The National Anglican Church Women's E-News

Volume 2, Issue 2 May 2025

Our President's Greetings

My Dear Sisters in Christ,

It is with great joy that I greet you in this the Holiest Week of the year. I find myself checking my gratitude list several times lately. On the top of my list is my faith in the God of our forefathers. I also find myself grateful for my family and friends, for the home I live in and the food that is on our table.
I also find myself grateful for this beautiful country, Canada. Yes I am even grateful for the upcoming election. As a woman I had no voice in elections until 1929. "Women were nonpersons" Having an election means I have a say in who will lead our country for the next 4 years and I now am a person under the law. Being a Canadian also means that I have free health care, where many countries don't.

Speaking of elections, be reminded that at the annual meeting we will be having elections for a new vice president and a secretary. Please consider offering for these 2 positions. "Save the Date" posters have been mailed out for our annual meeting in September. If you didn't receive the poster, contact me. Registration forms will be sent out around the end of June.

The National Board meets about every two months via Zoom, and I have met with the committees for the 2025 and 2026. In my contact with these committees I quickly realized that we need guidelines for the monies allotted by the national for these events so we are busy working on yet more guidelines. (I think I will be known as the guideline president. LOL!)

The work on the website continues to be slow but is going forth.

I would like to conclude this letter with 2 quotes taken from "History of ACW".
-"It is vital that we remember the work of the women who came before and worked so hard to fulfill the mission of the church."
-ACW has always been fulfilling the mission of Christ within in the church".

I hope you and your family have a wonderful Easter and you find the true meeting of Lent.

Sister let be you servant,
Rosemarie Kingston
National ACW President

Editor's remarks

Dear Friends in Christ – Easter Greetings.
I am delighted to have received news from several folk and look forward to hearing more! YES I will continue to bug you for snipits or full blown articles! Everyone really does want to hear what other Dioceses are working on or planning!
This newsletter includes a poster for the National President's Conference,

being held using Zoom and hosted by the ACW Diocese of New Westminster. I know that our President Rosemarie and our whole National Executive has been very busy preparing for the conference. I spoke a couple of months ago with one of the organizers from New Westminster and know that they have been working hard to have the best Zoom Conference possible. Thank you ladies! I was delighted to receive greetings from Rosemarie and a thoughtful report by Janet Pike, our National Vice-President [soon to be President] about the in person conference last year. I hope you don't mind but I did slip in an article about my own Diocese's recent Zoom Conference. Prayer Partners is in again just as a reminder. And of course I couldn't leave you without a few funnies. Please consider sending me information. Any time of the year! Our next newsletter will be in August.
Mea Culpa – Any Mistakes are all mine for which I apologize!
Blessings.
Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him, so that you may
overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. [Romans 15:13]
Margaret margmoore49@gmail.com

Our National ACW Executive

Rosemarie Kingston- President - hayesr@nb.sympatico.ca

Janet Pike – Vice-President - jepike@tbaytel.net

Marni (Margaret) Crossley - Secretary - crossley_72@sympatico.ca
Glenda Peddle - Treasurer- glendaepeddle@hotmail.com

Margaret Warwick - Past President- mkwarwick@shaw.ca or mkwarwick@gmail.com

2024-2025 Prayer Partners

Diocese	Praying For
Algoma	Ontario
Athabasca	Huron
British Columbia	Mother's Union
Calgary	Toronto
Edmonton	Western Newfoundland
Fredericton	New Westminster
Huron	British Columbia
Mothers Union	Saskatchewan
New Westminster	Algoma
Ontario	Fredericton
Ottawa	Edmonton
Qu'Appelle	Ottawa
Saskatchewan	Athabasca
Toronto	Calgary
Western Newfoundland	Qu'Appelle

Everyone please pray for our Sisters in the Dioceses not present at this year's Conference.
Arctic **B**randon **C**aledonia **C**entral Newfoundland
Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Kootenay **M**ontreal **M**oosonee **N**ova Scotia and Prince Edward Island **S**askatoon **Y**ukon

Our Vice-President Reports

National Anglican Church Women Presidents' Conference Summary September 26th to 29th, 2024 in the Diocese of Huron, Stratford, Ontario

The National Executive Board arrived in Stratford on Wednesday, September 25th to allow time to meet prior to the Conference. The majority of delegates arrived on Thursday, September 26th. We were encouraged to wear black "For a World without Rape and Violence". Snacks and refreshments were provided on the Arden Park Hotel porch for a Meet & Greet. The transportation crew was very well organized to take us to our host church, St. James for dinner followed by the opening Eucharist Service. A reception followed where we were officially welcomed by the MPP, MP and Mayor.

