom Corston at the end of 2013, the Diocese of Moosonee's transition plan came into effect and Archbishop Johnson became Bishop of Moosonee. And so it was that on Tuesday, April 1st, 2014 at a meaningful service reflective of the people of this diocese, Archbishop Johnson was officially installed as Moosonee's Tenth Bishop.

And what a celebration it was! Those gathered listened as the Arch-  
**Installation continued on page 2.**







Archbishop Colin Johnson was ably supported in the Installation by the Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, and Bishops: John Chapman, Stephen Andrews, and Tom Corston, as well as, the assembled clergy and lay readers of the Diocese of Moosonee.

*Installation continued from p. 1.*

bishop, attended by deacons, The Rev. Patricia Dorland and the Rev. Larry Armstrong, knocked three times to be admitted to the Church. Accompanied by the Very Reverend Dr. Greg Gilson, Dean of St. Matthew's Cathedral, The Rev. Canon Rod Brant Francis, Regional Dean of James Bay, and The Rev. Phelan Scanlon, Regional Dean of Watershed, Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake, Administrator of the Diocese, opened the church door to welcome Archbishop Johnson. Acting Metropolitan, The Right Rev. John Chapman, Bishop of Ottawa of Ot-

tawa met Archbishop Johnson at the Chancel steps to perform the official welcome, recognition and investiture of the Tenth Bishop of Moosonee. The oaths and subscriptions of the Office of Bishop of Moosonee were administered by the Diocesan Chancellor, Bryan Finlay, Q.C.

In a moving portion of the service, Bishop Tom Corston, retired Ninth Bishop of Moosonee returned the Diocesan Crozier to lay Canon Grace Delaney and the Regional Deans, who represented the people of the Diocese of Moosonee, with the words: "This



Archbishop Colin Johnson, the Tenth Bishop of Moosonee, was flanked by Bishop Tom Corston, and Bishop John Chapman of Ottawa with Primate Fred Hiltz and Bishop Stephen Andrews look on.

charge which, by God's grace, I have maintained in good faith, I now lay down." Then, having thanked Bishop Corston, on behalf of the people of the diocese, Canon Delaney and the Regional Deans presented the Diocesan Crozier to Archbishop Colin Johnson with these words: "On behalf of the people and clergy of the Diocese of Moosonee, we give into your hands the diocesan crozier. May Christ, the good shepherd, uphold and sustain you as you carry it in his name."

During the service, Archbishop Colin Johnson presented Bishop Tom

Corston with a Licence as Assistant Bishop, led the clergy in a re-affirmation of ordination vows, celebrated the Eucharist and blessed the oils for use in the diocese. The Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, led in the renewal of baptismal vows and music for the occasion was provided by Elizabeth Christie and the choir of Holy Trinity, assisted by members of St. Paul's United Church choir. A lovely reception followed. Archbishop Colin Johnson was seated as Bishop of Moosonee at St. Matthew's Cathedral on April 3rd.



Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake and Archbishop Colin Johnson enjoyed a relaxing moment before the Installation Service began.

## The Archdeacon's Message

*Article by Archdeacon Deborah Lonergan-Freake.*

When I was a kid growing up in Nova Scotia, I always attended summer church camps and then, as a teenager helped as a camp leader. One of my lasting memories of Bible Camp is of those good old songs and the fun we had singing them around a camp fire. Ever since Ezekiel 37:1-14 was read as the Old Testament lesson one Sunday in Lent, the old spiritual "Dem Bones, Dem Bones, Dem Dry bones" has been playing in my mind.

As I pondered this old song, I realized that in some ways it speaks to our experience in the Diocese of Moosonee. This is an historic diocese. We have old bones, but they are strong, well-formed bones, rooted firmly in the Christian Gospel.

These bones have provided support for the work of spreading the Gospel in this part of God's Kingdom for many years. Over the past three years, we have been engaged in a process of visioning and dreaming. We began with the question: "What does God have in mind for us?" In other words, can these bones live?

