



ACW Launching Out

OUR PURPOSE

• To unite women in a fellowship of worship, study, and offering which will deepen and strengthen their own spiritual lives, and lead them into Christian service in parish, community, diocese, nation, and world.

• To work for and sustain an informed interest in the mission of the Church.



CONTENTS

- 2- Bells toll in the Parish of Westmorland
- 3 - Reports
- 4-5 - ACW's national mtg
- 6 - Eva's *On The Journey*
- 7 - President's Notebook
- 7 - List of Bathurst hotels
- 8 - Annual meeting registration form



IMAGES NB PHOTO

Beautiful Bathurst Marina

Make plans now for

ACW'S ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 7-8

ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, BATHURST

FIND THE LIST OF HOTELS ON PAGE 7

FIND THE REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 8

*Launching Out is posted on the Diocese of Fredericton web site (anglican.nb.ca.)
Members, please post or circulate this newsletter in your ACW branch.*

'We will remember them'



Allison, Mark & Krista

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

In the Parish of Westmorland, they tolled the church bells to mark the 100th anniversary of the First World War Armistice at both churches. At St. Luke's in Baie Verte, layreader Allison Chapman (Armed Services Warrant Officer, retired after a lengthy career) led us in prayers for peace and thanksgiving to follow the quote "At the setting of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."

Volunteers read the names of the war dead listed on the church plaque. That day's guests were Allison's two children, son Mark and daughter Krista.

Allison read another prayer for sacrifice, bravery and continued hope to end all war. Mark rang the bell at sunset at 4:47 p.m., tolling out the remembrance of those soldiers from the area.

At St Mark's at Mount Whatley near Aulac, the Rev. Lid Haugen-Strand led the prayers and reading of the names listed on the war monument. After prayers for the war dead, for peace and for the safety of our present Armed Forces members, they all went out into the heavy wind, typical of Mount Whatley, and tolled the bell with the ringers each taking 10 of the rings. The bell, originally in a roof steeple, is now on a frame near the war memorial. The ringers included Rev. Lid, layreaders, members of the congregation and Diocesan ACW President Linda Fury.

Farraline Place has one vacancy.
Welcome to a life of ease in
downtown Fredericton.

Information:
506-455-6443 or farralineplace.com

Book of Remembrance - Roll of Honour

Please notify Diane Todd and your Deanery representative with names of those who should be entered into the Book of Remembrance. If you would like to put a member on the Roll of Honour, please contact Diane at 506-832-2470; email: chuckdianetodd@gmail.com or 47 Vernon Ave., Hampton, NB E5N 5N1
Please allow sufficient time for Roll of Honour certificates.



ACW Launching Out

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Diocese of Fredericton
Published September, November, February, April

President: Linda Fury
< lafury1944@gmail.com >

Submit articles up to 600 words.
Articles may be edited as necessary
for length and clarity. Please send to:
Gisele McKnight, editor,
< gmcknight@diofton.ca >
115 Church St., Fredericton, NB E3B 4C8

Stanley's 'Visit the Creche' display grows yearly

The Anglican Parish of Stanley recently held our "Visit the Crèche" display in conjunction with our annual bazaar and food sale.

What started out just six years ago with 70 varied manger scenes artistically displayed in the main body of St. Thomas Anglican Church has grown today to an eye-catching 358 nativity scenes display filling the church and front vestibule.

Our church families contribute their nativity scenes each

year, but the uniqueness of our display is how family, friends and the interdenominational "extended family" of our surrounding community, near and far, have lent us their precious nativity scenes for viewing.

There are many different sizes and styles on display. One scene was lovingly sewn together by a child's grandmother; another was hand-painted and the stable constructed by the lender; while another has used the burl of a tree as the setting

of their nativity scene.

There are some that were purchased from different parts of the world, while others have been in families for generations. Assembled, they make a powerful statement.

To really appreciate our display, next time we invite you to join us and take your time to quietly view them, consider their significance in a multitude of homes from which they were gathered and ask any question you may have of our guides.

What previously has been a one day viewing has grown to two days since 2015.

If the dreary wet weather and blustery winds kept you away in 2018, kindly mark your calendars for 2019.