Friday, September 27 began with our rides to St. James for a hearty breakfast. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Rosemarie Kingston, National President. 14 Dioceses were represented by 18 Presidents/Coordinators/Vice-Presidents/Designates.

We had informative reports from our four guests. Two major outreach arms of the Anglican Church of Canada were represented. Michelle Hauser, Development & Communications Officer, spoke on behalf of the Anglican Foundation. Janice Biehn, Communications and Marketing Coordinator, spoke on behalf of the Primate's World Relief & Development Fund. Janice concluded her talk by let us know that PWRDF would soon have a new name that would be revealed on October 16.

We also heard from Megan Collin Moore with the International Anglican Women's Network (IAWN), - a world-wide group of the Anglican Consultative Council. They would like to become better known and more active in the parishes.

Lilian Ketch, Canadian Mother's Union Representative, brought us the president's greetings and pointed out how similar our aims are, 'Faith in Action' at the parish level.

Next, we saw a video message of greetings from Bishop David Lehman with information about the Council of the North. The Council of the North is a grouping of seven financially assisted

dioceses, which are supported through grants by General Synod. The offering from our Opening Worship Service Thursday night will go to support the CON.

Following a wonderful lunch, our business meeting began. Margaret Warwick, Chair of the Nominations Committee reported that there were no nominations received for the positions of National Secretary and National Treasurer. It was agreed that our Constitution and By-laws would allow us to extend the 2 offices for another year's conference according to Article VII Terms of Office and Article VIII Vacancies. In accordance with these sections, both Marni Crossley, Secretary and Glenda Peddle, Treasurer were asked if they would continue in their positions and both agreed.

All reports were received as printed or presented. The Treasurer's Report was presented and approved followed by the budget for 2024-2025. The Conference for 2025 will be Virtual so the required budget is considerably less than for an in-person one.

Motions were carried to amend the Constitution and By-laws of the Anglican Church Women of Canada to include a "Notwithstanding Clause" to allow for decisions to be made on behalf of the ACW by the Executive Board for any circumstance that is not currently covered under the Constitution; and an amendment to ensure the election of a new treasurer takes place at an in-person conference to ensure a face to face transfer of authority.

In 2025, a Virtual conference will be hosted by the Diocese of New Westminster. The 2026 in-person Conference will be hosted by the Diocese of Athabasca in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Margaret Newton is prepared to issue a Newsletter. She has suggested three times a year in December, April, and August. She is asking for material to be submitted to her email by the beginning of the month preceding the publishing date. It is the responsibility of each Diocese to take advantage of this offer.

Margaret Newton's email: margmoore49@gmail.com

Rosemarie brought us up to date on the status of ACW in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Rosemarie attended a beautiful service on November 4th, 2023, at the church, St. Margaret of Scotland, in Halifax NS. The service was to celebrate the work of the ACW in the past, to officially dissolve the ACW Diocesan Board and to launch Anglicans Powering Potential or APP. APP is a new organization that includes both men and women.

