

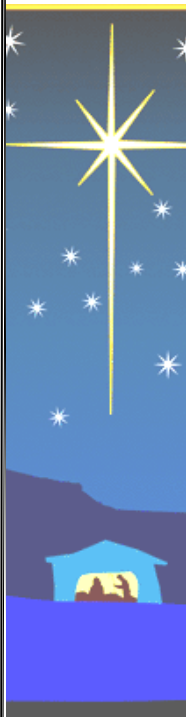
# BY GEORGE

**154 Years**

A MEMBER CONGREGATION OF THE ANGLICAN NETWORK IN CANADA (ANIC)

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***In Him was life, and the Life was the light of men.***

## ADVENT



Advent reminds us that just as Jesus came 2000 years ago He will come again. We identify with God's people 2000 years ago who longed for the Saviour's first coming. We long for His return. This time He will come as a triumphant King and Judge, not as a lowly babe.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, who look forward to something greater to come. For these, it is enough to wait in humble fear until the Holy One himself comes down to us, God in the child in the manger. God comes. The Lord Jesus comes. Christians rejoice."

We are the people Bonhoeffer described; troubled of soul, poor, imperfect, looking forward to something greater to come. All of humanity find themselves in this state whether we realize it or not. We long for something perfect and complete. Our hearts desire a kingdom not of this world, but one that the King of Kings will bring.

Everything we do as Christians and as a Christian church must be done in light of a deep belief that Jesus is coming again, and soon. He, and He alone, will set things aright. But until then we are commanded by our soon coming King, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am

*(Continued on page 2)*



(Continued from page 1)

with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)

We are commanded to make disciples, baptize and teach until Jesus’ return, in light of His authority, and motivated by His soon return.

So, we have been praying and planning accordingly.

A great deal of work has been done over the past 10 months to develop regional Pastorates. These will begin in January 2011. There are two primary reasons for these monthly regional meetings:

- Regional fellowship
- Regional mission

Kelvin’s article in this edition of By George goes into greater detail and you can expect to hear more about Pastorates between now and January. We will also have information meetings following each service on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

These monthly, mid-week meetings will enable our people to get to know other St. George’ites who live in their region. They will also provide a pastoral safety net, ensuring that everyone is cared for while developing an entry point for newcomers into the life of the congregation. As regional missional units, Pastorates provide a place for you to invite your neighbours. Pastorates will also be encouraged to serve in their local communities.

Much prayer and planning has gone into developing Pastorates. They are in-

tended to connect our people with one another and with their local communities between now and the time of Jesus’ return.

I realize that there has been some confusion and anxiety over the past few months. That has been regrettable, but maybe unavoidable. Our journey through this has been one of prayerful discernment and, as you will see in Kelvin’s article and hear in our information meetings, the Lord has led us to clarity.

Please talk to me. Talk to Kelvin, Neil, Dan, any members of Parish Council, and members of the Futures Group. We are only too happy to hear from you and to explain Pastorates to you.

We seek to steward the ministry God has entrusted to us, in light of Jesus’ soon return.

Even so, come Lord Jesus!

*Ray David*

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Dec. 19** Combined Service & Lessons and Carols 10 a.m. (with nursery for young children)

### **Dec. 24**

Holy Communion (Families) 4 p.m.  
Holy Communion 9 p.m.

**Dec. 25** Holy Communion 9 a.m.

**Dec. 26** Morning Prayer 10 a.m.

*“The light shines in the darkness”*

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## *we would see Jesus*

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Bishop Don chose the theme “We would see Jesus” for this year’s synod and this theme created an undercurrent throughout all the proceedings. At 7:00 a.m. morning prayer, the first day, Rev. Jim Saladin, preaching from psalm 27 said that the mark of a saint is courage. This courage comes from the Lord. We should desire one thing above all else: to see the Lord.

“One thing have I desired of the Lord, which I will require: even that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the fair beauty of the Lord, and to visit his temple.” [Ps 27:4 (BCP)]



Over the three days Rev. Paul Donison opened the Scripture with his one-man dramatic presentations. He enacted three Bible passages which brought synod members face to face with Jesus: John 12: 12 – 36, Matthew 25, and John 20 and 21. (Paul is associate minister for discipleship at St George’s Ottawa as well as a professional actor. He is willing to offer training for those interested in this method of Bible memorization and performance.)

On Saturday morning, Bishop Charlie and Archdeacon Darrell Critch presented the “2010-2011 Strategic Priorities.” The priority is to seek the Lord. Darrell Critch challenged ANiC parishes to embark on an Advent journey of evaluation and discernment. We are urged to search the Scriptures and to pray together, to allow the Lord to identify our parish’s spiritual deficiencies, truly to grow in discipleship and in grace. Three interconnected needs for ANiC parishes have been identified: growth in grace, growth in numbers and growth in financial stability.

