Anglican Appeal

CELEBRATING OUR UNITY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Supporters' Newsletter

Fall 2013

Together for the Love of the World

Dear Friends,

General Synod's ministries and ministry partnerships are part of a great story that God is telling across our church. This story is of renewal and imagination as our church comes to terms with a changing social landscape and new challenges in our ministry together.

At the recent Joint Assembly, we gathered "Together for the Love of the World." I have no doubt that God is asking us to see the changing world as the setting for changed lives, communities, and peoples.

Your support of General Synod's ministries and ministry partnerships is a vital and transformative gift as we continue our journey together for the love of the world. Thank you for your ministry where you live and serve. Thank you also for the gift you give the national ministry of our church through the Anglican Appeal. You are making a world of difference.

Yours gratefully,

Michael Thompson,
General Secretary

Canadian Lutheran, Anglican youth lead Parliament Hill event to raise awareness about issues of access to safe, clean water

by **Noah Crouse,** Joint Assembly Communications

The Centennial Flame burns as Canadian Anglicans and Lutherans join together in public witness to draw attention to the issues of access to clean drinking water. On a sunny Saturday morning, hundreds of Lutherans and Anglicans gathered under the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill to worship and raise awareness about protecting Canada's water supply.

This morning's service, which included traditional aboriginal drums, prayers and small group discussions, was organized and almost entirely run by youth. It was meant to raise awareness about water pollution and the lack

Please see **STRONG VOICE OF YOUTH** on next page

Strong voice of youth, crying out for justice

Continued from opposite page

of clean drinking water in First Nations communities.

"It's a strong sign to our church and our country that we are being led by the strong voice of the youth, who are crying out for justice," said National Lutheran Bishop Susan Johnson, who helped lead the service with Anglican Primate Fred Hiltz.

She pointed to the link between the "Right to Water" campaign, and the joint recommendation for responsible resource extraction at the assembly. "I hope that people will take seriously the commitment that we made, that we are going to learn and advocate, to do the best we can to work for change."

Bishop Lydia Mamakwa, from Kingfisher First Nation north of Sioux Lookout, who also joined the service, knows firsthand the need for Canadians to protect their water. "In my tribe, we have many fresh water lakes and we used to be able to drink out of them all the time, but now it [the water] is polluted," she said, following the service.

Also attending the service was Archdeacon Larry Beardy, from the Tataskweyak Cree Nation in Northern Manitoba, located on the Nelson River, which flows into the Hudson Bay. Although surrounded by lakes of fresh water, Archdeacon Beardy said the water quality had been impacted by hydro development. "A lot of people don't understand the water situation, especially in First Nations communities," he said. In Canada, "We have an abundance of water. Sometimes we have to take it for granted. We have to respect water like the land."

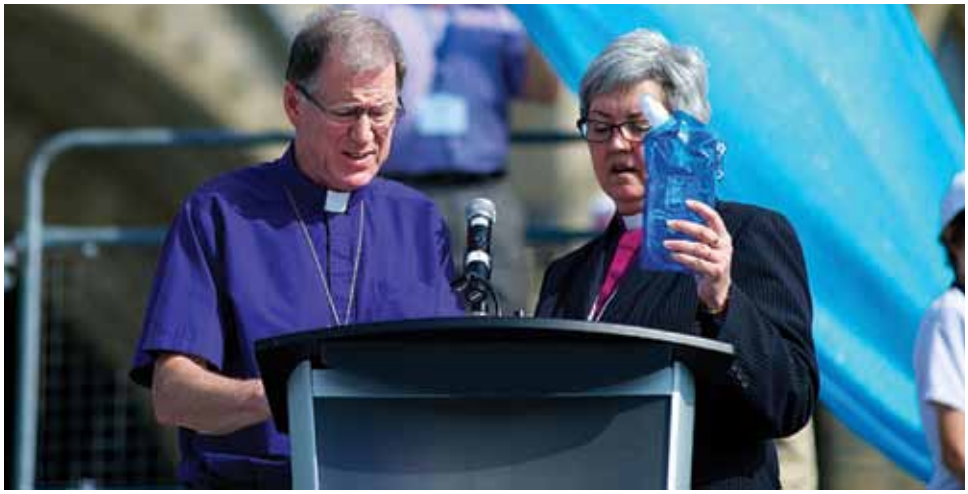
This includes, as Primate Hiltz said, being careful about how much water we use in cities where it feels like there is an unlimited source. "Today, when I woke up, I was very mindful of water, as I was able to take a shower and drink many cups of water. All that clean water was there for me."

