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## Moving Back into the Neighbourhood

### A Synopsis of the 109th Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster

The 109th Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster opened on Friday evening May 14th with worship at Christ Church Cathedral. 147 Lay delegates and 76 Clergy delegates registered prior to the liturgy and the convening of the 109th Synod that followed the worship.

Bishop Michael accompanied by Chancellor George Cadman informed the congregation that they were no longer Synod Delegates but Members of Synod and as Members of Synod their charge is to listen to the Holy Spirit and listen to one another.

The music in worship was led by Christ Church Cathedral Organist and Director of Music Rupert Lang. Rupert conducted the Cathedral Choir which was supported by *The Touch of Brass Quintet*.

#### Synod Partner

After worship on Saturday, May 15th, Synod welcomed this year's Synod partner, Rabbi Dr. Robert Daum, an Associate Professor at VST and the Director of the Iona Pacific Inter-Religious Centre.

This is the first time that a representative of another faith has been "Synod Partner."

Rabbi Daum focused on his particular journeying "out into the neighbourhood" today manifested by his participation in this Anglican Church event.

He told the congregation of rumours that had gone through his circle, prompted by past involvement in Inter-Religious dialogue, that he was becoming an Anglican, rumours that he thought he had dispelled. However, he mused that his presence at Synod means he may have to do that again.

Rabbi Daum said that we "peoples of the book" need to do some work on how we read the scriptures before we go *out into the neighbourhood*. He presented biblical examples of Old Testament stories that on cursory reading present "terrifying tales." Many people in our "neighbourhood" believe that religion breeds violence based on the contents of the scriptures we read.

Rabbi Daum reflected on Alan Roxburgh's teaching to *go out into the neighbourhood* and the Rabbi wondered what he will need to take with him for that journey or maybe and more importantly what he should leave behind.

Rabbi Daum's command of history and his ability to

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TOP Delegates of the 109th Synod. BOTTOM Synod partner Rabbi Dr. Robert Daum.

For more Diocesan news and events visit [www.vancouver.anglican.ca](http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca)

# SYNOD

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

both juxtapose and to connect religious culture of 2000 years ago with the Missional Church paradigm of today made for a fascinating and thought-provoking address.

*Both Bishop Michael's opening worship sermon and Rabbi Daum's Synod Partner address can be downloaded from the Downloads page of the diocesan website under the heading Synod 2010 or from your priest or synod delegates.*

## 2009 Financial Statements

Diocesan Treasurer Ian Robertson assisted by Business Administrator, Rob Dickson, Assistant Treasurer Jim Stewart and Diocesan Comptroller, Mark Beley led the Synod through the Financial Statements for 2009. These audited statements and the audited report were supplied to Members of Synod in hard-copy form.

Rob Dickson read the Auditors Report to the Synod as a way of introducing the current diocesan financial situation to the Bishop and Members of Synod. He pointed out that it was a "Clean Audit."

Rob directed Members of Synod to some of the more important line items, including the accumulated budget surplus for 2009.

The surplus reflects the turnaround by the financial markets following the 2008 financial crisis, stewardship of diocesan resources by Synod staff, and the reduction in Synod staff of four part-time positions. The decision to move Synod from the Cap College gym to St. Mary's Kerrisdale in 2009 and cut the length of Synod by one day saved in excess of \$25,000.

*The 109th Synod unanimously received the 2009 audited statements as presented.*

## Our Diocesan Budget

2010 Revised Budget and 2011 Vision Budget Treasurer Ian Robertson then took the podium to guide Members of Synod through the budgets.

He led Synod through a power point presentation offering an explanation of the Budget for 2010 and the Vision Budget for 2011 as background information prior to presenting a motion to Synod to receive the two Budget proposals.

One of the highlights of the 2010 budget is a new position in Rev. Paul Borthistle's Parish Support Ministries department. The budget allows for the hiring of a new part-time staff member to assist in the field, helping to guide parishes engaged in MAP (the Ministry Assessment Process) and PMR (Parish Mission Reviews).

