

# The Territory of the People

Anglican Church

## Territory Bulletin

6 June 2019

### BISHOP'S MESSAGE:

The photo album on the Territory Website containing 266 pictures of our recent Assembly reflect a very happy group of people coming together to do the work of the Territory. And much work was done as we celebrated the mission and ministry of our local churches, the Territory and wider church in the comfort of the wonderful hospitality of St John the Divine, Quesnel.

The Assembly was opened by Archbishop Melissa Skelton with prayer, greetings from the Wardens and Mayor of Quesnel and the work began.

- The Bishop's Address highlighted the work we have accomplished since we last met, reflected in all the reports before the Assembly and the motions arising from them.
- The Report from the Task Force for the Election Process of a new Bishop was presented and accepted by resolution by the Assembly.
- We reviewed the first draft of a new Territory Profile prepared by the Coordinating Council Task Force.
- Resolutions coming from the report of the Ministry Committee and the Engage Freedom Report on Human Trafficking were presented and passed.
- Archbishop Melissa reported on the ministry of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon on the online Safe Church training program which is to be in place this fall, and the ongoing consultation amongst the Dioceses/Territory for greater collaboration on our common life.
- Archbishop Fred Hiltz reported on the upcoming General Synod and the ministry before it and then led a wonderful process on the Heartbeat of the Church engaging us with writing prayers for our church.
- The "Journeying Together in Faith" video which tells part of the story from Cariboo to the Territory was shown for the first time.
- We elected a new Coordinating Council and Administration Committee, delegates to Province Synod and General Synod, new Clergy and Lay Secretaries and an Indigenous Director.

And we celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Saviour's Barkerville with a wonderful evening prayer service with the Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz preaching, dinner at Wake Up Jakes and a delightful variety show at the theatre.

We honoured some of the people in our community for their outstanding ministry.

- Melissa Green, the recipient of the Anglican Award of Merit,
- Trev Whiting, A Diocese of Cariboo trustee for his work for Cariboo,
- Len Fraser, a new Canon of the Territory.

These are only some highlights of the Assembly, I know that your delegates will be giving reports back to your congregations soon and will give you much more information along with the reports on the Territory Website.

On Sunday at the end of the Assembly closing Eucharist, I announced my retirement effective December 31, 2019. And Coordinating Council set in motion the process to elect a new Bishop with the hope of an Electoral Assembly on September 28, 2019 in Ashcroft.

It is my hope I can get to each parish for at least one more visit this summer and fall. Please be in touch with me if you are planning special events and I will endeavour to attend as many as possible.

Blessings,

+Barbara



## Prayers...

- ❖ We pray for Rev Isabel Healy Morrow as she continues her journey of recovery through dialysis and chemo treatments, giving thanks for all who support her.
- ❖ We pray for the Rev John Boyd and the people of St. George's church Kamloops, as John begins his ministry as the new Incumbent.
- ❖ We pray for the people of St. Timothy's 100 Mile House, St. Peter's Williams Lake and St. Luke's Alexis Creek, in this time of transition.
- ❖ We pray for Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Archbishop Melissa Skelton, the Diocese of New Westminster and all delegates as they prepare for General Synod in July.
- ❖ We pray for new vocations for leadership in the church.
- ❖ We pray for Bishop Barbara during this transition time prior to her retirement.

## Territory News

**Welcome to the Rev John Boyd** – Bishop Barbara was pleased to preside at the Induction of the Rev John Boyd to the parish of St. George, Kamloops on Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup>. John comes to us from the Lutheran tradition and is a welcome addition to our clergy team.

**Lay Ministers of Word and Sacrament Study Day** – June 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 4 pm, registration at 9 am at St. Timothy's, 100 Mile House ... "Prayers of the People in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" under the guidance of Bishop Barbara and the Rev Len Fraser.

**Deacon's Vocational Event** has been postponed due to a lack of registrations at this time. Watch for a new time and place in the Fall.

**The Treasurers and Wardens Workshop** will be held in the northern deanery at a time and place in the near future – watch this space!

## OTHER NEWS

**Anglican Journal** – subscription confirmation is required from each subscriber [on line](#) or by phone **1-866-333-0959**, or home delivery will be discontinued following the June 2019 issue. For more information click [here](#)

**Vancouver School of Theology (VST) Indigenous Studies Program Summer School** – Offers holistic and interdisciplinary courses which examine sacred scripture, theology, and philosophy through the lens of indigenous thought. Click [here](#) for information and to register.

**General Synod** – will be held July 11-16 in Vancouver. For ongoing updates and news from the Council of General Synod click [here](#). The local arrangements committee for Synod is seeking volunteers for a variety of capacities, assisting with the multitude of supports needed for this assembly. As a volunteer you may attend Synod as an observer, and it will be an interesting assembly with the election of the new Primate. For more information on volunteering and to access the application form, click [here](#).

**Respect Justice Camp** – August 13-19 in Windsor Ontario. Dioceses across Canada have hosted the Justice Camps which provide an important opportunity for the family of faith to gather and explore important justice-based themes including: Food, Advocacy, Environment, Poverty, Community, Shalom, Land, and International Justice Camps. More information can be found on the Anglican Church of Canada website [here](#), or on the Justice Camp website [here](#).