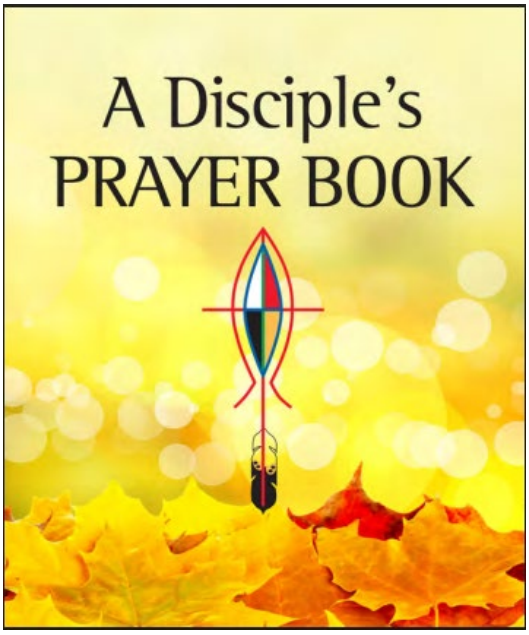
The question has arisen from several ACW groups in these 2 provinces, "Where does ACW stand now with no board?" Rosemarie, Margaret and Janet have tried to find answers to this question but to no avail.

A discussion was then held about what we can do for these ACW groups. It was decided that we will give help to the remaining ACW groups wherever possible. All ACW groups are more than welcome to remain part of the National ACW.

The Ecclesiastical Province groups met to discuss a passage from A Disciple's Prayer Book: The Rule of Life. The questions provided guided the discussion. Each group chose someone to

report back to the whole group following their discussion. The business meeting was then adjourned.
A wonderful dinner was served followed by a delightful “Fashion Show”.
On Saturday delegates enjoyed free time to explore Stratford with a variety of excursions offered.
On Sunday, September 29, a video presentation was shown during breakfast “Our History, Our Hearts” with the history of ACW. A private YouTube link has been provided to Dioceses and can be accessed by contacting Margaret Warwick.
The Concluding Eucharist was held on Sunday morning at St James Church, Stratford, with the former Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicolls, as the guest Preacher. To observe the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, delegates were encouraged to wear an orange shirt.
Following another delicious meal, delegates left to return to their dioceses.
Our time in Stratford was enjoyed by all.

Janet Pike, National ACW Vice-President



Full text available on the Anglican Church of Canada website.
www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/A-Disciples-Prayer-Book.pdf

Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples
About our Logo

The logo for the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples was designed by The Rev. Mervin Wolfleg of the Siksika Nation in southern Alberta [Diocese of Calgary], inspired by words and images of The Rev. Arthur Anderson, a Plains Cree from Punnichy, Saskatchewan. Mervin explains its many symbolisms.
The FISH at the centre of the logo is formed by the overlap of two circles – or two traditions – coming together, the

Aboriginal tradition and the European tradition.
The POINT where they come together is where Christ is to be found, represented by both the CROSS and the FISH [which also contains the form of the Greek Letters, Alpha and Omega.]
The CROSS is surrounded by the FOUR COLOURS of the four peoples of the world. Our vision is of all races coming together.
The FISH and the CROSS also contain within them the initials of the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples.
The EAGLE has always been a strong image for Aboriginal peoples. The EAGLE FEATHER attached to the cross comes from Isaiah 40:30 “But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.” If people can come together, they will fly.
The GREEN in the logo represents our Mother Earth, and the BLUE the waters of the oceans that surround the continents. BLUE is also the colour of Hope for Aboriginal people. When we are watching for good weather to come, we look for the first signs of blue in the sky. GREEN is also the symbol of new growth. RED is the colour of the Aboriginal peoples.

GATHERING PRAYER

Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the Centre of this Sacred Circle through all of which all creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever. AMEN

And… from A Disciple’s Prayer Book the …

RULE OF LIFE

Creator God we acknowledge and give thanks that:
In Jesus we know we belong to a Sacred Circle with the Gospel and Baptismal Covenant in the Center.
In this Sacred Circle:
We are all related;
We live a compassionate and generous life;
We respect all life, traditions, and resources;
We commit ourselves to spiritual growth, discipleship, and consensus.