Ian also explained that there have been funds put aside to deal with the three deficit budgets:

As 2009 is now completed, the expected deficit of \$125,000 due to the instability in the money markets turned out to be greatly reduced thanks to the concen-

2009 • \$27,000    2010 • \$91,000    2011 • \$37,000

trated efforts by the Business Administrator's office and the fact that equity and money markets did bounce back in Canada in 2009.

PHOTOS All Synod photography by Martin Knowles.

TOP LEFT Diocesan Treasurer Ian Robertson.

TOP RIGHT Bishop Michael Ingham introducing Synod Partner Rabbi Dr. Robert Daum.

BOTTOM Christ Church Cathedral Organist and Director of Music Rupert Lang accompanying the hymns during the Saturday morning opening worship.

## Questions and comments from Members of Synod

1. It was suggested that diocesan funding for the Education for Ministry program be moved from Outreach and Mission to Program.
2. Two members commented on Continuing Education funding for Clergy and Synod Staff.
3. A Synod Member commented that the part-time Synod position to support Eco-Justice ministry had been eliminated but that a new position was being added in the Parish Program department. The question was "Does this indicate a change in direction?"

*Synod voted that the 2010 revised budget be approved as circulated.*

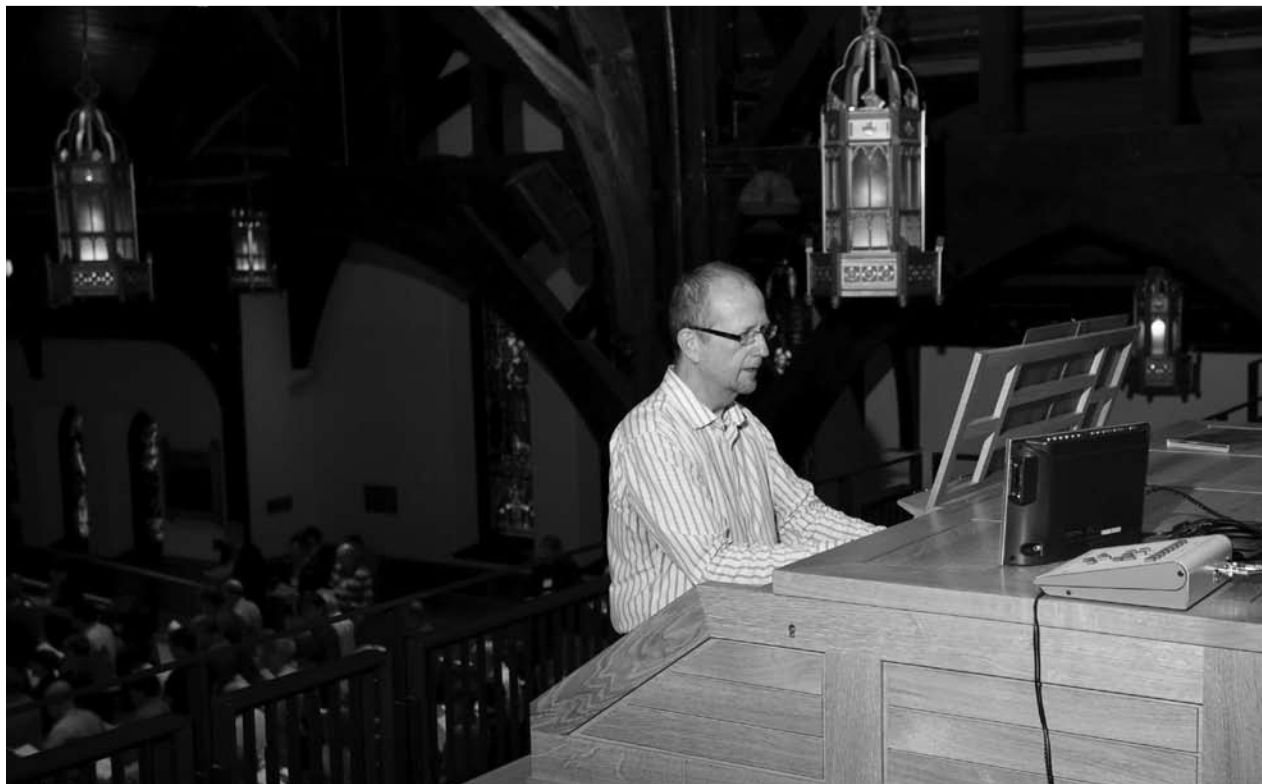
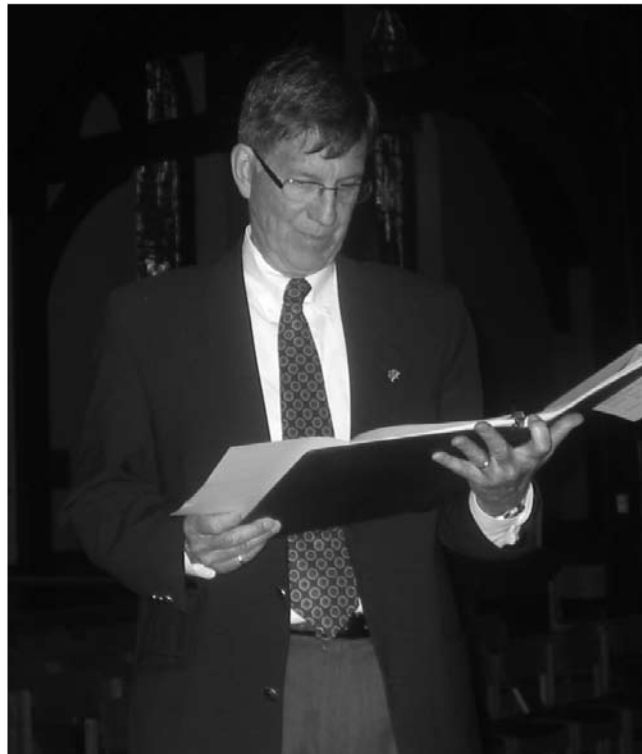
*The Synod office does have available a Narrative Budget document for 2010. If you are interested it can be downloaded from the diocesan website or ask your priest, parish treasurer or wardens for a copy.*