**Anglican Diocese of Montreal e-newsletter** – click [here](#) for news from our Companion Diocese and the work they are doing – stop by the Territory office to see the piece of beautiful stained glass art presented to Bishop Barbara and the Territory by Bishop Mary Irwin Gibson, at our Assembly in Quesnel.

## 2019 Assembly – Quesnel and Barkerville BC

### Motions Passed:

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019: Approve Coordinating Council's recommendation to appoint KPMG as auditors for the fiscal year 2020

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019: Approve **Policy** 1.11 Nominating and Electoral Procedure for the Election of a Bishop for the Territory of the People Anglican Church

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019: Approve the **Procedures** for Policy 1.11 Nominating and Electoral Procedure for the Election of a Bishop for the Territory of the People Anglican Church

**THAT:** Coordinating Council start the process immediately to elect a Bishop under the new Policy 1.11 "Nominating and Electoral Procedure for the Election of a Bishop for the Territory of the People Anglican Church"

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019: Direct the Ministry Committee to invite every parish in the Territory to host a workshop on Collaborative Ministry reporting back to their congregation and to the Ministry Committee, through the Territory Ministry Developer.

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019: Directs the Ministry Committee to complete the work on discernment and application documents for the Priesthood and Diaconate.

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019: Direct the Ministry Committee to host a vocation day in 2020

As a gesture of our baptismal covenant to "safeguard the integrity of God's creation and respect and renew the life of the Earth" (BAS page 159),

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019; Encourage the curtailing of all single use plastics and Styrofoam in all Territory Parishes and at Territory events and end the purchase of the same by 2023

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019

- a) Condemn the on-going practices of human trafficking and modern slavery and commit to working for their elimination in Canada and globally,
- b) Direct Coordinating Council to set up a Task Force with a mandate to engage in educating and combatting human trafficking in the Territory of the People and to report to the Coordinating Council at its Spring 2020 meeting.

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019: Commend for study where most appropriate the Report: *Investing with a Mission: a Guide to Responsible Investment and Church Funds*.

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019 direct Coordinating Council to call all parishes within the Territory of the People to engage in weekly prayer in public worship for new vocations for leadership in the church.

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019 direct the Bishop to write a letter to Producers Lisa Barry, Becky Boucher and Scott Brown of Anglican Video with our profound thanks for their outstanding work on "Journeying Together in Faith."

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019 direct the Bishop to write to the General Secretary of the ACC to commend the outstanding work on "Journeying Together in Faith" video the Anglican Video and its staff of Lisa Barry, Becky Boucher

and Scott Brown did to produce a history of the Diocese of Cariboo, the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior and the creation of the Territory of the People.

**THAT:** the Assembly of the Territory of the People Anglican Church gathered in 2019 direct the Bishop to write to Margaret Mitchell, Dwight Oatway, Bonnie Bailey and Andy Prodaniuk letters of our deep appreciation for the extra ministry they have done on behalf of the Territory.

**THAT:** Coordinating Council direct the Clerical and Lay Secretaries to write to the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of BC and Yukon giving notice to the Metropolitan the desire of the Territory of the People Anglican Church to hold an election, and requesting the Metropolitan to determine, pursuant to the canons of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon, that an election may be held.

**THAT:** This Coordinating Council appoint the Electoral Committee consisting of: the Counsel to the Bishop, the Financial Officer, the Clerical and the Lay Secretary, and five additional people being: Ken Gray, Ken Ponsford, Marlena Anderson, Brenda Munroe, Pastoral Elder Amy Charlie, with one additional appointment outside of the Territory. With concurrence of the Metropolitan, the work of this committee will follow the Policy 1.11 Nominating and Electoral Procedure for the Election of a Bishop for the Territory of the People Anglican Church,

**AND**

Will start immediately with the view of holding an Episcopal Electoral Assembly on September 28, 2019 in Ashcroft BC.