Bishop Charlie pointed out that none of these needs can be achieved apart from all of us going deeper in the Bible. “What has made us vulnerable as Anglicans is a lack of depth in the Bible.”

Every member must learn to share his personal testimony, to share the Gospel, and to lead a person to Christ. The challenge has been given. It is up to us.

To make this discernment journey more than just words, every parish is urged to commit the outcome of this Advent



(Continued on page 17)



*“and the darkness has not overcome it”*



## ***fellowship***

*“ . . . that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ.”*

1 John 1:3, [ESV]



During Advent we look forward to the remembrance and celebration of the birth of the coming King. We take stock of our lives and our situations to prepare ourselves for His advent – looking back to His birth, and looking forward to His coming again in glory. It is a time of year when both the Church and the pagan world are accustomed to gather in fellowship. The word “fellowship” has loosened in meaning over the years; in classical Greek it was sometimes used to describe the marriage union, the most intimate of fellowships. In the New Testament it often has the meaning of living a shared life.

Because of the Father’s love for us, as John declares elsewhere (1 John 3:16; John 3:16), the good news means that we are invited into the fellowship of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; into “the richness, wonder and unfathomableness of the church’s communion with God,” as Rev. Ian Hamilton puts it in his book on the letters of John. The life we are to live as saved people is one of fellowship with God and with our fellow Christians. Our Advent self-examination could well look at how we live up to that glorious privilege bestowed upon us by divine grace.

There is a vast difference between fitting church into the context of our lives, and making the “holy, catholic, and apostolic church” the context into which our lives are fitted. Giving our lives to Jesus means that we move from the former to the latter, wholeheartedly.

Before I became an avowed Christian, I attended church from time to time – it seemed to be “the thing to do, especially for the children.” Church was added to my life at my convenience. Upon being born again and filled with the Holy Spirit, things changed. I *wanted* to be in church, I *wanted* to have fellowship with other Christians – it seemed to be the way to find out more about this amazing God, and to come to *know* Him better and better. The whole context of my life changed and has continued to change ever since, as I labour to see things from God’s perspective, and to do the things that are pleasing to Him – at all times, not just on Sundays.

This process does take a while, and is never really complete until we go home to be with God. However, as we sojourn in this fallen world, we have the privilege, and often the

*“The light shines in the darkness”*

duty, to have wonderful brothers and sisters to journey with, to share life with, and to serve together.

This changed perspective, grounding our life in the context of the Kingdom of God and His Church, affects the way we worship, share our God-given wealth, share the Good News, and the way we use the gifts and talents God has given us for His glory. Worship becomes focused on God, not on what makes us feel good and comfortable; sharing our wealth through tithing and other offerings becomes a joy not a fearsome prospect; the way we see others as in urgent need of the Good News of repentance, faith, and salvation drives us to evangelize; and our gifts come to be seen as for use to the glory of God and for the benefit of the wider church of God at home and abroad as He sends us.

The joy of the Lord, which is our strength, is to be rejoiced in, and enhanced, in so far as we live in fellowship shared with all of God's elect people, wherever we go.

*"O Lord, may You write this ever deeper in my heart, especially during this Advent season. In Jesus Name, Amen.*

***Rev. Keith Stodart***

### ***Library News***

The library is being well used by many in our congregation. So much so, that we could use help re-shelving returned items. Could you help on a Sunday morning? If so, please speak to Gillian Fernie, or Ed or Dyanna Lewis.

We also need your help getting the books from our shelves into your homes. It is our goal to have half the books out on loan at any one time. This will enable us to expand our inventory.

If you haven't discovered the library yet, please ask Gillian, Ed, or Dyanna for a tour.



***Dyanna Lewis***



*"and the darkness has not overcome it"*



## ***Freedom Session***

“Freedom Session” is a Christ-centered 12 Step program that will take you on a journey towards the freedom and healing that Jesus died to give you and you’ve always hoped was possible for you. It is a safe place, where you will get to know God more intimately as you get to know yourself more. The possibilities of what Jesus wants to do for you are limitless. This program is for those of us who struggle with hurts, habits and hang-ups; it is for people who’ve been wounded in their childhood and / or their significant relationships.

The following list of addictions and issues are examples of some of the areas that could be dealt with through this program: co-dependency issues, self-worth issues, control issues, perfectionism, unforgiveness, the scars of divorce, betrayal, abortion trauma, homosexuality, anger issues, gambling, eating disorders, frozen emotions, alcohol, chemical or sexual addiction, spouses of alcoholics/addicts, physical abuse and just plain old hurts.