Our diocese was facing great challenge. Together we prayerfully discerned and visioned how to move forward. We were like dry bones - tired and spent, but we listened for God's guidance and led by the Spirit, our diocese began a process of transition. The Diocese of Moosonee has a renewed call to Live and Proclaim the Gospel. On April 1, 2014, Archbishop Colin Johnson was installed as

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### The Northland

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## Blood of Jesus

*Article by Rev. Dr. Tim Perry, Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury.*



Reflective Moose

This past Palm Sunday, we listened to St. Matthew's Passion as a dramatic reading. Once again, the haunting, horrifying words rang out in our nave: "Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children.'" They are haunting and horrifying as part of the story - the mob moving with one mind toward a shocking end, willingly drawing the innocent into its consequences. Even worse, the

words have been the justification of Anti-Semitism from its crudest of murder to its most refined attitudes of exclusion.

Perhaps the first thing to do is to see that we are all implied in its judgement. "His blood be on us and on our children," is not a Jewish rejection of Jesus; it is the world's rejection of Jesus. Jesus has been abandoned by his disciples; he has been rejected by the religious leaders; Pilate has washed his

hands of him. Jesus is alone. The crowds, on the pain of failed expectations of a political deliverer, have called for him to be crucified. We are all implicated, Jew and Gentile, in the death of Jesus. The curse voiced is one we have pronounced on ourselves. Had we been there, we would have done no differently. And so that curse is the curse of all of us on all of us. We have called down innocent blood on ourselves.

**See Blood on p. 3**







*St. Matthew's Cathedral, Timmins, was the site for a joyous performance of the cantata, "In My Place" on the evening of Palm Sunday.*

# In My Place

*Article by Susanne Mavor, Warden, St. Matthew's Cathedral, Timmins.*

Music was alive and well at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Timmins on Palm Sunday. Under the direction of Timmins Symphony Orchestra conductor, Matthew Jones, a chorus of 50 singers and 32 musicians came together to perform "In My Place", a cantata remembering Christ's sacrifice of love, by Craig Courtney, before a sold out audience.

One cold Sunday morning in January when Sue Steel, St. Matthew's musical director, suggested performing a Lenten cantata during Holy Week, we never imagined that so many people would be part of the cantata! Singers from many church choirs in the community joined St. Matthew's choir and rehearsals began on Thursday nights. It was great to see that the choir stalls were at capacity and that extra chairs had to be set up. As the weeks went by we were fortunate to have Chris Rodgers guide the choir through each piece of music, reminding us of our diction and to pay attention to all the musical markings.

On the weekend of the performance, the choir and orchestra came together to put the finishing touches on weeks of rehearsing. Under Mat-

thew Jones' direction, the blend of voices and instruments filled the Cathedral with sounds that can only be described as heavenly.

As the church pews filled for the cantata performance, the excitement building was apparent. The inspiring narration and poignant musical journey made the cantata a memorable and meaningful performance. Each piece of music was a special blend of new melodies and favourite hymns capturing the drama of Christ's journey from the excitement of Palm Sunday to the sorrow of Good Friday. To have sung at the Cathedral with such a wonderful assembly of talented musicians was simply thrilling.

Following the cantata, we were treated to a variety of hot cross buns and refreshments. A special thank you goes to Matthew Jones, Chris Rodgers, the narrators: Valerie Gilson, Bill Jones, Daryl Firlotte, Jim Davis, Don Gillespie, and Jan Maloney, soloists Peter Davis and Kristina Frechette, sound technician Jeff McCord and everyone who helped to make this evening so memorable. An extra thank you to Sue Steele for having the vision! It truly was an evening to remember.



*Delegates to the James Bay Deanery Great Chapter met in St. Peter's, Waskaganish, QC, March 7-9th.*

# James Bay Deanery, Great Chapter

*Article by Canon Grace Delaney*

St. Peter's Anglican Church, Waskaganish, was the host congregation for the 2014 James Bay Great Chapter Gathering. The congregation is small but nonetheless, thriving solely on "every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Matthew, 4:4.