From our Dioceses:

Diocese of Algoma ACW News

Algoma Diocese ACW is so pleased to have Archbishop Anne Germond, Acting Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada as our Patron. She has been such a wonderful inspiration and mentor to all of us. While she has been assuming the added duties of Acting Primate, we have been blessed with the Rt. Rev. Bishop Michael Oulton, retired Bishop of the Diocese of Ontario assisting in Algoma Diocese for eight months.
The Deanery of Algoma is hosting this year's ACW Annual May 27-29 at the Delta Waterfront Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie. This year's Annual theme is" My Soul doth magnify the Lord and my Spirit has rejoiced in God My Saviour". Bishop Oulton will be the presiding priest and preacher at the opening Eucharist with Dean Dr. Jay Koyle for the 2025 ACW Diocesan Annual at St Luke's Cathedral, Sault Ste Marie, Tuesday May 27th. Guest speakers will be Janet Pike, National ACW VP who will be talking about the work and outreach of the National ACW as well as the Mission to Seafarers which plays a significant role in liaising with the sailors

working on the international ships in the Great Lakes and specifically at the Thunder Bay port.
Another keynote speaker will be Pamala Stickney, field officer and missionary with the orphanage, Akany Famonjena, and day school, Akany Tafita, in Madagascar.
While there will be the business portion of the meeting there will be a Q & A with Bishop Oulton. The ACW Annual is always a special time for fellowship and making plans as we move forward as women in the Anglican Church. At this 2025 ACW Annual we will welcome Barbie Garvin from the Deanery of Temiskaming as the incoming ACW Diocesan President for 2025-2027. Barbie has a rich history of active involvement in the Anglican Church. At this ACW Annual, several women will receive a certificate of recognition for their active involvement at their parish and community level exemplifying the vision of ACW.
At this Annual we are pleased to have Anne Wilson; the Algoma Diocese representative speak to us about the work of the Anglican Foundation and the opportunities for accessing funding to support special initiatives at our parish and communities.
Cathy Pirrie, the Diocese of Algoma rep for Alongside Hope, the new name for PWRDF, will be talking about the new name which reflects the working model of listening to and responding to the partners with whom it works. Cathy will also talk to us about the newly launched Resilience Fund.
The Algoma Diocese Synod will take place in Sault Ste. Marie from May 7 to 10, 2025 with a special fundraiser with Dr. Roberta Bondar as Guest speaker. The Fundraiser is for the Anne Germond Legacy Fund, marking the launch of this Episcopal Trust to support the mission and ministry of the Bishop's Office in the Diocese of Algoma.

Blessings to all! Emily Noble

Greetings from the Diocese of New Westminster ACW

We've had an eventful year in 2024 as we celebrated our 120th year. We had a memorable special Fall Gathering at the Christ Church Cathedral in Vancouver where the first group was formed as "women's auxiliary" back in 1904. We held our annual Christmas Open House in December. We are currently working on our 2nd annual "Volunteer Appreciation Lunch" in April and our AGM on May 3rd. We're looking forward to hosting the 2025 National President's virtual Conference in September. Plans are in working progress. We're sure it will be a great weekend.
Our membership is slowly decreasing in numbers. We are praying for new board members to come forward at the AGM to replace those that are ready to retire from their executive positions. Some of the team have been on the board for over 10 years. They are a wealth of knowledge that will be surely missed. We're thankful for the mentoring they have given to us new board members. We're also praying for new members in general, but the younger women aren't quite ready to join our ACW. However, those of us remaining are keen and dedicated to keeping our ACW groups going for many years to come.
Many groups have their spring teas and bazaars in the plans. Our warehouse in Surrey continues to prepare bales for communities in the North and those marginalized locally. Our budget for 2025-2026 outreach is doing well. We anticipate it to be accepted at the AGM by our membership. We'll host our annual June open house and then take a summer break. We've chosen to use last year's President's conference theme "Let your Light Shine" for our diocese theme

beginning this May. We're praying that this will help everyone stay positive and loving during the political turmoils of current world affairs.
We continue to pray for our sisters in other dioceses as we understand that everyone is facing challenges with decreasing members and many other issues. Nationally we remain a big team of Anglican Church Women that with God's help will continue in our service for at least another hundred years.
On behalf of our membership, we wish you all a very Blessed and Happy Easter,

Kelly Bowman, President
ACW, Diocese of New Westminster

Greetings from The Diocese of Calgary Anglican Church Women.
We held our Annual Zoom Spring Conference on April 25th and 26th, 2025. Our theme was "Come and Journey with our Saviour: Being a Pilgrim". Linda Holt started off the weekend with a Finger Labyrinth Craft.