Come to the Village of Stanley where a warm welcome awaits on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 3-6 p.m. and on Sunday, Nov. 3 from noon-3 p.m. You won't be disappointed!

Respectfully submitted by Carol Wilson.

2018 Annual Report: Fredericton -York ACW Annual Deanery

With a day-long theme of prayer, and more specifically, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven," 26 ACW members from nine branches answered roll call for our annual meeting Oct. 10.

Our day began with registration and refreshments at Cathedral Memorial Hall. Holy Eucharist with celebrants the Ven. Wandlyn Snelgrove, the Rev. Canon Bonnie LeBlanc and the Rev. Canon Pat Drummond took place at 10 a.m. Canon Bonnie delivered a moving sermon on the analysis of our ACW Prayer.

The meeting came to order with a warm welcome from President Kaye Small, assisted by secretary Linda Waugh.

Special guest was Alice Kennedy, the national president of Mothers' Union.

Judy O'Donnell, administrator of Farraline Place, addressed the ladies with an update on Farraline Place, describing it as a "big house of 20 bedrooms and 17 bathrooms."

She encouraged our attendance at the Oct. 20 Farraline Gala. She sincerely thanked all ACW members for their continual support of Farraline Place.

The morning offering of \$320 was divided between Farraline Place and the Extra Cent A Day Fund. Following the business meeting, we were regretfully informed of the retirement of St. Clements ACW in the Parish of Prince William. At noon we adjourned to the

Cathedral Hall for a delicious soup luncheon.

Kathleen Snow, a member of the Cathedral since 1975, gave the afternoon devotion, informing those in attendance of the nurturing effects of Mother's Union. If you were not aware, there are approximately four million members worldwide.

Kathleen described the joyful fundraiser of preparing the *Dear Lord Pray Book*. This book was assembled from 400 prayers submitted from Mother's Union members around the world.

Approximately \$53,600 has been realized in sales to date — a really phenomenal success story. (Kathleen was one of the three co-editors of this project.)

Needless to say, all the books Kathleen had brought with her were happily purchased by those in attendance. It should be noted that Kathleen holds a position on the world-wide

board of directors of Mother's Union.

Our guest speaker for the afternoon was the seventh bishop of Fredericton, the Rt. Rev. Bill Hockin. His reflection on The Lord's Prayer, specifically the phrase "give us today our daily bread" reminds us to pray for the needs of ourselves and others. It is very acceptable to ask God from help. The important thing is to pray.

The Courtesy Committee concluded the afternoon gathering, thanking the organizing committee for their fellowship and inviting all to attend the 2019 Annual Deanery Meeting which will be held at St. Thomas Church in the Parish of Stanley.

Kaye Small wished all a safe journey and thanked all for their attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Wilson.

Hillsborough Report

Hello to our ACW sisters and Happy New Year to all. We at St. Mary's ACW in Hillsborough have had a great fall.

Our fall bazaar was a huge success. We donated nine new

backpacks with supplies to Fire Watch Ministries in Riverview, N.B.; and we made donations to House of Nazareth and Crossroads for Women, both in Moncton.

We donated hats, mitts, scarves, and socks to the new warming shelter that opened in Moncton this December, did three Christmas boxes for

church members, sent cards, purchased four Bibles for Baptisms this past fall and continue to have an active Benevolent Fund.

All of this is made possible by all of our church members pulling together with donations of time, money, and items — and for this we are truly grateful!

Our January meeting was held recently with our executive remaining the same. We welcomed two new members to our group.

The new year is upon us and we eagerly look forward to what that holds for us. God's blessings to all.

*Veronica Locke
President, St. Mary's ACW*

NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Anglican Church Women refocus on spirituality and fellowship

BY MATT GARDNER

Published by the Anglican Journal online, Jan. 10, 2019

Last fall, the Anglican Church Women of Canada (ACW) held their annual conference bringing together presidents and coordinators of ACW diocesan groups from across the country.

Meeting from Sept. 25-28 at the Our Lady of Hope Retreat Centre in Stanley Bridge, P.E.I., 32 leaders exchanged ideas and discussed the current priorities and challenges facing the ACW.