*Canon Rod BrentFrancis spoke to the delegates.*

St. Peter's, once a vibrant church which housed all the people in its community, now stands almost silent showing its age. Many have moved on to other denominations, yet those who pass on continue to find their resting place in its cemetery. The church building, which still has to be heated by a wood stove, was too cold to hold our final Eucharist service there.

The Archdeacon talked to the delegates about the structural process in the diocese. Our Diocesan Bishop, Tom Corston, has retired and we've acquired the services, free of charge, of Archbishop Colin Johnson, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. Bishop Tom will be assisting when and as needed. This restructuring has enabled the Diocese to get back to the business of Living and Proclaiming

the Gospel. Church leaders and parishes are encouraged to submit their payments in timely fashion so this new structure can be best managed. It helps the Diocese to operate on budget. Great Chapters will now need voices to have discussions and set the procedures and processes for such things as: election of regional dean, election of members to diocesan synod/executive, nomination of members to Provincial and General Synod, voting processes, and deciding who should vote. Each term is for three years. The parishes no longer pay into the moving expenses fund for 2014. The Rev. Lisa BrantFrancis is the youth resource person for the Diocese. To be good managers, the Diocese has sold surplus buildings and lands. The Archdeacon closed by thanking all those who have participated in making these changes possible.

The Rev. Canon Cliff Dee gave an update on the Mahmow program as the co-ordinator and gave information as to where and when these sessions would take place. The planned Healing Gathering which is to take place in Eastmain this summer was also updated. Some members expressed concern regarding the loss of the Cree language and the Cree cultural way of life. Many people believe the main cause is electronic technology which keeps children away from experiencing their own culture and language. More discussions on this issue will take place through the schools and in the respective parishes.

## Blood continued from p. 2.

We stand with Cain, murderers from almost the beginning.

The second thing to notice is that the Gospel transforms this curse into a plea. For while, it is true that in this curse we stand with Cain, it is not true that Jesus stands with Cain's murdered brother, Abel. After Abel's murder at the hands of his brother, God tells Cain that Abel's blood "cries out from the ground." It cries out for justice. It cries out for revenge. Even

the ground curses Cain. God must intervene and 'mark' Cain that his life would be spared. Creation so rebelled against the murder of Abel that Cain could settle nowhere until he had distanced himself from creation by building a city.

The blood of Jesus, however, is unlike the blood of Abel. It speaks a new and better word, not a call for vengeance, or for justice, but for mercy. For this blood, as the New Testa-

ment Book of Hebrews puts it, is the blood of the sacrifice that ends all sacrifice, the blood that breaks the annual cycle of atonement, the blood that is spilled once, and for all, the blood that cleanses not simply our bodies, but our consciences too. This blood marks those who follow Jesus. By it, we are made citizens of a new city, the city that will replace the city of Cain, the City of God.

So it is that in the grace and

mercy of God, our judgement upon God's Son becomes God's judgement on us. And where our judgement, my judgement, is murderous, God's judgement is gracious. His blood be on us and on our children. Jesus himself transforms these words from a curse to a plea. Here, and here only is my deliverance from the curse of Cain and the vengeance of Abel. Here is the founding sacrifice on which the true city, the eternal city,

is built. Here is where violence and hatred end.



**The Diocese of Moosonee is now accepting donations online.**

See our website at [www.moosoneeanglican.ca](http://www.moosoneeanglican.ca)







*Diane Atkinson-Venne, Dorothy Rogers, and Gladys Trebilcock cooked up a storm to prepare for St. Paul's chili lunch at Winter Carnival in South Porcupine.*



*Archbishop Colin Johnson received a lovely, locally made beaded moose hide BAS cover from Sandra Carr and Mrs. Johnson received a pair of ornamental moccasins after the Installation Service.*



*Archbishop Colin Johnson really wanted to enter Holy Trinity Church in Cochrane to participate in his Installation Service. The Rev. Larry Armstrong and Rev. Patricia Dorland attended him as he knocked the traditional three times.*