“Freedom Session” does not replace the need for counselling or medications but could be in addition to, in order to bring healing and wholeness into your life. There is no shame in attending this program, all of us are, or have been broken to some extent until Jesus met us in our need. There is also no judgement placed on anyone, no one addiction or issue is any worse than any other.

*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise..*

Psalm 51:17 [ESV]

Just to give you some background of why I felt the Lord calling me to this ministry. After becoming a Christian in the fall of 1995 a journey towards healing began to take place in me. I struggled with bulimia from the age of 15 until some time after my conversion. I have for many years sought the Lord in healing for myself and also in praying for other people. The healing was so gradual that I can’t tell you when exactly it happened but one day I realized that God had healed me. This gives me a tremendous passion to see other believers experience the healing power of Jesus.

As Christians it seems to be easier for us to accept the fact that Jesus has forgiven our sins than the fact that He is a God who still heals and wants all of His children to walk in complete freedom. I am still in pursuit of more healing and being honest with myself, so this is why I know that “Freedom Session” will be a blessing to me, as I think it will be for many of you as well. Actually, I believe that everyone can benefit from this program.

The ultimate goal of this program as expressed by the author Pastor Ken Dyck is that each individual would attain freedom and healing in Christ, not being dependent upon the

*“The light shines in the darkness”*

program but totally dependent upon the only One who can save and set us free, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these,  
be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.*

2Peter 3:14 (ESV)

### **Freedom Session**

#### ***Stand strong... Walk in truth***

The Complete Freedom Session Journey in 3 three-month segments.

Participant Guide 1: 3 Steps from Denial to Hope

Participant Guide 2: 6 Steps from Darkness to Light

Participant Guide 3: 3 Steps to Walking in Freedom

**Participant Guide 1: 3 Steps from Denial to Hope**

**Starting: Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

**Where: Milton Bible Church**

**When: 7:00 - 9:00 pm**

**Homework: 45 - 60 minutes per week**

Each evening is set up in two segments the first being a large group time where we watch a DVD teaching by Pastor Ken Dyck and his wife Bonnie Dyck. We will then break up into gender specific small groups sharing/discussing our homework. Our time together is covered by a participation commitment where confidentiality is essential.

If you are interested in finding out more information please check out the St. George's web site, or [www.freedomsession.com](http://www.freedomsession.com) or if you would like to speak personally to Ray Smith or me please do give us a call.

Ray Smith (905) 693-9735 or Marie Metsa (905) 854-1830

***Marie Metsa***



*"and the darkness has not overcome it"*



## Church of the Messiah News

*And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. [Matthew 1:21]*

November brought our third Synod and the adoption of our Canons and Constitution. Peter and I were both very privileged to be able to attend. As we enter into this Advent Season, which is a time of waiting, we pray that as we begin our journey into a new year in our Christian walk, we would see Jesus even more clearly, and in seeing Him, would also proclaim Him more boldly in our lives.



This year's Synod was in our nation's capital and the tone was quickly set for it when we all received an e-mail strongly urging us to attend the 7:00 am Morning Prayer service to begin each day. I was also very blessed to travel to synod with some of the St. George's delegation and in Ottawa I felt welcomed into the St. George's family.

Archbishop Bob Duncan, Moderator Don, Bishops Charlie, Trevor and Stephen all shared with us during our time together. God has worked very powerfully in the lives of these leaders and for that I am so thankful. I came away from this synod feeling refreshed, renewed, and excited to see how God has been working in ANiC. As with the previous synods, we heard many stories from the church plants and projects of how God had met their needs in mighty ways.

Missions was an important part of this Synod and Thursday evening began with a 'meagre' meal of a bowl of rice—graphically reminding us that many in the world do not have that much in a day! Then we heard about ARDFC that raises funds for projects implemented by Global South dioceses – a true partnership. Its motto is "*Restoring health, hope and dignity in Jesus' name*". We also heard about the Asian Mission in Canada. Bishop Stephen Leung spoke of the ministry to restaurant workers in Richmond, BC and a ministry to Karen refugees from Burma, as well as a ministry to abandoned and disabled children in China. A short-term mission to China to work with International China Concern is also being considered.

Friday, Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, who was in Ottawa as key-note speaker for St. George's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, spoke to us twice. In the morning from 1 John he spoke about bringing people into Christian fellowship requiring right believing, right understanding, and right behaving. In the evening his topic was *The Anglican Church: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow*.

Our days were long and very full, yet God's presence was manifest in this place.