The role of the ACW in the Anglican Church of Canada today was a major focus of the conference.

Faced with declining membership, due in part to the advancing age of those most actively involved, the ACW is preparing to review its constitution while looking into how it can encourage the participation of younger women.

"I think that one of the difficulties that we've been experiencing is that a lot of people have looked at the ACW as the fundraiser for the church kind of thing," ACW national president Margaret Warwick said.

She recalled parish council minutes in the early 20th century that would often refer parishioners to the Woman's Auxiliary, the predecessor of the ACW, whenever they needed to raise funds.

Though the ACW remains a powerhouse of church fundraising—they consistently donate funds and generate awareness of the ministry of the Council of the North—members are increasingly looking to reinforce other aspects of their identity.

"We're trying to refocus



AJ PHOTO

Presidents and coordinators of the Anglican Church Women of Canada (ACW) gather at St. Peter's Cathedral in Charlottetown, P.E.I. during their 2018 conference.

that a little bit more, and say that yes, that's certainly part of our role—but that our purpose is also to look at the spiritual and fellowship aspect of a woman's life in the church as well," Warwick said.

"That brings a different context to it ... We don't want to get just [focused on] the constantly fundraising—that's not our role. We want to also be involved in the spiritual growth of the individual as well."

Examining current structures

As spelled out in the preamble of its constitution:

Anglican Church Women of Canada is a loosely knit fellowship of all women of the Anglican Church of Canada and others who agree with and support the purpose of the Anglican Church Women of Canada. The purpose is to give the women of the Anglican Church the opportunity to unite in a fellowship of worship, study and service which will

lead them into Christian service in the parish, community, diocese, nation, and world.

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada was founded in April 1885 by Roberta Tilton, who served as the head of a seven-woman delegation to the management board of the church's Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society.

In 1966, the Woman's Auxiliary became the Anglican Church Women of Canada. The current structure, constitution, and bylaws of the national ACW were adopted in the early 1990s.

While most dioceses of the Anglican Church of Canada have a diocesan ACW board, several do not and are represented mainly at the national level.

Some dioceses have regional or area divisions as well as parish-level organizations.

Local ACW members help

financially support parishes and often participate in activities such as knitting for local needs, holding Bible studies, and supporting local food banks.

Following the September conference, an ACW committee has collected different constitutions and bylaws from across Canada for review, including those for diocesan-level organizations.

The national constitution, Warwick noted, "hasn't been reviewed in its entirety since [the 1990s], so we're going to have another look at it and see where we're going ... I think that that is going to be a very positive approach."

Another ongoing effort by the ACW is the streamlining of its organizational structure. The labyrinth of positions at different levels can sometimes dissuade new women from getting involved.

"Sometimes the women decide that the ACW is too structured, and this is one thing we're trying

ACW continued on page 5

ACW seeks to find its voice in the 21st century

ACW continued from page 4

to get away from,” Warwick said.

“We don’t want them to feel that they’re bogged down in a bureaucracy-type thing if they’re involved in the ACW. The whole purpose of the ACW is to ensure that we are a fellowship and that we are involved in worship and service.”

The difficulty of filling some positions in the Anglican Church Women of Canada (ACW) has become increasingly evident in recent years.

In the Diocese of Saskatoon, the ACW made the decision to formally disband at the diocesan level following its spring 2017 conference.

For some time, the ACW had been trying to get more women to come forward to be part of its work at the diocesan level.

Elta Fae Marlor was the last serving diocesan president of the ACW in Saskatoon, at the time of the 2017 conference.

“The executive had previously had 12 to 13 people on it,” Marlor said.

“It was very full. And then as women got older, couldn’t drive, didn’t use the computer, just didn’t have that kind of energy to put into that kind of work ... above their parish level, they just couldn’t do it. And so we couldn’t get new people to come on.”

The problem of filling new position had not come as a surprise in a diocese as widespread as Saskatoon, she added, with women getting older and the ACW “not appealing to younger women ... This fact is facing all our ACWs right across the dominion.”

At the last ACW presidents’ conference in Fort Langley, B.C., Marlor had heard of focus groups in the Diocese of New Westminster bringing together women of different ages.

