

TERRITORY OF THE PEOPLE

Monthly Bulletin - Epiphany

5 January 2022

An Epiphany Message from Archbishop Lynne...

Eve of Epiphany, 2022

Dear People of the Territory of the People,



Greetings on this twelfth day of the Christmas Season, the Eve of Epiphany. I am always glad that Christmas is a season in our church calendar, not just one day but twelve days to celebrate the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. We need so much to absorb this good news that the God we worship knows the reality and vulnerability of being human; God is not a remote disinterested architect of the universe, but a passionately engaged Lover of Creation who is prepared to dwell with humanity.

This is such an important foundation for our prayer life, to carry on in depth, honest conversation with God about the reality of our lives, and to leave space for listening to God. We enter this conversation knowing we are deeply understood in our full humanity, the comforting confidence of being fully known; this is the Good News of Christmas. How does that affect your daily life?

I know the high cost of having only on-line worship during this season, as much of our joy in the season is being with people, singing together, being surrounded with familiar sights, sounds, smells, that we associate with Christmas. I pray you have been able to deepen your spiritual practices of the season in your own home to add fullness to the on-line worship. As Incarnational people, as we have discovered during the pandemic, it is important to physically partake: to light a candle, to stand up to sing along, maybe even to dress up for worship, to read along in your own Bible, to participate as much as possible with our bodies and whole selves so we are worshipping, not just passively watching. I invite you to light the Christ candle of your Advent Wreath one last time tomorrow, on Epiphany, to mark the end of the Christmas season. Pray the Epiphany Collect (below). Leave your lights up for Epiphany season!

With the extremely cold weather and the amount of snow we have had across the province, closures, coupled with the Omicron cases rising, many of us have been housebound. We have had disappointing and frustrating limitations to our usual Christmas traditions, family visits and travel plans canceled. This has called us once again to draw on spiritual strength and deep patience, to find inner resources to deal with isolation, loneliness, restlessness, disappointment and uncertainty.

One of the ongoing discoveries of a maturing Christian, (sanctification, as it is called, our growing in holiness) is that joy is not tied to outward circumstances but to the faithfulness of God. We have been reminded of that in the past few days as we have reviewed the remarkable life of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. In the midst of the trauma of Apartheid, in the difficult work of listening to horror stories during the Truth and Reconciliation hearings, he maintained a sense of joy in God's presence with humanity. May we grow in that joy based on God's love. As we enter the season of Epiphany, the growing Light of Christ spreading out to the world, I invite you to memorize and meditate on Tutu's conviction:

"Goodness is stronger than evil
love is stronger than hate
Light is stronger than darkness,
Life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours, through God who loves us."

Thank you to all the clergy and lay leaders who made worship happen over the Christmas Season. It was a joy for me to share Dec. 26 worship with Kootenay Diocese and Territory of the People together.

Please pray for Bishop-Elect Kathy Martin, who will be consecrated on Epiphany as the Bishop of B.C. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. I had planned to attend this event in person, but it has been scaled down to only a handful of participants; I will be now attending and reading on Zoom. I'm sad to not be there, but two other Anglican bishops will be there in person; it is an important symbol of being in full communion with the Lutherans for Anglican bishops to lay hands on Lutheran bishops at their consecrations and vice versa.

Next week we will be reviewing the need for on-line worship. In the meantime, please continue to phone each other, especially any isolated members of your church community.

Wishing you every blessing for 2022,

Yours in Christ,

+Lynne

The Epiphany (6 January)

Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

I

Almighty and ever living God,
you revealed the incarnation of your Son
by the brilliant shining of a star.
Shine the light of your justice
in our hearts and over all lands,
and accept our lives as the treasure we offer
in your praise and for your service;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

[Evangelical Lutheran Worship 2006 alt.]

II

Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
so that we may find our journey's end
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[Common Worship: Additional Collects 2004 alt.]