Bishop Charlie Masters and Archdeacon Darrell Critch also spoke about strategic planning. This session included a discussion on growing in grace during Advent. When I look back at this presentation I recognize that God always challenges us to dig deeper, to try harder, and to submit to

*"The light shines in the darkness"*



Him in prayer. Our Moderator put this into perspective for me by saying “a saint is a sinner that just keeps on trying.” We need to keep on trying, and in our trying we see Jesus, and in seeing Jesus, we continue to build His kingdom. These challenges are scary for many of us and yet we need to remember that God does supply all our needs through the Holy Spirit. So as we enter into Advent, let us spend the time waiting to see how God will use this time to mould us.

Then, back at the ranch, last Sunday was a day of celebration for our parish. We were blessed to have Michael and Elaine Bladon join us. It was a real blessing to see them again and we all enjoyed the time of fellowship after the service. I know that God sent them Sunday morning; through their eyes we saw things we may take for granted. God has placed us here in Norwich to minister to the children; yet we have been missing many of them over the past few weeks. On Sunday however,



God opened wide the floodgates and we had ten children present including Dorien. Because the flu bug was creating havoc among us, we really were not prepared for the onslaught of children, but God met all our needs. I was able to unfold God's word to them. We talked about Moses and how he felt less than able to do what God had called him to. I explained to them that God calls us all and we can also feel like this, but that God does provide us with all that we need; Moses was given Aaron to speak for him. We also talked about Miriam and how God calls men, women,

and even children. What a joy it is to see God at work in the lives of these children. I see softness in them that was not there when they first joined us. Even when it seems that they have drifted away, God brings them back. We are so blessed that despite our own inadequacies God uses us.

Advent is a time of joy, a time of celebration and we have much to be joyful for. I see the joy that Peter has in his service to the Lord. Our children love Peter and in that love they are learning that God loves them too. I see this joy in the service of Debbie and Vicki. I see Dottie still committing to us her time and her gifts despite her loss. Betty has also felt the need to be our Missions coordinator. Rob and Yvette are always willing to help with our Sunday school and have now agreed to help on a more permanent basis. God is stretching us all and He is also providing us with all the gifts we need to accomplish his will for us.

As we enter into the season of Advent, we pray that God will use this time in new and mighty ways and that we will all grow deeper in our walk with Him. As we wait for the return of the King, may we all recognize that we have been called to proclaim Him to the world around us.



*Sheilagh Roloson*



*“and the darkness has not overcome it”*



## ***ST MATTHEW'S HOUSE***

### ***ADOPT-A-FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM***

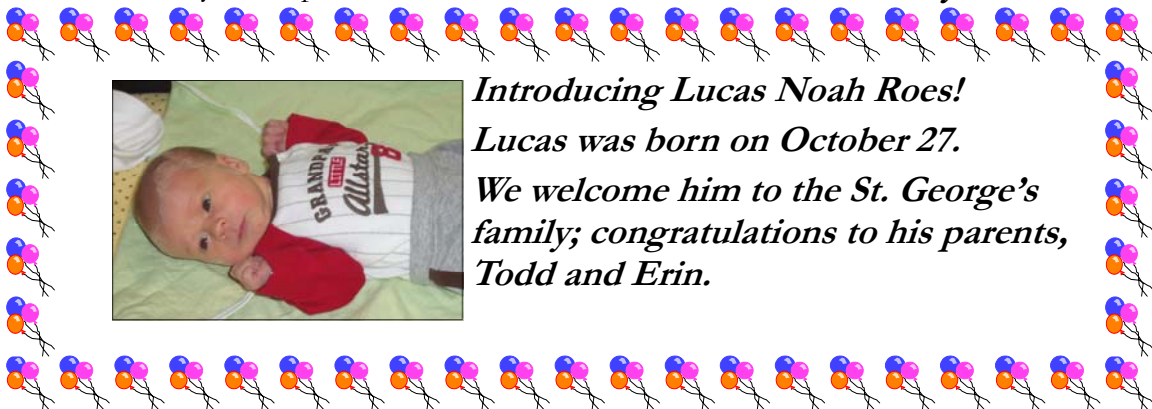
Are you considering a special way to share your Christmas this year with someone less fortunate? I invite you, as a member of St George's, to join in making a more joyful Christmas for a family, by participating in the St Matthew's House Adopt-a-Family Christmas Program. For over 45 years, St Matthew's House has given new meaning to Christmas for thousands of families. The numbers grow every year. Especially this year the need is great with Stelco shutting down its furnaces and putting more people out of work. Last year St. Matthew's House helped over 3040 individuals who through poverty, unemployment and economic hardship had insufficient income to make Christmas special.