*The St. Peter's on the Rock Hand Bell Choir: Front Row: Bette Leonard, Henry Hong, Diane Thompson; Middle Row: Betty-Anne Monteith, Rena Hong, Joanne Haskim, Linda Greig; Back Row: Janet Millette, Marshall Thompson, and Michael Carston.*

## Do You Remember Winter?

*Article by George Cribbs, Editor*

Winter Carnival comes to South Porcupine every February and every February, for many years, the people of St. Paul's Anglican Church have responded by opening their doors to the community and welcoming people in from the cold. A hearty group of individuals, led by Warden Catharine Cribbs, make and serve a chili lunch to coincide with the annual Winter Carnival parade. This warms the tummies and hopefully the hearts of those who take advantage of the generous quantities of chili, home-made buns, and cup-cakes made available to them. Approximately 50 people were fed on Saturday, February 7th. This event is not a fund raiser; the church only charges \$5 for an adult and \$3 for a child to enjoy a hearty lunch. It is a form of outreach; it is a way in which the church can connect with the wider community. Fortunately, the lunch seems to generate a small profit every

year and that is icing on the cup-cake. As soon as the lunch is over, part two of the outreach programme comes into play. St. Paul's operates a games afternoon for persons 55 or better! However, no one actually looks at birth certificates and everyone is welcome to join in. The remainder of the afternoon sees the church hall being used for cards, dominoes, and board games. Almost all of the community's Winter Carnival activities are centred on children and youth with little being offered to those of more mature years. St. Paul's has found a way of catering to the needs of an overlooked group of people. Those parishioners and their new friends who came for the games were able to enjoy tea, cakes, and above all fellowship. Winter Carnival is a secular, community event in South Porcupine aimed at the celebration of winter. St. Paul's has turned part of it into a time of sharing and caring for one another within the Church.

### Message continued from page 2.

the Tenth Bishop of Moosonee and we are blessed that our retired bishop, The Right Rev. Thomas Corston, has agreed to continue as Assistant Bishop. The Diocesan Chief Financial Officer, The Rev. Patricia Dorland, is working hard to streamline our accounting and financial matters, as I attempt to do the same with administrative items.

Executive Council and Synod have made changes in the Diocese that are beginning to allow us to refocus on ministry and to re-establish ministries that had been lost. The Rev. Lisa BrantFrancis is now available to the whole Diocese as a Youth and Children's Ministry Support person and has been providing monthly e-newsletters which are wonderfully full of ideas and help for those engaged in these ministries. The co-chairs of the Vision 2015 task group attended the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Living

Stones Partnership and together with a renewed Vision Task Group are working on practical matters related to re-establishing a visible ministry in an area where we previously had to withdraw ministry. We are seeking clergy to fill vacancies within the Diocese. We are beginning to direct funds to training our volunteers and non-stipendiary clergy. And these efforts, we pray, are only the beginning. Collectively, the people of the Diocese of Moosonee are learning to live in a changed and new way. How does the passage from Ezekiel speak to the people of the Diocese of Moosonee today? Does it give us hope? As the dry bones of our Diocese are regenerated and renewed, our question becomes: What amazing things does the future hold for us if we, God's people living out our baptism covenant, are following God's vision? Have a safe and peaceful summer season.

## Ring for Joy

*Article by Diane Thompson, St. Peter's on-the-Rock, Kirkland Lake*

The St. Peter's Hand Bell Choir meets every Thursday afternoon under the direction of Marshall Thompson. The group started up again five years ago after a long retirement. Our Bell Choir is Ecumenical, a true gathering of friends who work hard and have fun. The actual precision of the bells is amazing as eight players ring as one person to achieve the piece being played.

We have a community outreach, playing at two Brass and Bell concerts

each year, a benefit concert for the food bank, with other local talent, visiting the hospital at Christmas and entertaining the folks in the two senior homes. Last year was the first benefit concert being played to raise money for local parishes. We have also been asked to travel to Timmins to play in the spring. We are gaining more confidence as we go on and though we do run into some frustrations, we work them out and enjoy entertaining our audiences.