Prayer Corner



- * We pray for all communities affected by wildfires and floods; for the loss of homes, livelihoods, communities, friends and families; we pray for strength, healing and God's grace
- * We pray for our parishes and congregations during this time of uncertainty as we continue to experience the effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic; we pray for those with anxiety and concern as we continue to find our way through this pandemic
- * We pray for all Pastoral Elders: Ursula Drynock, Amy Charlie, Pauline and Ernie Michelle, and Dorothy Philips
- * We pray for the Rev Canon Isabel Healy Morrow and all who support her, as she continues her journey of recovery, giving thanks for her ministry to St. Michael's Merritt, especially in the aftermath of the floods
- * We pray for Dwight Oatway, his wife Islay and their family
- * We continue to pray for Angus and Debbie Muir, as they grieve the loss of Debbie's son Darren; praying for Darren's family – wife Celaine, daughter Skye, brother Trevor
- * We pray for new ministry leadership in the Territory: St. Paul's Cathedral Kamloops, the Lillooet Shared Ministry, the Three Rivers Ministry – Prince George and Quesnel
- * We pray for the Holy Spirit to call to the Territory a bishop and office coordinator
- * We pray for all who are confined by illness, praying they may find peace and strength in the love and care they receive from others
- * We pray for all those without the security, safety and comfort of a home, or economic stability
- * We pray for those with anxiety and stress concerning personal economic situations

Territory News:

⌘ **Lytton Fire Fund** – donations are still being received providing financial aid to the community which was devastated by fire on June 30th, 2021. Donations can be made through PWRDF, (see article below), through CanadaHelps.org by using the “Donate Now” button on the St. Paul’s Cathedral Kamloops website – click [here](#) for the link, or by cheque made payable to the Territory of the People. All donations are to be earmarked “Lytton Fire Fund.” An official tax receipt will be issued for donations from individuals and non charitable organizations.

Funds received will be disbursed by the Lytton Fire Fund Committee whose mandate was approved by Administration Committee on September 23rd. For more information please contact the Territory office: office@territory.anglican.ca or by phone: 778-471-5573

⌘ **BC Disaster Fund – renamed the Nicola Valley Flood Fund:** ~ The residents of BC are still experiencing the results of the disaster from the Atmospheric River which caused flooding and mudslides, damaged highways, impacted rail lines and supply chains, destroyed homes and businesses, and forced hundreds of residents to evacuate. Now with winter upon us, colder temperatures, snow and freezing rain, the clean-up and repair is difficult and will take time. In the Territory, our people of Merritt who have been so severely affected by the floods are facing a tough winter and need help. The response from the wider Anglican church has been immediate, with many answering the call yet again with offers to send money to those who are impacted, and those affected and displaced.

The Territory of the People has set up a “Nicola Valley Flood Fund” to distribute funds collected to those affected in the Territory.

If you wish to donate please send your donation to:

The Territory of the People
360 Nicola Street
Kamloops BC V2C 2P5



Please make your cheque payable to the Territory of the People and mark your donation to the “Nicola Valley Flood Fund.” An official tax receipt will be issued for donations from individuals and non charitable organizations.

Funds received will be disbursed by the Territory’s Nicola Valley Fund Committee, chaired by the Rev Canon Isabel Healey Morrow with members from the community of Merritt and the Territory. For more information please contact the Territory office: office@territory.anglican.ca or by phone: 778-471-5573

Please keep the Territory in your prayers as we continue to deal with the diverse needs of all those affected by these disastrous events, and their communities.

Important Dates:

January 20	Administration Committee – 7pm Zoom
February 28	Deadline for Parish Annual Vestry Meetings
March 2	Ash Wednesday – First day of Lent
March 15	Deadline for Ministry Fund Grant Applications
March 17	Administration Committee – 7pm Zoom
April 1	Deadline Anglican Foundation Grant Applications
April 10	Palm Sunday
April 15	Deadline Capital Fund Grant Applications
April 17	Easter Sunday
April 21	Administration Committee – 7pm Zoom
May 27-29	Bi-Annual Assembly – location to be determined

Territory News, continued...

- ∞ **The Territory Coordinating Council** met on November 20th where a long and serious discussion took place with Archbishop Lynne McNaughton, our Metropolitan and current presiding bishop about whether or not the Territory is ready to proceed with an episcopal electoral assembly in 2022. As a result of this discussion, Coordinating Council passed the following motion which was carried unanimously:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Coordinating Council direct Archbishop Lynne McNaughton to appoint an Assistant Bishop as an interim until the election of a new bishop for the Territory of the People

The rationale for this decision is to give us all time and space to recover and heal. The leadership of a seasoned, retired Bishop can lead us through this process of recovery until we feel the time is right to proceed with an election for a new bishop. With fewer people in leadership roles to deal with some of the challenges we are facing, having an Assistant Bishop in place for the short term will give us all some breathing room, will remove the time constraints and immediacy for the Electoral Committee, for the delegates and for us all; it will give us time to continue the process of an election at a later date without these time constraints. The feeling from many is we need to be diligent in the election process and not feel rushed in any way.