We at St. George's would like to support at least one family. I ask for your prayerful consideration of this program. There will be envelopes for your gifts in the bulletin on November 21 and November 28. The last collection day is December 6th. Just place your contribution in the marked envelope, fill in the details, and place the envelope in the offering plate.

In Matthew 25: 35-36, Jesus tells us "For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink . . . I was naked and you gave me clothing." When Jesus was asked "Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?" . . ., Jesus replied in verse 40, . . . "I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me?" (NLT)

For more information, see me between the services, telephone 905-873-1918, or email [drumard@bell.net](mailto:drumard@bell.net). Many thanks to all of you for your regular donations to St. Matthew's House and for your help.

***Betty Pristol***



***Introducing Lucas Noah Roes!***

***Lucas was born on October 27.***

***We welcome him to the St. George's family; congratulations to his parents, Todd and Erin.***

***"The light shines in the darkness"***

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## ***Introducing Pastorates***

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As you may recall from Ray David's pastoral letter in September, we are planning to launch four "Pastorates" in the New Year. Since that letter, the way in which these Pastorates would be launched has changed. One significant change is that meetings will be on a monthly basis, right from the start.

Initially there will be four Pastorates: South, Central, North, and East. Geographically, these Pastorates cover the following areas:

South: Oakville, Burlington (South of Dundas), Waterdown and areas further south.

North: Cambridge and the areas North of 401 and West of Hwy 25.

East: Milton (East of Tremaine) and areas north and east from there.

Central: the area in between, including Kilbride, Campbellville, Carlisle and Freelon.

Pastorates have a target size of between 30 and 40 people, so over time these pastorates may split into smaller geographies. We anticipate that the South pastorate will be the first one to divide as it already contains 90 people. Please note that these Pastorates are to aid ministry for St. George's and are not designed to be church plants.

In principle, there are two key objectives of the Pastorate: regional ministry, and regional fellowship. Being a commuter church, drawing from a 1 hour radius, we do not currently have a strong presence in our local communities. Pastorates are intended to engage in some form of ministry or outreach in their community a few times a year. Fellowship on a more local level is an important component of the Pastorates. This fellowship should be oriented towards all ages and provide newcomers and seekers with an entry point into the church community.



*"and the darkness has not overcome it"*



A typical Pastorate meeting will include the following:

Fellowship time with food,

Worship through music,

A time of testimony and sharing how God has been working in our lives,

A time of prayer.

So why be part of a Pastorate? There are many possibilities. For one, they provide an opportunity for members of St. George's easily to invite friends, family, and co-workers to meet Jesus. It may be to participate in a local expression of St. George's fellowship closer to home. For some it will be to make friends with those in their area, to others it may be the desire for an extended family. It may be a way to investigate what St. George's is all about, or to become a part of the community. For some it will be a call to minister in outreach to their community, for others an opportunity to encourage and strengthen their brothers and sisters in Christ. I am personally looking forward to learning what God has done in the lives of those in my pastorate.

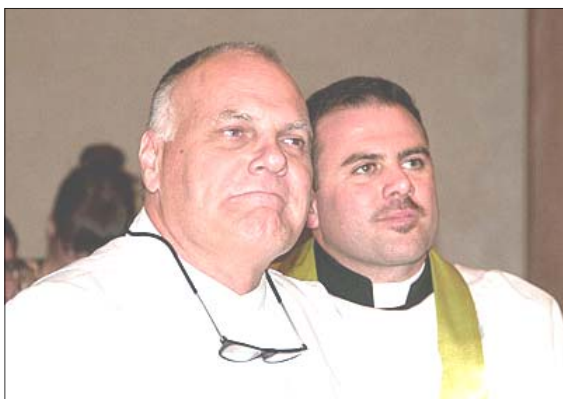
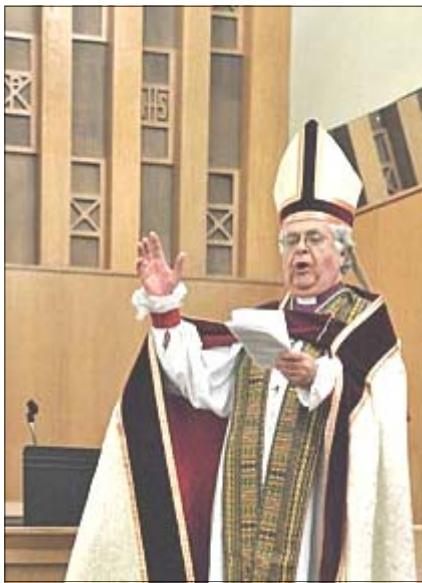
Membership in a particular pastorate is not prescriptive, though everyone is strongly encouraged to attend his local pastorate. We pray that everyone will come, from the youngest to the oldest, from the seeker to the mature Christian. There is a role for each of you to play: to learn, to share, and to encourage others. I am looking forward to getting to know some of you better during this time, and seeing what God will do among us.