Each focus group asked participants what might be keeping them from involvement in the ACW and what they would



MCKNIGHT FILE PHOTO

ACW members walk to the hall in the Parish of Shediac during the diocesan annual meeting in 2018.

need from such an organization.

“The message,” Marlor said, “was loud and clear: that younger women now have a different focus in life, and from something that they want to be giving their precious free time to ...

“They’re busy [caring for children], working full-time, and trying to keep a family and a marriage ... afloat. And a lot of them are single parents.”

Dale Drozda, a youth leader at St. Paul’s Cathedral in Kamloops, and member of the Council of the General Synod, is familiar with ACW as a nationwide organization that had been around for quite some time.

She is also aware of the extensive fundraising of the ACW in Kamloops, as well as their helping with upkeep for churches around town. However, Drozda was unaware of any presence of the ACW at St. Paul’s.

She suggested that the ACW might appeal to younger members by raising awareness of the group’s presence and activities, and to be more public and visible about meeting times.

She also suggested that the

ACW should consider ensuring that their meeting times can accommodate school or work schedules.

“I’m not sure when [meetings] are right now, or how often they occur,” Drozda said.

In their efforts to attract younger women, the ACW has found some encouragement in their success hosting meetings over brunch on Saturday mornings. Such gatherings have attracted younger members who generally have more free time then, while their spouses look after their children.

ACW national president Margaret Warwick noted that the ACW has also spoken with multiple bishops about the possibility of having an affiliated group under the ACW umbrella, working towards similar goals and objectives—but with more focus on “the young working woman that wants to have a more definitive program of worship and developing their spirituality.”

‘A group to be reckoned with’

In the meantime, the ACW continues to be a major sup-

porter of the Council of the North, along with other projects of the church.

Though the ACW was in early years more an apolitical group, Warwick said that in recent years it has become more aware of the need to promote “the involvement of women ... women in ministry, the freedom of women in the world.”

Individual ACW members have been active at the local level in efforts to eradicate human trafficking, following a request by Archbishop and Primate Fred Hiltz for the ACW’s help in supporting this important mission of the church.

As the ACW continues to find its voice and refine its identity for the 21st century, Warwick recalled the words of Bishop Michael Ingham before his retirement, when introducing a presentation by the ACW at the diocesan synod for New Westminster.

Don’t ever kid yourselves,” she remembered the bishop saying. “The ACW is not a group of little old ladies. The ACW is a group to be reckoned with.”

On The Journey, with Eva Morton

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. (Lamentations 3:22)



The week before Christmas I received a choir email with a list of hymns we would be singing for our service of lessons and carols, and I was surprised to see hardly any traditional 'carols' included.

The timing was bad. I had just watched *Love Actually*, I had been reading the messages in my recently arrived Christmas cards, and I had just finished reading a novel about relinquishment, *Unsheltered*, by Barbara Kingsolver.

Emotionally, I was pretty wobbly. My disappointment at the choice of songs was completely disproportionate — I almost burst into tears!

What was wrong with me? This was ridiculous! I could listen to Christmas carols on YouTube whenever I wanted. I could join other parishioners and go carolling. Get a grip!

God usually speaks to me when my mind hasn't had a chance to latch onto the distractions of daily obligations. In the early hours of the next morning I began to understand.

There was a time when I thought I had my life all worked out. I was comfortably entrenched in traditional Anglican parish life. I had a certain amount of control over what hymns we sang and what services we held.

It's been an adjustment for me to be in a modern parish, with a fluid liturgical style.

Part of me longs for familiar patterns of worship and yet, I also remember getting impatient with people who never wanted to try anything new, who repeated the same old

tunes over and over again.

It wasn't about habit as much as it was about control. Instead of being the conductor, I was part of the chorus.

One of the things I was reminded of that morning is that God is the potter and I am the clay.

He may want to mash me down and make a completely new pot out of me. Can I submit and allow Him to have His way?

I always want God to have His way in my life. That's what I say, anyway. It's what I pray for every morning.

I took my jumbled thoughts and feelings to the Lord, and started composing this column. Writing often helps me sort things.

Then God did a lovely thing on Christmas Eve. I was working until 6:30, so had decided I would attend the traditional 10 o'clock service.