With only a short break we started our conference and after welcoming attendees, our Annual General Meeting was brought to order with our President Lisa Boulet, Chairing the meeting. We had two motions to be voted on - the biggest was a revision of our By-Laws. It passed unanimously much to everyone's delight. Our President Lisa had laboured long over the revisions. The other motion was the suggestion to Digitize our Book of Remembrance. The Executive and Board agreed to investigate costing, storage, and privacy issues and report back.

We also had an election with our Vice-President stepping up to be President for the next two years. As is our custom during Zoom events we leave zoom open over dinner and lunch breaks so folks can chat together. Friday evening, we were pleased to have our Chaplain, The Rev. Betty Piwowar deliver a message centered on pilgrimages – history, spiritual aspects etc. We closed our evening with a beautiful Service of Compline. Saturday our day began with welcoming our attendees and preparing for our Eucharist service. The Archdeacon of the Bow Valley, The Venerable Brian Vickers led worship supported by one of our two Deacons, Rev. Deacon Jennifer Ingram, and several ladies who shared lesson reading. Music was provided by Linda Holt. Rev. Betty Piwowar led our installation of a new Executive.
President: Val Jensen, Vice-President: Margaret Newton, Treasurer: Mary Dymond, Secretary: Eileen Williams, and Past President: Lisa Boulet.
In all our excitement we even got a few screenshots!

President Val Jensen

Our morning guest speaker, Virginia Haase, shared her experiences of travelling various routes of the Camino pilgrimage de Santiago de Compostela. Virginia described in detail, using exquisite photographs, her and her husband's most recent Walk of St. James, starting in Austria. It was really a breathtaking adventure that Virginia shared with us.

The afternoon featured a three-person panel, each presenting examples of pilgrimages. Lisa Boulet was first up with her presentation on the beautiful Silver Springs Labyrinth in NW Calgary. Last summer Lisa and three other board members met for a potluck lunch, and walked the Labyrinth.
Rev. Betty Piwowar presented her experiences at St. Brigid's well near Kildare, County Clare, Ireland. It was an amazing story of a Celtic Goddess who transforms into a Christian Saint. We viewed a short video that set up Betty's talk and Betty shared some photos of her time at the well.
Our last speaker was Jackie Harbidge. Jackie described attending evening retreats at the Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre just outside of Cochrane, AB, Jackie's hometown. The evening starts with dinner followed by a talk and then a silent half hour of contemplation, then ending with a short service of prayers. Jackie had us laughing as she described how hard it was for her to be quiet for a half hour. Jackie also described a retreat that she had been sent on by her home Parish, All Saints' Cochrane, to Toronto. She later confessed that she had to learn about how to actually benefit from a retreat by travelling all the way to Ontario, when she is blessed to be near two retreat centres at home.
Thanks were extended to all those attending, our guest speakers, and our conference committee.
President Val and the rest of the executive and board are now working towards an In Person retreat on June 21st to be held at St. Michael's Canmore. June 1st is the next Zoom Hymn Sing and plans are being formed for our Silver Cross Service and Luncheon in September, and a Fall Zoom retreat.
Respectfully submitted. Margaret Newton, Chair of the Zoom 2025 Spring Conference.

News from Dale Butler regarding The Diocese of Central Newfoundland

Our ACW Diocesan Council folded in the New Year. We now have an ACW Co-Ordinator and a treasurer acting as liaisons for all Primary branches.
The Co-Ordinator is Rev. Daphne Parsons.

Her address is P. O. Box 69, Dover, NFL, A0G1X0
Her email is daphnecparsons@yahoo.ca.
Her phone number is (709)537-5456.