**THAT:** Coordinating Council to hold Bishop Barbara in prayer during this time of transition

**THAT:** The Assembly of the Territory of the People gathered in 2019: Give Thanks to:

- The local arrangements committee for their hospitality and attention to the logistics which have ensured the success of this gathering
- Chiefs of the local Bands and the First Nations peoples of Quesnel and the Cariboo Area, for their warm welcome into their territory
- Rev. Len Fraser, Nadine Kirby, Kay Honour and their team for their leadership and coordination of the details of this Assembly and to the congregations of St. John the Divine, Quesnel for all their hard work which has helped ensure the success of our Assembly
- Very Rev Ken Gray for organizing our worship and providing uplifting music
- Cathy Wozlowski for organizing our nomination and elections process
- David Durksen for organizing the Resolutions process
- Philomena Hughes and her team for the response to the Bishop's Charge
- The Rev Michael Robson of the Diocese of Montreal for his presence
- Margaret Mitchell our hard working recording secretary, for her tireless work in organizing the administrative details of this Assembly
- The Rev Reynard (Ben Stuchbery) and the team in Barkerville for the fine evening of food and entertainment on Saturday evening
- Our Pastoral Elders for their guiding presence
- Mayor Bob Simpson for his warm welcome to the City of Quesnel
- Suzanne Jackson for her wise counsel to the Bishop
- Dwight Oatway for his hard work and diligence to our financial affairs
- The Rt Rev Mary Irwin Gibson of the Diocese of Montreal for her presence amongst us at this Assembly and for her inspiring reflection on our companion relationship as we journey together
- The Most Rev Melissa Skelton, Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon, for her leadership, her guiding and encouraging presence amongst us
- The Most Rev Fred Hiltz for leading us through the conversation on the Heartbeat of the Church, and for his eleven years of ministry as our Primate
- All the unsung heroes whose quiet work behind the scenes has ensured the success of this outstanding Assembly as we Build, Renew, Strengthen, by Walking Together in Unity.

## **Bishop Barbara's Retirement Announcement**

My dear Friends:

On Oct 18 of this year, I will celebrate the tenth anniversary of my ordination as your Bishop. I have loved being your Bishop – it has been for me both the most humbling experience and the greatest privilege to serve with many fine clergy and lay leaders over this past ten years. I have loved each of my parish visits in times of great joy, and even in times of sadness and struggle, as we always worked together to find a way forward.

When God called me to be among you as your Bishop, I envisioned a much different ministry, but I found my role was to give leadership to a process of moving the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior from under the umbrella of the Province of BC & Yukon to becoming once again an Anglican Identity with the rights and responsibilities of a diocese. During my episcopal ministry, in my visits with each parish and to the many gatherings we held, I learnt some important truths about the people who God had gifted me to share in ministry with.

The first truth is the deep commitment to be the family of God despite the horrors of our history, and along with your deep commitment to walk together to healing and reconciliation has been paramount in your sharing with me – you were prepared to give up all to stay in the family of God here in this place.

The Second truth was your desire for the right to elect your own Bishop under your terms.

The Third truth, you knew you needed to embrace new ways of being church and doing the mission of God in this place. I witnessed how faithful you were in prayer, allowing the Holy Spirit to take you on a journey that brought us here to today. As you moved to becoming the Territory of the People, you held firmly to your commitments, made right here in Quesnel in 2000 as you let go of the Diocese of Cariboo. You held firmly to the affirmations you adopted as you became the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior, and I believe you have been able to maintain the best of who you have been and are as you walk together into a hope filled future.

I have a deep sense that God is calling me to retirement as Bishop, now that we have completed this part of the journey together. Coordinating Council this morning has made way for me to retire and to begin the process of electing a new bishop over the summer and it is my prayer that on September 28th, you will gather to elect your new Bishop. With this in mind, early today, I sent a letter to the Metropolitan, stating my intention to retire at the end of the 2019.

Retirement for me has many exciting possibilities and I will take time to discover them. However, what I will miss most in retirement is the privilege of sharing in ministry with an outstanding team of clergy and laity who have been courageous in finding new ways to be God's people as the Territory of the People. I pray you will live into your theme for this Assembly, as you go forward to build, renew and strengthen by walking together in unity.

Link to the Bishop's announcement regarding her retirement... located on our website [here](#).

## Prayer

This prayer was one of many which were formed during the table exercise of the Heartbeat of the Church led by Archbishop Fred Hiltz. The Archbishop used this prayer during the final Eucharist.

Loving and faithful God,  
You chose us, and we are made known to you  
through your well beloved Son Jesus Christ  
who laid down his life for us.  
Help us to feel your presence,  
Give us accepting and open minds,  
Give us inclusivity and make us one.  
Refresh, renew, and rebuild our imagination in faith.  
Set us free from our fears so we may become a community of trust and hope.  
Send your Holy Spirit to fill us with strength and abundance of gifts,  
So we may serve you in newness of life and bear fruit that will last.  
Amen.

## **BISHOP'S SCHEDULE AND IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES**

June 12	Opening of Deni House – Sacred Space at Williams Lake Hospital	July 19-22	Montreal Wedding
June 14	Strawberry Tea – St. Paul's, Kamloops	August 19-26	Ordination of new Bishop – Diocese of Yukon, Whitehorse
June 15	Lay Ministers of Word and Sacrament Study Day, 100 Mile House		Meeting of the BCY House of Bishops
June 16	St. John's Quesnel, Special Vestry Meeting	<b>Sept 1</b>	<b>Deadline Anglican Foundation Grants</b>
June 18-21	WECAN gathering in Calgary AB	Sept 15-20	National House of Bishops, Niagara Falls
June 20	Ashcroft gathering	Sept 21-23	Indigenous House of Bishops, Toronto
June 23	St. Michael's, Merritt	Sept 23-26	Council of the North, Toronto
June 27	Administration Committee	Sept 26	Administration Committee
June 30		Sept 28	Electoral Assembly, Ashcroft
July 7-9	Council of the North Grant Allocation Committee, Vancouver	Sept 29	Robson Valley Parish Visit
July 10 – 16	General Synod, Vancouver		