

# Northern Lights

# 182

The Journal of the  
Anglican Diocese  
of Yukon  
Winter 2018



Clergy and delegates assembled during the Service at the Diocesan Synod.

# Thank you for Praying

## Day 1 & 16

### Whitehorse: Christ Church Cathedral.

The Very Rev. Sean Murphy; The Rev. Elsa Cheeseman and Don Cheeseman; Licensed Lay Minister: Beverley Whitehouse, and David Robertson.

## Day 2 & 17

### Fort Nelson: St. Mary Magdalene. Toad River, Alaska Highway, Mile 150-506

The Ven. Lesley Wheeler-Dame, Archdeacon of Liard & Eric Dame; The Rev. Glen Gough & Sarah Gough; Licensed Lay Ministers: Mark Tudor.

## Day 3 & 18

### Watson Lake: St. John the Baptist; Lower Post, Swift River, Telegraph Creek: St.

Aidan; Dease Lake; Glenora. Licensed Lay Minister: Tim Liverton

## Day 4 & 19

### Carcross, Tagish & Johnson's Crossing St. Saviour's.

Teslin: St. Philips, Ven. Sarah Usher, Len Usher and the Ministry Team

## Day 5 & 20: Communities of: Carmacks & Keno.

**Day 6 & 21: Atlin – St. Martin:** The Rev. Vera Kirkwood; The Rev. Dorothy Odian & Dennis Odian; Licensed Lay Ministers George Holman and Cheri Malo.

## Day 7 & 22: Communities of Faro and Ross River

## Day 8 & 23

**Haines Junction:** St. Christopher's. **Beaver Creek:** St. Columba: **Alaska Highway: Mile 918-1202:** the Ministry Team

## Day 9 & 24

### Whitehorse: Church of the Northern Apostles.

The Ven. Sarah Usher, Len Usher. Licensed Lay Ministers Eileen Carver, Sheila Robertson, Cheri Malo and Linda Gerein.

## Day 10 and 25

**Mayo:** St. Mary with St. Mark. Licensed Lay Ministers Charles & Valerie Maier; **Pelly Crossing:** St. James the Lord's Brother

## Day 11 & 26

**Dawson City:** St. Paul's. **Moosehide:** St. Barnabas; **The Klondike Creeks; The Dempster Hwy.** The Ven. Laurie Munro, Archdeacon of Klondike; The Rev. Percy Henry. Licensed Lay Ministers: Mabel Henry; Shirley Pennell and Betty Davidson.

## Day 12 & 27

### Old Crow: St. Luke's.

The Rev. Bert Chestnut, The Rev. Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer & Lay Ministry Team

## Day 13 & 28

The Ven. Sarah Usher: Executive Archdeacon; Members of the Diocesan Executive Committee; Diocesan Prayer Partner: Diocese of Fredericton.

## Day 14 & 29

Patti Tetlich, Yukon Apostolate. Bishop's School of Yukon Ministries.

PWRDF Diocesan Representative: Betty Davidson

Diocesan ACW President, Blanche Buckle, and all ACW members.

## Day 15 & 30

### Those retired from Missionary Service:

The Rev. Canon David Pritchard.

The Rev. Don & Rev. Lee Sax.

The Rv. Canon Geoffrey & Rosalind Dixon.

The Rev. Canon David Kalles.

The Ven. John & Rev. Carol Tyrrell.

The Rev. Fred & Marcia Carson.

The Very Rev. Peter & Barbara Williams.

The Rev. Mary & Lino Battaja.

The Most Rev. Terry and Blanche Buckle.

The Rev. Martin & Ruth Carroll.

Marion Carroll, Aldene Snider, Audrey Aylard.

## Day 31 and daily:

The Rt. Rev. Larry Robertson and Sheila Robertson & family.



## A Message from the Bishop

Bishop's Message: Thoughts on  
Approaching Christmas

Friends:

As we come to the end of one year and enter into a new one, I am conscious that 2019 marks my 20<sup>th</sup> year as a Bishop and the 9<sup>th</sup> year as Bishop of this Diocese. I also turn 65 years of age. All these things have made me and my wife think of where the Lord is leading us in the future. To date, I do not know what the Lord has in mind for me, but I sense the need to make preparations.