The assistant Bishop will work with Archbishop Lynne in the leadership of the Territory, and it must be stressed, **this is for the short term only**, until such time as we all feel ready to proceed with an episcopal electoral assembly. Archbishop Lynne will keep us informed about her search for a retired Bishop who is suitable to the needs of the Territory.

If you have any questions or need any more information, please contact the Rev Canon Len Fraser at the Territory Office – administrator@territory.anglican.ca or phone: 778-471-5573

- ∞ **Assembly 2022** – Coordinating Council has set the date for a full Assembly next year, so please mark your calendars for **May 27-29, 2022**. The Assembly will likely be held in Kamloops; more details will unfold in the coming months.
- ∞ **Policy Revisions** – Coordinating Council approved the increase to travel rates for parish mileage from .43 to .45 cents/kilometer, **effective January 1, 2022**. Next review will be in 2023.
- ∞ **Territory Resource Centre:** After setting up and running the Resource Centre for many years, Coordinators Gordon and Mary Dove have decided to retire. We are so grateful for their ministry and the riches it has brought to the Territory. Mary and Gordon have earned a well deserved break! The Territory is looking for one or two people to take over the ministry of the Resource Centre. Policy 1.12 Mandate of the Resource Centre will provide an overview. If you have a desire for this to be your Ministry, or know of any persons in your parish who feel called to this ministry, please contact the Territory Office – office@territory.anglican.ca Phone: 778-471-5573



“The Point of Arrival” – Carrie Newcomer
Faith found in doubt ... click [here](#) for the music video

HANDY LINKS:

Anglican Church of Canada
Anglican Journal
Anglican Foundation
Anglican Renewal Ministries (ARM) Canada
Book of Alternative Services

Common Praise online

[Calendar of Intercessions: Jan- March, 2022](#)

Employee Assistance Program - Lifeworks

Pastoral Visitor – July/August 2021

PWRDF

Territory of the People website

Other News:

- ⌘ [Primates World Relief and Development Fund \(PWRDF\)](#) ~ for the latest PWRDF newsletter and highlights, click [here](#);
- ⌘ [Surprised by the Spirit](#) ~ this Canada-wide initiative seeks to connect Anglicans across the country in conversation, prayer and discovery. Archbishop Linda Nicholls invites us to gather again, as we did in early 2019, in ‘Conversation Circles’ to explore our discoveries and surprises, and to listen for the voice of the Spirit in our midst. Click [here](#) for more information.
- ⌘ [Anglican Foundation](#) – the Board of Directors of the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC) approved nearly \$650,000 in grants and bursaries to 110 applicants as part of its November 2021 grant cycle, bringing the Canada-wide 2021 grant awards total to more than \$835,000. Click [here](#) for a list of recipients.

Territory parishes are encouraged to keep their membership up to date, as we have always received grant funding when requested, click [here](#) for a list of grants received. More information on the Anglican Foundation can be found on their website [here](#)
- ⌘ [Diocese of Montreal](#) – Companion Diocese to the Territory of the People since 2008 – Click [here](#) for the latest e-news from the Diocese of Montreal.
- ⌘ [Council of General Synod](#) – Archbishop Lynne McNaughton attended CoGS and commends the following video for all: **“Reclaiming Our Spiritual Wholeness – Our Journey to Self-Determination”** - It is a succinct history of the journey towards self-determination for Indigenous Anglicans, a history all should know. Click [here](#) for the video.

And now for something completely different...

Who doesn't love word play...

- * If you're bad at haggling, you'll end up paying the price.
- * Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? Swarm
- * Why is 'dark' spelled with a k and not c? Because you can't see in the dark.

And now a little bit about me...

I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.

I lost my girlfriend's audio book, and now I'll never hear the end of it.

When I told my contractor I didn't want carpeted stairs, they gave me a blank stare.

Teacher: Winnie, name one important thing we have today we didn't have 10 years ago.

Winnie: ME!!