Primate Hiltz also said it was a gift that the two churches could come together and talk about this issue. "There's an old saying, 'One voice alone is kind of ragged, but together we're a much stronger sound.'"

The service included prayers in the four directions. With the crowd facing north, a prayer was recited for rivers. To the east, the crowd paused for a silent prayer for the ocean and fisheries, and "for people who still cross oceans to find a safe home." With the crowd looking at the Ottawa skyline, a prayer was said "to be mindful of using water responsibly" in cities where we have water at our fingertips. And finally, the crowd looked to the west, and prayed for farmers who use water to grow crops and for rural communities, especially places "who do not yet have access to safe, reliable drinking water."

Sophie Ruprecht, a 17-year-old member of St. John Lutheran Church in Ottawa, participated in the service and hoped that the morning event was an effective way to raise awareness. "It's right in front of Parliament. It's catching people's attention."

As the leaders closed with the benediction, long strips of blue material representing water were passed down through the crowd. People began to spontaneously sing "O Canada," clearly moved by the worship service. ■



"It's a strong sign to our church and our community that we are being led by the strong voice of the youth, who are crying out for justice."
—Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada National Bishop Susan Johnson

Noah Crouse is a 12-year-old member of St. John Lutheran Church in Ottawa, who volunteered his time, talents and energy during the Joint Assembly. This story appeared on News from General Synod (www.anglican.ca) on July 6, 2013.

page one: **The Centennial Flame burns as Canadian Anglicans and Lutherans join together in public witness to draw attention to the issues of access to clean drinking water.** (Photo: Brian Bukowski/Joint Assembly Communications)

top: **Archbishop Fred Hiltz and National Bishop Susan Johnson at the gathering. Bishop Susan lifted the water, acknowledging its importance and our call to stewardship through the waters of baptism: "As servants of all let us bless one another with this gift that God has given us."** (Photo: Brian Bukowski/Joint Assembly Communications)

bottom: **Noah Crouse, Right to Water participant and youth reporter.** (Photo: Trina Gallop/Joint Assembly Communications)