When I found out that my daughter and son-in-law preferred to attend one at 7, and that the choir was expected, I altered my plans.

The day before we were told that an extra layreader was needed at the 10 o'clock service, and I had offered myself, because I was planning to be there anyway.

So I was committed to two services on Christmas Eve. Nothing new for me. I started



QUINTO AL ON UNSPLASH.COM

to look forward to it.

Meanwhile, friends had been asking for information about the midnight service at the cathedral. They aren't regular church-goers and I was encouraging them to attend.

I got two messages from them that day: one asking if I was going, to which I replied that I hadn't made up my mind. The second message, "We're waffling" — prompted me to reply without a second thought, "I may be late, but I'll be there!"

So I attended three Christmas Eve services — it was like the old days — and you have probably already deduced that I had a chance to sing all my favourite Christmas carols, some more than once!

God has a sense of humour, for sure. I felt truly blessed. I

think it was one of my nicest Christmas Eves ever.

As I've said many times before, I'm on a journey and some days I have no idea where I will end up. But I know God loves me, and only wants what's best.

I recall lines from that great old hymn, *Trust and Obey*: "...we never can prove the delights of His love until all on the altar we lay..."

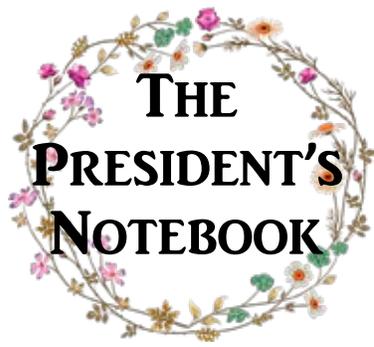
But I also hear music that has become precious to me in the last few months: "You give life, You are love, You bring light to the darkness. You give hope, You restore every heart that is broken, and great are You Lord!" (*All Sons and Daughters*, 2013)

Blessings,
Eva

Saturday, April 13
Christ Church Cathedral, 2-4 p.m.

You are invited to an ACW gathering that will feature a display and informative talk by the skilled members of Lucy's Sewing Group and the magnificent ecclesiastical fabrics of Christ Church Cathedral. The designs based on 'Saints, Signs and Symbols' of the Church are executed with a variety of stitch designs.

Come and enjoy this informative afternoon.



Linda Fury

Writing a report as president of our Diocesan ACW in

mid-January is much more difficult than in spring or fall.

Hopefully for many of our ACW members, this is a time of rest and rejuvenation to prepare us for our spring activities.

A suggestion for all our groups is to invite younger ladies to our activities. This could help them learn about our church, our faith and how we can help them with their lives.

Special meetings could be held in the evenings — especially as our hours of daylight lengthen — possibly with speakers or activities for families.

Any suggestions or ideas from your groups is appreciated. I am sure many groups have good ideas which we would love to share.

A reminder to all of our upcoming events: the Diocesan ACW meeting will be held on April 8 in Fredericton at Christ Church Parish Church

beginning at 10 a.m. and our Diocesan ACW annual meeting on May 7-8 in the Chaleur-Miramichi Deanery at St. George's Church in Bathurst.

It is very important that we have representatives from all our deaneries at these meetings.

This is when we are able to share our triumphs, our concerns and share with members from all over our Diocese.

Remember the lifestyle we are asked to follow:

B - Bless all people

E - Eat - try to eat with others and not only family and friends

L - Listen to God and others

L - Learn more about our life of faith

S - Sent - go out with the Gospel in word and action

God's blessing be with you all.
Your sister in Christ,
Linda Fury

Invitation from St. Mary's ACW 780 McEvoy Street, Fredericton Monday, March 11 at 1 p.m.

Chief Leanne Fitch of the Fredericton Police Force will speak on the issue of Faith and Life: the intersection of faith and her career in policing.

Those who know Chief Fitch, and those who witnessed her professionalism and strength during last summer's tragedy, will have some sense of her personal courage. As a life-long Anglican raised in Fredericton, she knows both the community and the role of faith in difficult times.

A Q&A and light refreshments will follow the presentation.