In Christ,

**Kelvin Loveless – (Futures group chair)**

*"The light shines in the darkness"*

***Christ the King,  
Toronto,  
October 24, 2010***



*"and the darkness has not overcome it"*



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## *hungry for Jesus*

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It is remarkable that there were people waiting for Jesus when He came. So many centuries of waiting! Why would they still be hoping? Why would they be waiting expectantly? They were needy folk, hungry for Jesus.

One was Zechariah. He was an old man. He and his wife were “well-advanced in years.” They were “righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord.” And Zechariah had lived his life in the promises of God to send the Messiah. He was counting on God to “visit and redeem his people”. He was convinced that God had “raised up a mighty salvation in the house of David.” He depended on the words of the prophets of old. He trusted the mercy of God that He would keep his covenant just as He swore to Abraham. He was waiting for the Lord to come in salvation. This was the faith in which he had lived his life and these were the words that poured from his lips under the power of the Holy Spirit at the circumcision of his son John.

Another was Mary! Mary was just a young girl. She was betrothed to a man named Joseph. But Mary had found favour with God. Mary believed the word that Gabriel brought to her from God. She knew the mercy of God to those who fear Him generation after generation. She knew the hand of God casting down the proud but raising up the humble. She knew the faithfulness of God filling the hungry with the good things of God but sending the “rich” away empty. Above all, she depended on the certainty of God’s promise to Abraham and his offspring forever. These things poured from her lips under the power of the Holy Spirit as her cousin Elizabeth greeted Mary, the mother of her Lord, with a loud cry. Mary knew the faithfulness of her God; not surprising then that she would believe that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.

Another was Simeon. Like Zechariah, Simeon was an old man. He too was righteous and devout. He too was waiting for the Lord to come and rescue and comfort

*“The light shines in the darkness”*

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his people. He was waiting for the Lord, “the consolation of Israel” and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord’s Christ. He was waiting, trusting and expectant. But he was waiting, a needy soul. The Spirit took Simeon to the temple when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus there on the day of purification. As Simeon took Baby Jesus into his arms, he blessed God and said, “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples.” Simeon was more than a neutral observer; he himself was the recipient of this great salvation. His own eyes had seen his Saviour. He had been waiting for this all his life and now he was ready to die.

And there was the woman of Samaria. A very needy soul. Her life had been a hard and searching life. Her life had been a series of broken relationships. If anyone was hungry and thirsty for Jesus, surely it was this woman. Jesus said to her “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘give me a drink’, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” And about the water of Samaria Jesus said, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” All her life she had been thirsty for this! This Samaritan woman had long been told of the coming of the Messiah who is called the Christ; she believed this! “When he comes,” she told Jesus, “he will tell us all things.” She was expecting him to come. Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.” Not only did she believe him; she went off immediately and urged the people of the town: “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” This Samaritan woman believed the promise of God’s coming; she was a needy soul hungry to receive Him.

God faithfully promised that He would come. His promises had been repeated through the ages via the prophets. His word took root in the hearts of the hungry. In the fullness of time, He came as He had promised.

*“As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”*



*“and the darkness has not overcome it”*



## ***Jesus is coming as King!***

- 📖 Jesus is coming soon. [Revelation 22: 20]
- 📖 Jesus is coming suddenly, like a thief in the night, when you least expect it.  
[2 Peter 3:10; 1 Thessalonians 5:2,3; Matthew 24: 43,44]
- 📖 Only the Father knows the day and the hour [Matthew 24:36]
- 📖 His coming will be like lightening. [Matthew 24:27]
- 📖 He is coming in the same way as the disciples saw him go into heaven. [Acts 1:10,11]
- 📖 Every eye will see him. [Revelation 1:7]
- 📖 He will come with the sound the sound of the trumpet of God. [1 Thessalonians 4:16;  
Matthew 24: 31]
- 📖 Jesus is coming with his mighty angels [2 Thessalonians 1: 7]
- 📖 Jesus is coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. [Matthew 24: 30;  
Titus 2:13 ]
- 📖 Jesus is bringing with Him those who have died trusting in Him [1Thessalonians 4:14;  
1 Corinthians 15: 23]
- 📖 Jesus comes bringing salvation for those who are eagerly waiting for Him.  
[Hebrews 9:28]
- 📖 He comes to be glorified in his saints. [2 Thessalonians 1:10]
- 📖 He comes to gather us to Him. [2 Thessalonians 2:1; 1 Thessalonians 4: 17;  
Matthew 24: 31]
- 📖 Jesus is coming in judgment. [ 1 Thessalonians 5: 3; 2 Thessalonians 1:8;  
Matthew 24: 38, 39]

*He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!  
The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen. [Revelation 22: 20, 21]*

***"The light shines in the darkness"***



*(Continued from page 3)*

journey to writing, and to submit their commitment to their local archdeacon during the season of Epiphany.