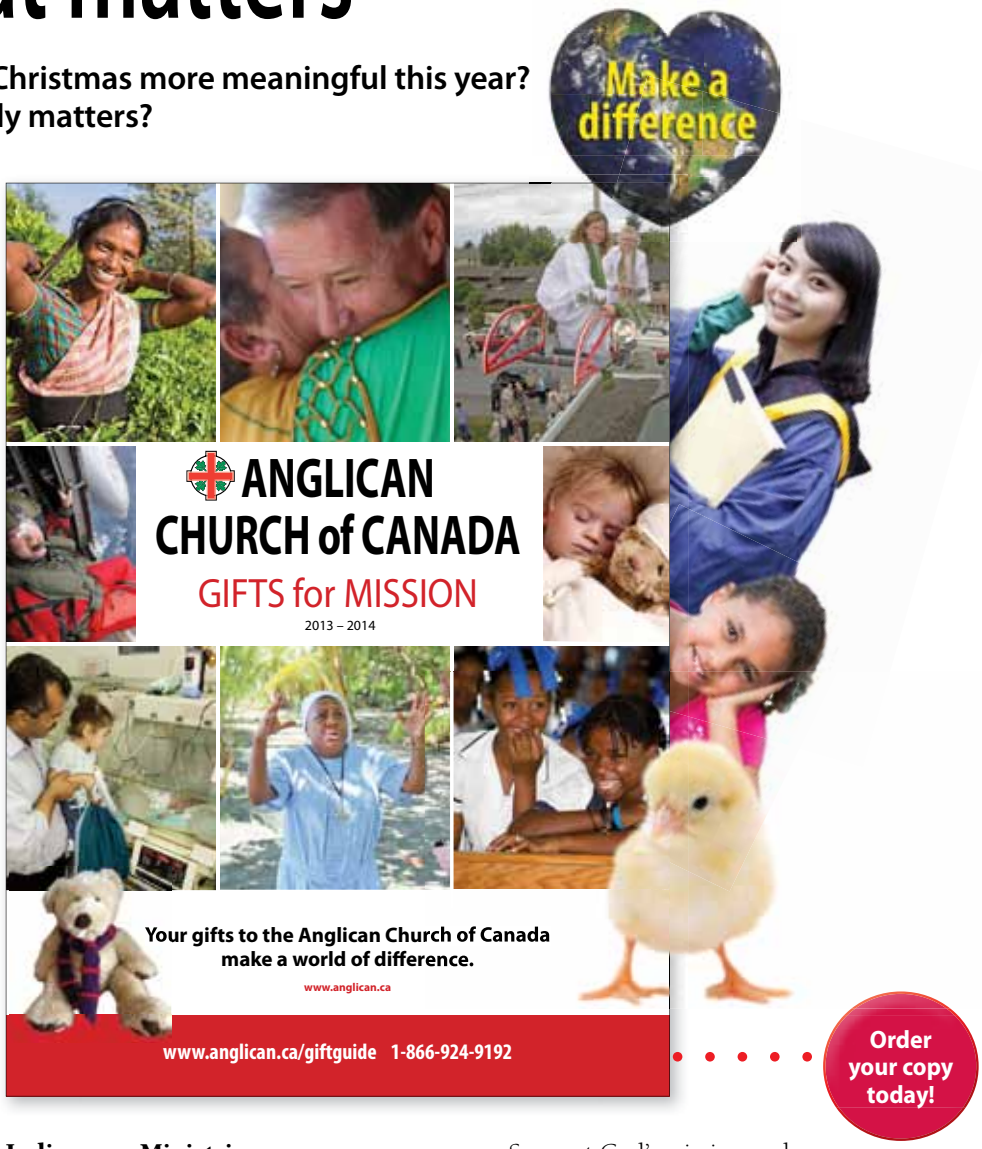
Give a gift that matters

Have you wondered how to make Christmas more meaningful this year? Do you want to give a gift that really matters?

The Anglican Church of Canada's Gifts for Mission catalogue can make your gift giving experience a lot less worrisome, while making a profound impact on the lives of others.

To receive your copy, check the **"I would like to receive a 2013 Gifts for Mission catalogue"** box on the reply card in this newsletter. By returning this card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, you will be one step closer to finding that special gift for that special someone, as well as supporting innovative and vital ministries at home and abroad.

Here is your exclusive sneak peak at the General Synod ministries featured in this year's catalogue:



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> "I think Gifts for Mission is a wonderful project, and it certainly helped me fulfill my desire to give gifts that more accurately reflect the true meaning of Christmas."
> — 2012 Supporter

Council of the North diocese partners with Algoma in urban native ministry

by **Sharon Dewey Hetke,** Council of the North Communications

Several years ago, the son of a northern Ontario chief, an Anglican, died in a Thunder Bay hospital. The chief said that the church had failed him and his family because his son did not receive a visit by an Anglican priest. When Bishop Stephen Andrews (Algoma) became aware of this, he was deeply concerned about the need for better support for Indigenous Anglicans in his diocese—especially those who travel from the far north of Ontario down to Thunder Bay for medical or educational services. In many cases, it is as if a diocesan boundary comes between them and the pastoral care they need.