At the last meeting of the Diocesan Executive, I asked for the selection of a Coadjutor Bishop, who will succeed me when I do eventually retire. The Executive of the Diocese has granted this, and the process of organizing an election begins.

At the beginning of the Church year we celebrate the birth of Jesus and then move into reaching out with the Good News of Jesus Christ in Epiphany. It helps me to remember the past year and think of what is happening in the future. I think of the celebration and the moving of St Mary Magdalene of Fort Nelson into their new storefront home after many years of sharing with another denomination, with all the restrictions that came with that. I will remember the procession, with mitre and cope on, marching and singing down the Main Street of Fort Nelson to the new place of worship. I think of the busy ministries of St. Martin's, Atlin, and St Paul's, Dawson City, with their thrift shops and local parish outreaches. I rejoice with Christ Church Cathedral with the outreach ministries to elders and the lower income people of the inner city. I



*Bishop Larry and Sheila Robertson*

remember the Vacation Bible Schools of the Cathedral and St Paul's with the laughter of the children echoing within the Church halls. Many joys, many happy memories.

But I also look ahead to where God is leading us and look with expectation for God to move and act in His glory. I look forward to the opening of the new Church building that will be the home of St. Luke's, Old Crow. I think how appropriate it is that the old Hudson Bay Store that provided physical food to the community for many years will soon be renovated to be the centre of providing Spiritual food to the community as it becomes the new worship center for St. Luke's.

I look forward with great expectation to what God will do in the Cathedral's new ministry called "The Gathering". This ministry reaches out to the inner city of Whitehorse to provide a meal



and a time of PP&T (Prayer, Praise and Teaching) on the second and fourth Monday evenings. I would ask your prayers for these exciting new adventures in the ministry of the Diocese.

I put out our three wooden Christmas angels that declare in words “Jesus is Near.” Although this is a message for all year round, it is especially appropriate at this time of the year. It reminds us that our Lord is as near as the hearts of believers. We can experience his amazing love in our lives and I hope we will take some time to share Christ’s love through our word’s and action with those we meet this season.

May you experience the Christ Child in your lives, may you see the Christ Child in the hearts of others and together may you share the amazing love of the Christ Child with the community you live in.

Sheila and I wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas

In Christ

*Bishop Larry Robertson*

# Ministry of Presence – Help Wanted

Most of you will know that the Diocese of Yukon does not have sufficient funds to fill our parishes with the needed ministers. In the past, many of these parishes have been without leadership. About six years ago the Diocese started a program called “Ministry of Presence”. In this program volunteers (lay or clergy), who have a source of income, (pension or other) come to live in one of the vacant parish rectories for a year at a time. These volunteers become the presence of Christ and the Church in the community. The selected persons would be responsible for Sunday and special services in the Community. Other than that, they would fit themselves into the community. Other duties and responsibilities would be determined beforehand at a meeting (conference call) of the Diocese, parish representatives and the candidate.

The Diocese will provide transportation costs, which include gas, food and accommodations to and from the diocese; orientation to the Diocese and parish; a small honorarium to help with higher food costs, ministry cost and a rectory and running costs to live in.

The candidate will provide their own income, (the honorarium is not sufficient to live on), their own vehicle and any special medical costs that the Government does not provide. The Diocese is unable to provide medical insurance.

***Parishes available currently, or in the near future, are:***

## **St Christopher, Haines Junction, Yukon**

This community, set in the mountains on the Alaskan Highway, is about two hours (150 km) drive from Whitehorse. In the summer, there is a local craft outlet in the basement where local artists sell their wares. This is a ministry started about five years ago by the parish. There is a modern kitchen from which a food share program was started in the past. During most of the year there is a thrift store twice a week in the basement. In the summer the Bluegrass Festival uses the church for part of the festival and on the Sunday the various Bluegrass groups hold a gospel concert in the Church. The living room window in the rectory looks out onto a range of mountains that will take your breath away.

## **St John the Baptist, Watson Lake**

Watson Lake is near the Yukon-BC Border, five hours (438 km) south-east of Whitehorse. The rectory here has just undergone major renovations, including a new furnace. The community is suffering from the lack of mining and oil exploration but being on the Alaska Highway it has a regular line of tourists in the summer. This small congregation tends to be ecumenical in nature and in the past has had an elder’s ministry and at other times a youth ministry. The possibilities will depend on the candidates.