Synod days were packed from 7:00 in the morning until about 9:00 in the evening. As has been the case in past synods, the Lord blessed the reports and presentations of churches and church plants. We have found that we need to learn from each other. We can learn from St. Matthew's Abbotsford and their commitment to prayer. We can learn from churches who have had exciting answers to prayer as God throws open doors ahead of them in blessing. We can learn from other churches whose story includes battling opposition and difficulty. It is worth noting that these contrasting situations are both common in our ANiC experience. We can learn from Holy Trinity, Marlborough, Massachusetts with its three satellites in Massachusetts, one in New Hampshire, and one in Vermont. For example, All Saints, Rutland, Vermont ministers in a financially depressed area and reaches out to unchurched people of diverse backgrounds. They have had 14 confirmations and 20 baptisms in 20 months. We can learn from this.

We can learn from parishes that have bold and lively mission outreaches. We can learn from Church of the Good Shepherd in Richmond B. C. and their ministry to Asian restaurant workers in a late night fellowship. We can learn from Peninsula Anglican Church (Saanichton, B.C.) which partners with King's Daughters Ministry in Uganda and rescues women from the streets and introduces them to the Lord Jesus, equipping them for productive lives. We can learn from the outreach of the Church of the Good Samaritan in Newfoundland to "the Arms of Jesus Children's Mission" in Guatemala. This Newfoundland parish has sponsored 67 children in one village, a commitment which represents a very significant portion of their annual budget. The parish has initiated a relationship with the people of the village and regularly sends members to Guatemala on short term mission trips. Just hearing about these initiatives puts a sparkle in the eye and a taste for such experiences for ourselves.

Thursday night was devoted to ANiC mission presentations featuring the many initiatives of the Asian Mission in Canada, the ARDFC (the Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada), and individual parish outreaches.



Bishop Don delivered his charge at the Eucharist on Thursday morning. Among other things he reflected on the challenges we face at this phase of ANiC's life. He said we need to strive constantly to keep alive the excitement we had at first and to rekindle the joy of faithfulness. He expressed our continued gratitude to Archbishop Gregory Venables for the courage that he displayed in taking us under his wing. He expressed his own pleasure in being able to present to Archbishop Greg a packet of pictures, letters, and cards from virtually all our

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***"and the darkness has not overcome it"***



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churches and from many individual ANiC members as well.

The synod had two high profile guests. The first was Archbishop Robert Duncan, presiding bishop of ACNA. He spent the first day with us and addressed the synod that afternoon. He spoke about some of the initiatives that are being undertaken by ACNA: the vision for church planting, the plans devoted to producing mature Christians in our parishes,

the work that is being done toward producing a faithful prayer book, the task of setting guidelines for training Anglican seminarians. He expressed satisfaction with the respect and recognition that ACNA has received in the global Christian community.

Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali spoke twice. On Friday morning he gave an exposition of I John 1. He is an able teacher. His exposition demonstrated that the courageous stand that he has taken in the Anglican communion is rooted in his understanding of the Scripture.



In the evening Bishop Michael again addressed synod in addition to a large gathering of people who came expressly to hear him. He spoke about many aspects of Anglicanism and of the church. “What is it that makes the church? My own sense is that it is the receiving and the passing on of the apostolic teaching that makes the church.” He reflected on the challenges presented by the twenty-first century and spoke of the need for a way of relating to what is new and a way of relating to change that is faithful to the apostolic teaching.

He spoke of the Scriptures which have been studied with great care and loved within Anglicanism and expressed the hope that the Scriptures will always be central to what we do. He spoke of the power of the Scriptures to speak into any cultural context and said that in contrast to Islam (for example), the Scriptures are “inherently translatable”; thus the Gospel has a dramatic impact on culture.

He warned against elevating institutions into what they are not meant to be. Within Anglicanism recently “canon law has become more important than the Bible.” He spoke of the failure of the

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*“The light shines in the darkness”*

four instruments of unity (the Lambeth Conference, the Primates' meetings, the Anglican Consultative Council, and the Archbishop of Canterbury) to solve the current crisis.