Many travel for services, and many stay. In fact, Andrews points out: "There's a demographic shift that's happening: people often come off the reserve to Thunder Bay; young people often stay in the urban centre so there's a growing population."

In terms of pastoral care, this was becoming a serious concern. Bishop Lydia Mamakwa (area bishop, based in Kingfisher Lake, Ont.) says: "It's the language barrier and some of them have never been to a city and they're not familiar with the surroundings."

Having heard about the death of the chief's son, two years ago Andrews contacted Mamakwa. "I invited her to come to Thunder Bay, along with Bishop Mark MacDonald (National Indigenous Anglican Bishop), to have a consultation on First Nations ministries in Thunder Bay."

Out of this consultation came a committee called MAMOW—"together." This committee ensures that Anglicans travelling south receive, as Mamakwa puts it, "services in their language, because I can read, and speak, and pray, and sing in their language—Oji-Cree." "We have communication open, so I can call if someone needs a clergy in hospital or for wake services. It's working out fine."

This new arrangement has been made possible only through flexibility around diocesan borders and structures. Andrews points out: "One of the interesting things about this is that I gave Bishop Lydia licence to function episcopally in Thunder Bay—the first time this arrangement has been made in Canada—but she reports to me on her activities and I'm very excited about what's happening."

For her part, Mamawka says, "I'm thankful this relationship is growing—it's all for the glory of God." ■

Left to right: **Bishop Mark MacDonald, Bishop Lydia Mamakwa, and Bishop Stephen Andrews.** (Photo: Mark Hauser)

Thank you so much for your generosity…

by **Dr. Andrea Mann,** Global Relations Coordinator

With these words, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Z'Saw Lwin and Dr. Grace Mee Bya, and their children Emmanuella and Shalom, begin to say farewell to the Anglican Church of Canada and the Vancouver School of Theology. Over the last five years, Grace and Andrew have earned doctorate of ministry degrees at VST in homiletics and Anglican spiritual formation respectively. Their annual scholarship funding was made possible through your gifts to the Anglican Appeal.

Andrew and Grace returned to Yangon, Myanmar, in early July to resume teaching at Holy Cross Theological College, the national seminary of the Church of the Province of Myanmar. Their doctoral degrees will lead to more advanced accreditation for Holy Cross, and to new curriculum in training young men and women for ordained and lay ministry. They also deeply appreciate the opportunities their children had to study in Canadian schools, become fluent in English, and experience the world beyond Burma.

Another recent graduate of the International Bursary and Scholarship program is Bishop Maimbo Mndolwa, Diocese of Tanga, Anglican Church of Tanzania. Elected bishop during his doctoral studies in church history at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, Mndolwa gives thanks for the opportunity to undertake a historical and theological analysis of the revival movement in the Anglican Church of Tanzania. With his newly earned PhD, Mndolwa is "more confident now than ever before to speak about the Anglican Church of Tanzania. I have the courage now to speak to the government about social issues."

Despite many successful graduates, the International Bursary and Scholarship program is entering a time of transition. In response to a call by global Anglican partners for assistance with entry-level theological education, and studies pertinent to a variety of ministries within the church, the program will shift its focus toward undergraduate and lay training. The hope is that more people will receive the education and training needed to strengthen their calling and service in God's mission in the world. Anglican Appeal's support continues to be central to the future of this international, Anglican Church of Canada ministry. ■

Left to right: **Rev. Dr. Andrew Z'Saw Lwin, Emmanuella, Shalom, and Dr. Grace Mee Bya.** (Photo: Contributed)

IN LOVING MEMORY

The Anglican Church of Canada gratefully acknowledges the generous gifts made to the ministries of General Synod in loving memory of the following individuals. May they rest in peace, and rise again in glory.

Catharine Isabel Abraham
Spence Ahab
Geza Anda
John Anderson
Richard Violet Arnold
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