Spring Edition deadline:  
February 20, 2019

# Ministry of Presence – Help Wanted

St Luke's, Old Crow

This traditional Gwichin (indigenous) community is almost 100% Anglican. For the past three years it has had a volunteer priest of the Ministry of Presence program. Sadly, he will be leaving this summer, and it is hoped that we will be able to find one to carry on the ministry without much interruption. This parish has a local Deacon to assist the lucky candidate. This is a fly-in community where access by a vehicle is not possible. If the candidates drive up to the territory their vehicle would be left in Whitehorse.

For more information about these postings, or to apply, contact the Bishop Larry Robertson, Box 31136, Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 5P7

## Thanksgiving Display at St. John the Baptist in Watson Lake



# News from St. Paul's



The recycling crew was busy raising funds for chapel repairs and upgrading again this past summer. The raised \$3800.00.



St. Paul's helped out during the Moosehide Gathering



St. Paul's Youth Singing Group.



Sunday School



# A Busy Year at St. Martin's, Atlin





2018 has been a busy year for us at St. Martin's in Atlin. The collage shows some of the events that have taken place so far this year : participating in Synod - the Thrift Shop's float in the July 1<sup>st</sup> parade - the Thrift Shop sponsored "St. Martin's in the Square" during the Atlin Music Festival – a baptism – a church picnic - Marilyn Holman received her much loved quilt from Fort Nelson – Kim Sargent's visit to Atlin (Kim's father Rev. Dan Sargent served in Atlin from 1974-76) - our Blessing of the Animals Service which is always so much fun.

We are now looking forward to the beginning of the Advent Season, our Thrift Shop's Christmas Sales, our Community Christmas Dinner sponsored by the three Atlin Churches and the Candle Light Service that is part of our celebration of the Christmas Season. St. Martin's congregation wishes you all a very blessed Advent and Christmas season.

## Summer Barbecues at Christ Church

article on next page



One of our summer Tuesday Barbecues this past summer. Left to right Bob Dempster, then Celebrity Host Whitehorse Food Bank Director Tristen Newsome, Dean Sean Murphy and Bishop Larry Roberson.

## **Tuesday Summer Barbecues at Christ Church Cathedral in 2018**

This Tuesday ministry of outreach, fundraising and social fellowship ran over a period of 11 weeks in 2018, from June 19 to August 28. We served approximately 500 people and made over \$2400 this year, to be shared between the Cathedral and the Whitehorse Food Bank.

Approximately twenty parishioners and nine celebrity chefs contributed their time, talent and energies to this project. We give thanks for the dedication and hard work of all the volunteers to help make the summer barbecues a success again this year.

The celebrity chefs, which are becoming a very popular feature of the barbecues, were Mayor Dan Curtis, NDP Leader Liz Hanson, Kwanlun Dun Chief Doris Bill, Liberal MP Larry Bagnell, Food Bank Director Tristen Newsome, Commissioner Angelique Bernard, Yukon Party MLA Brad Cathers, Speaker of the House Nils Clarke and Ta'an Kwatchun Council Chief Kristina Kane. All enjoyed their time with us and most, if not all, would be glad to come out again.

We offered a good meal for \$7.50, which included hamburger or hot dog with lettuce, tomato, onions and condiments, potato chips, coleslaw (and sometimes other salads brought by folks), deserts of fruit and cookies, coffee, tea and juice. People really enjoyed the meals and the social time together in Hellaby Hall and Stringer Park. A great mix of folks came out again, including parishioners, people from the community, and out of town visitors.

Our advertising was done with sandwich boards, newspapers, Sunday Bulletin, parish corp. email and emails to Whitehorse Churches. We may consider advertizing more widely if we have the barbecues again, although we are probably close to capacity with the volunteers we have at present.

Larry Bagnall gave us a generous supply of hot dogs, hamburgers, and buns left over from his own MP barbecue, which was much appreciated.

Our Tuesday summer barbecues are an important and very worthwhile outreach, fundraising and social ministry for us at the Cathedral, and of course we thank God for His grace and provision to make it happen. People in the parish and the community look forward to it every summer. We open our doors to the community and raise money for good causes. We are finding that it is a very visible and fun way to reach out and demonstrate the love of Jesus in our ministry together.