Bishop Michael expressed some views of a healthy Anglicanism. We come together under the Gospel. We decide together; what affects everyone must be decided by everyone. Any church worth the name must be able to exercise discipline effectively. The church has to be a confessing church; it must declare itself to adhere to the Gospel, the apostolic teaching, the historic creeds, and ways of gathering that have always been honoured in the Christian church. The church has to be able to teach with authority. What we need is spiritual renewal, and a commitment to take the gospel to the neediest parts of the world. Renewal is brought about by the work of the Holy Spirit. Without that, we can plant churches, create institutions, but none of that will be of any avail. What we need is a new commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ but that will be costly.

Synod was presented with the financial situation. As Bishop Don pointed out, ANiC is faced with the task of serving a steadily growing number of parishes but with limited resources. The financial basis of ANiC's budget is the principle of 10 – 10 – 10. Each individual parishioner is expected to tithe. That is the first 10. Then, voluntarily, the parish is to contribute 10% of its budget to ANiC who, in turn, will contribute 10% to ACNA.

The Lord has been very faithful to ANiC. In the past year, just prior to fiscal year end, a \$50 000 deficit was anticipated; however, we prayed and the Lord answered! At year end (June 30), ANiC had a surplus (\$2757)! Bless the Lord!

The budget projection for the current year is \$ 1.193 million; of this the parish tithes account for only \$728 000; the rest must be contributed by individual donors.

The report on Church Planting was presented by Rev. Ray David Glenn, Bishop Ron Ferris, and Rev. Sean Love. They said that ANiC's portion of the church planting target, Anglican 1000, is 30 churches in five years. Already, 20 new congregations have joined ANiC; fourteen of these are brand new churches; at least 10 – 20 more are in progress. The committee has been developing a church planting policy statement and they are ready to provide resources and support for church planters.

The major work undertaken at this synod was the presentation and acceptance of a working constitution and canons. It was explained that these are not to be viewed as the final document, but rather as a work in progress. We can expect many revisions to the canons before we can regard the process as complete. The constitution and canons prior to synod had undergone several drafts with suggestions and corrections submitted by parishes and concerned individuals. As such, the canons and constitution were adopted with overwhelming support. Under the canons a new council was elected at synod to replace the original board.

This synod marked a time of transition with the retirement of several people who have been servants to ANiC from the beginning, and with the responsibility being passed to others; among those retiring after a prolonged term of gifted service and courage: our own Ron Bales, financial administrator, and also chancellor, Cheryl Chang.

As ANiC continues in its witness and undertakes the transition to a new phase in our life, prayer is essential to us! We must faithfully seek the Lord! Renewal is essential! Renewal is brought about by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It is our part to pray!



*“and the darkness has not overcome it”*

<p><b>St. George's Anglican Church, Lowville, member congregation of the Anglican Network in Canada and part of the Anglican Church in North America</b></p> <p><b>Rector: Rev. Ray David Glenn</b> <b>Pastoral Assistant: Rev. Ken Bombay</b> <b>Honorary Assistants:</b> <b>Rev. Deacon Garth Hunt</b> <b>Rev. Greg McVeigh</b> <b>Rev. Peter Parent</b> <b>Rev. Keith Stodart</b></p> <p><b>Worship/Media Pastor: Bryan Hunt</b> <b>Exec. Administrator: Gillian Fernie</b> <b>Ministry Coordinator: Naomi Neeb</b> <b>Church Secretary: Donna Rigo</b></p> <p><b>Crossroads Centre Chapel, 1295 North Service Road, Burlington</b></p> <p><b>9:00 am Morning Prayer or Holy Com- munion, and Sunday school</b></p> <p><b>10:45 family service, nursery and Sunday school</b></p> <p><b>Phone: 1-905- 335 6222</b> <b>email:</b> <b>office@stgeorgesonline.com</b></p> <p><b>Web Site: www.stgeorgesonline.com</b></p> <p><b>By George editors:</b> <b>J. Masters, M. Masters</b> <b>email: mmasters@bserv.com</b></p>	<p>Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown, when thou camest to earth for me; But in Bethlehem's home there was found no room for thy holy nativity. O come to my heart, Lord Jesus! There is room in my heart for thee.</p> <p>Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang, proclaiming thy royal degree; But of lowly birth camest thou, Lord, on earth, and in great humility. O come to my heart, Lord Jesus! There is room in my heart for thee.</p> <p>When heaven's arches shall ring, and her choirs shall sing at thy coming to victory, Let thy voice call me home, saying, 'Yet there is room— There is room at my side for thee!' And my heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus, when Thou comest and callest me. Emily E. S. Elliott 1864</p>
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