Bathurst hotels list

• **ATLANTIC HOST**, 1450 Vanier Blvd. (Exit 310)

506-548-3335 or 1-800-898-9292

2 Double or 2 Queen - \$120.

Ask for corporate rate – "Anglican Church Women," arranged with Kim

Refundable with 48 hours notice.

Breakfast not included. Full breakfast is \$4. 99

3 ½ stars



• **DANNY'S HOTEL SUITES**, 1223 rue Principale, Beresford (Exit 310, right on Vanier, then left on Rt. 134)

506-546-6621 or 1-800-200-1350

2 Queen Beds or King Room - \$119. Ask for rate

ACW050619 before March 30

Cancel 24 hours before with no charge. Free Wi-Fi & hot breakfast Included

3 stars



• **BEST WESTERN PLUS**, 150 Main Street (Exit 304, King Ave. to Main Street. Left on Main 100 m, hotel on left)

1-506-548-8888 or 1-855-548-8885

2 Queen or 1 King - \$140 non-refundable; \$159.00 refundable if cancelled before 4 p.m. day of arrival.

Breakfast included

3 stars



• **QUALITY INN & SUITES**, 777 St. Peter Ave. (Exit 308, right on St. Anne Street, then left at church (St. Peters Ave.) 700 m. hotel on left)

Standard room with 2 Beds - \$105; Suite 110. Ask for special rate for Anglican Church Women. Free cancellation by 7 a.m. morning of your scheduled arrival.

Hot breakfast included

3 stars



• **COMFORT INN**, 1170 St. Peter Ave.

506-547-8000

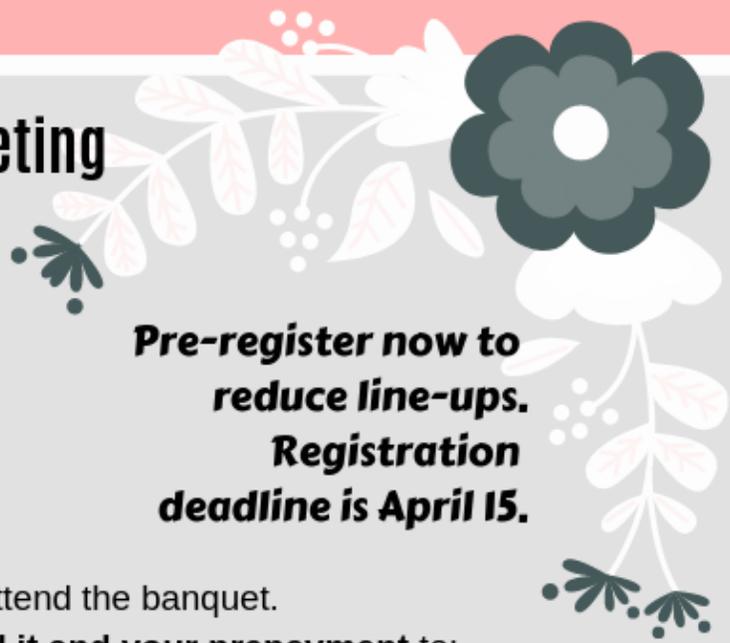
2 Queen - \$114 non-refundable; \$127 refundable; ask for corporate rate for Anglican Church Women (10 % discount on regular rate); Cancel free by 4 p.m. day of arrival.

Hot breakfast included

2 stars



Diocesan ACW Annual Meeting May 7 - 8, 2019



**Saint George's Anglican Church
432 King Avenue, Bathurst, NB
E2A 1P5
King Avenue is Exit 304**

**Pre-register now to
reduce line-ups.
Registration
deadline is April 15.**

The registration fee is \$6 plus \$20 to attend the banquet.
Please complete this form and **forward it and your prepayment to:**
Sally Underhill, 242 Main Street, Blackville, NB E9B 1S8
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO "SALLY UNDERHILL"

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

CHURCH/LOCATION: _____

Food allergies/diet issues?

**Caterers must be aware of
these issues by April 15th.**

**Please check the appropriate
boxes below**

- Registration fee \$ 6
- Banquet ticket \$ 20
(pick-up at registration
on May 7th)
- Check here if you plan to
stay for the second day.