*Dean Sean Murphy*

# Bells of Peace at Christ Church Cathedral

This year marked the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI, the war to end all wars. At the 11th hour of 11 day of the 11th month in 1918 the armistice agreement calling for the cessation of fighting along the entire Western Front was to begin. Across Europe church bells tolled as four years of war came to an end.

The Royal Canadian Legion, in partnership with the Government of Canada, encouraged all communities this year to participate in Bells of Peace, a commemorative initiative marking the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, through a soundwave of bells tolling 100 times from coast to coast to coast at the setting of the sun.

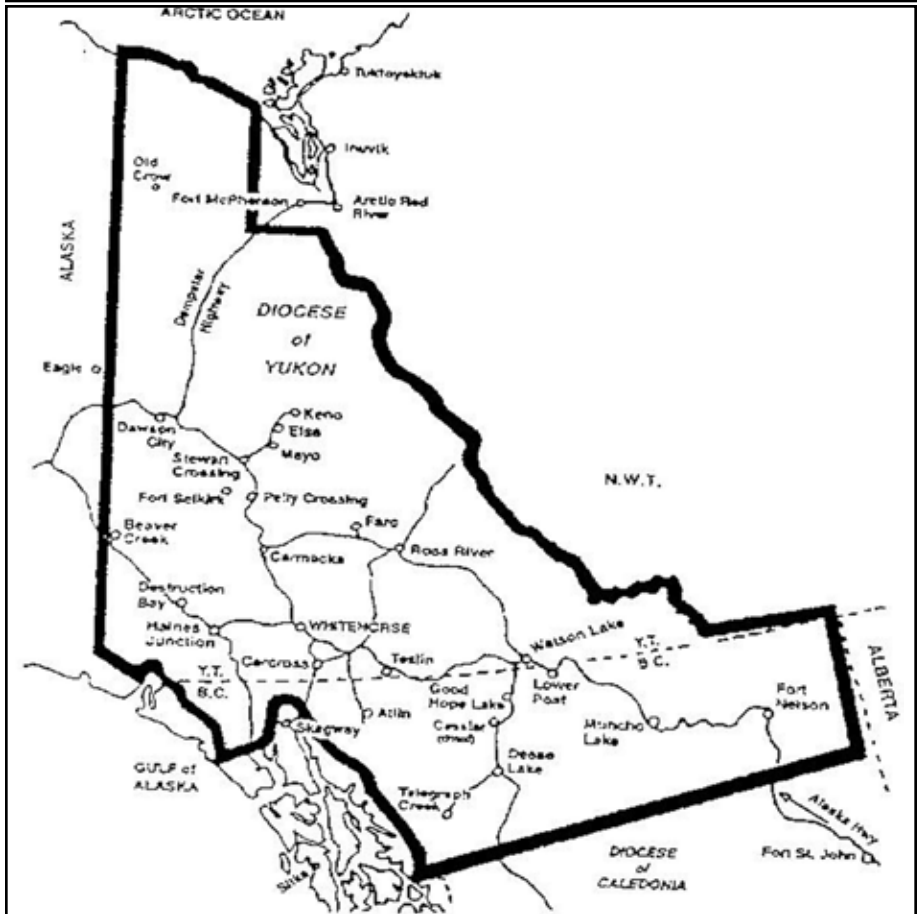
We at Christ Church Cathedral responded, along with two other Churches in Whitehorse, Sacred Heart Cathedral and our Lady of Victory Catholic Churches. We rang our bells 100 times starting at 4:35 pm (1635 hrs) on Remembrance Day, Sunday November 11. In this way we joined with others in Canada in sharing the message of hope for an end to hostilities in our war-torn world just as those bells across Europe did 100 years ago.

## *Dean Sean Murphy*

*Ed. Note: Bells were also rung at the Richard Martin Chapel (for St. Paul's) and also at St Mary's Catholic Church in Dawson and St. Philip's in Teslin.*



*Bishop Larry Robertson and Dean Sean Murphy gathering with others at the Cathedral after the Ringing of the Bells.*



Northern Lights magazine is published by the Diocese of Yukon and its goal is to inform people everywhere about the life, work and mission of the Anglican Church in the diocese and to inform the churches of Yukon about each other, thus strengthening the bonds of mutual appreciation. Opinions expressed herein are those of the writer or contributor and not necessarily those of the Diocese of Yukon.

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