

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN BOARD

Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island

Let's Keep In Touch

Do Justice Love Kindness Walk humbly with your God



MARCH/APRIL
2021 Edition

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. Mark 16:1-2



Easter Greetings

From the Anglican Church Women Board

We wish you a blessed and Holy Easter and may the promise of Easter fill you with faith and hope for the future, turn darkness into light, grief into joy and death into new life. May this holy season bring to you and yours an abundance of love, peace and blessings.



DIOCESAN ENVIRONMENT NETWORK (DEN)

Email: endionspei@gmail.com

Website: nspeidiocese.ca/den

Facebook: [Environment Network Diocese of NS & PEI](https://www.facebook.com/EnvironmentNetworkDioceseofNSPEI)

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXllyJAFvPg-hj4H0-XvYiQ...>

DEN is active in many ways in promoting care for and involvement in environmental and related causes. They publish a weekly (FB) News, articles in the Diocesan Times, promote many means of expressing concern for our "fragile island home" and beyond – all things living and having movement (including mountains, molten core, and universes beyond ours – seen and unseen). We provide support and teaching through eco-grief session (*with Nancy Blair, regular online session*), links to many environment concerns/groups, **encouraging – strongly**, the use of **Season of Creation**, as well as retreats and special events like our recent Hope and Inspiration Art Show which will soon become a permanent online gallery. We are now offering a chance to pray together. **Please see information below:**

- Thursday Evening Gatherings every Thursday at 7 pm via Zoom.
- Praying with the DEN Community led by the Rev. Tory Byrnes every Friday 9:30 am on Zoom. **To obtain the link, please email endionspei@gmail.com**
- The DEN Ecological Grief Group, meet on the third Monday of each month, 7:00 to 8:00 pm. **To register, email Nancy Blair at nancyblaircounselling@gmail.com**

Please note: The Hope & Inspiration Art Show is now a permanent Art Gallery. We hope to feature several new artists soon. Our first four artists continue to be showcased and we have some ideas for the next year which look very exciting. Please invite your friends to like this page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/373394600384260> or go to the DEN website <https://www.nspeidiocese.ca/ministries/diocesan-environment-network>

Calls to Action

CALLS TO ACTION

The Final Report of Canada's *Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)* was a call to action. The sheer number of recommendations can be overwhelming. However, there is a very specific way that one can respond to the Call to Action identified in Section 5: *We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to develop culturally appropriate parenting programs for Aboriginal families.*

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524494379788/1557513026413>

Enter the **Worldwide Parenting Program** of the Mothers' Union. First developed in 2002 in Guyana, this accredited program has spread globally to 23 countries, is open to all faiths or none at all, and is in the process of being updated and revamped for virtual platforms. To appreciate how this program responds to the specific culture in which it is offered, as well as to see how it is inclusive of women and men, take the time to see how the MU's worldwide parenting program is appreciated in the Solomon Islands: <https://youtu.be/HsQkjPQNe54>

The Canadian Mothers' Union has always wanted to see the worldwide parenting program offered in Canada's north - a call to action. There has been one opportunity already to train facilitators, as an initial step towards this goal, and the Anglican Church Women Board wants to help the Mothers' Union in its quest. Enter the Board's nationally focused Annual Project 2020/21, **Supporting Parents: Stories That Matter**. The idea is to bring in funds so that the facilitator program can be offered in the Council of the North of the Anglican Church of Canada, working in collaboration with the Council. The worldwide pandemic has presented obstacles to bringing in the desired funds, but we are inspired by the example of the **Parish of Sydney Mines / Baddeck** that recently sent to the Board a \$1,000 cheque for the Project from the sale of a beautiful quilt by quilt artisan and Anglican Church Women Board member, **Joanne Turner**. Talk about responding to a call to action – Joanne and her parish did! May we follow their good example.

To learn more about this amazing parenting program, take advantage of a short promotional video, offered by **Maxine Simpkin**, on the web pages (under *Ministries*) of either the Anglican Church Women Board or the Mothers' Union of the Diocesan website: www.nspeidiocese.ca

The Mothers' Union locally, nationally, and globally operates on a call to action. As a worldwide Christian organization with more than 4 million members in 83 countries, its whole way of being is a response to God's call to faith and action. The guiding vision is a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships. Responding to a call to action, strengthened by prayer, Mothers' Union members bring about positive change globally and in their communities. It is no surprise that the Anglican Church Women Board felt that *Women's Ministry Sunday 2021* was, and is, a perfect opportunity to recognize the ministry of the Mothers' Union (<https://canadianmothersunion.ca> and www.mothersunion.org).

The Board's theme for 2020/21 is a call to action for each and everyone of us. **What does God require of you? It is to Do Justice . . . Love Kindness . . . Walk humbly with your God** (from Micah 6:8). To appreciate a reflection on this theme, listen to the homily of the Anglican Church Women Board Chaplain, **Rev. Lori Ramsey**, at the Eucharist of the virtual Faith & Fellowship of Feb. 6/21. The direct link is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmcyOEhMnkw>

This link above (or, alternatively, on the Diocesan "channel", what was provided for the Feb. 6th livestream: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyuAcbkJhnMeYgGu5vn2ZBQ>) allows you to appreciate: 1. this **worship opportunity focused on the theme: Do Justice . . . Love Kindness . . . Walk Humbly with your God** with Celebrant, **Rev. Randy Townsend** and Homilist, **Rev. Lori Ramsey**; 2. an excellent power point on the Mothers' Union's **Worldwide Parenting Program** by Worldwide Trustee and Regional Parenting Trainer, **Kathleen Snow**; 3. an excellent overview of the **Mothers' Union ministry** by Diocesan President, soon to be Canadian President, **Mary Stone**; and, 4. a **very specific call to action for all women – a commissioning for ministry**.

Bringing all the strands together is the **excellent sermon** that postulant, **Debbie Fice**, offered on **Women's Ministry Sunday 2021** at the Cathedral Church of All Saints (www.cathedralchurchofallsaints.com) on Feb. 7/21. Check it out under *Information*. Debbie concluded her sermon with **Mary Sumner's** (Mothers' Union founder) **personal prayer**. If ever there was a call to action, this is it! May it also be our **call to action this Lent and Easter**.

All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. Amen