Priest's Lego church replicas draw life-sized attention

From Anglican Journal online –
By Sean Frankling
Published April 11, 2025
The Rev. James Spencer has been building with Lego since he was eight years old. Today, that lifelong hobby is getting his parish, St. Mary's Anglican Church with buildings in Clarenville and Burgoyne's Cove, Nfld. noticed online—and forming the heart of a new ministry to local children.
Over the last year, Spencer has been building a pair of Lego models of the Clarenville and Burgoyne's Cove church buildings—built at the scale of one Lego "stud" (the basic unit of Lego blocks, demarcated by one of the nubs that let the bricks interlock) to one foot.
"I started collecting all the bricks I'd need and I did some measurements in the churches and worked out everything and started building," he says. "It's taken a year and a fair number of Lego orders to get all the pieces I needed, but I think it came out more or less as I was hoping it would."
Spencer's creations are built on a scale of one Lego stud per foot.
His creations measure around one foot by two feet in width, he says, and replicate every thing from the churches' accessibility ramps to their stained-glass windows, with mini figure parishioners in the pews. He started the

models as a way to say thank you to the two churches in the parish for the warm welcome them him in his first year of ministry. And when they were finished, the reaction was bigger than he could have expected.

"I wanted to do it as something that they could have in their church they would enjoy. And it's talked about everywhere. I rarely run into someone who doesn't mention it to me. It's spread all over Facebook," he says. "And it's getting attention to the church that, well, the church is enjoying because you know how it is these days—sometimes the church kind of gets lost in the background."

Spencer is also reaching out to make the Church a presence in people's lives through a new Lego ministry at the church. Organizers have been building up a collection of bricks donated by parishioners and community members until they had critical mass to start the program, which involves local children coming by the church to build for fun and the occasional challenge project. There's no overtly religious element, says Spencer, who also runs a Dungeons and Dragons game for some kids at the local middle school. But it doesn't have to be overtly religious to be a valuable form of outreach.

"I'd rather people see my church everywhere else and just sometimes in our building," says Spencer, whose Lego models have drawn attention to the parish on social media.

"I'm a big believer that the church needs to connect with our young people without necessarily always throwing Scripture at them," he says. "I've got a group of kids at the Dungeons and Dragons event, at the Lego who, later on in their life, no matter what they hear people [saying] about the church, any negative things, they'll look back and say 'Yeah, I remember people from my church. Reverend James would come and play Dungeons and Dragons with me. He seemed like a nice guy.'"

If the church starts by being a positive Presence in their young lives, he believes, that will pay off in the form of better relations in the long run.

He currently has about a dozen kids coming to the Lego ministry, which began in late March, and a rotating group of eight or nine players in his Dungeons and Dragons game. In the meantime, building models of the parish's churches has become a way of drawing attention from outside the bigger versions' walls.

"The Anglican church has spent an awful long time stuck in our buildings, dreaming of the days when people came to the buildings out of, well basically, out of expectation and tradition. And those days are over. We need to be out in the community. I'd rather people see my church everywhere else and just sometimes in our building."

Groaners for your Pleasure

Which Bible character was the best musician?

Samson—he brought the house down.

What did Zachariah do when he and Elizabeth had disagreements?

He gave the silent treatment.

What's a miracle that can be done by a complainer?

Turning anything into *whine*.

Mrs. Smartt was fumbling in her purse for her offering when a large television remote fell out and clattered into the aisle.
The curious usher bent over to retrieve it for her and whispered, “Do you always carry your TV remote to church?”
“No,” she replied, “but my husband refused to come with me this morning, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally.”

The Hand of God
Little Philip was walking home in the rain with his mother following Sunday worship. It finally stopped raining as they rounded the corner, where to their surprise and delight appeared a vivid double rainbow in the sky.
“Doesn’t it look like an artist painted this rainbow?” his mother exclaimed. “I bet God painted this just for you!”
“Yes,” replied Philip, “God did it, and he did it left-handed.”
Confused, his mother asked him, “What makes you say God did this with his left hand?”
“Well,” said Philip, “we learned in Sunday School that Jesus sits on God’s right hand.”

- until Next Time – Margaret

He has Risen Indeed!