## Two Synod Members spoke to the 2011 Vision Budget

1. A Synod Member suggested that Diocese of New Westminister finance committees look at re-establishing curacy program in the diocese and also plan to put money aside to provide relief for seminary students who are spending huge amounts of money pursuing their call to ordained ministry.
2. Another Synod Member congratulated the finance team on a clear and well crafted presentation and then voiced her hope that Diocesan Synod returns to its two consecutive day format.

*Synod also voted that the 2011 vision budget be received as circulated.*

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### The Bishop of New Westminister

The Rt. Rev. Michael Ingham.

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**Special Thanks** to Martin Knowles for his Synod photography contributions.

**Thank you!**

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**Working in the Corridors of 401** • In preparation for Road 2018 events and other major events like Diocesan Synod a good number of the staff at 401 West Georgia move out into the corridor to collate printed materials.

In the photo below we see Bettina Gruver, Tasha Carrothers and Wilna Parry taking time out from their regular duties to ensure that everyone is supplied with the "info." ✦



**Moving Back into the Neighbourhood pre-Synod event draws capacity crowd** • On Saturday, April 17th at St. Dunstan's in Aldergrove, pastor, author and educator Alan Roxburgh began his presentation with this quote from Dave Robinson the Congregational Development staffer at the Anglican Diocese of Toronto;

*"In the Diocese of Toronto, God is up to something in all kinds of places and we're running as fast as we can to catch up."*

Alan followed that quote by saying, "So often we in what are referred to as *mainline* churches think something is wrong because it isn't the way it used to be. Well, we are at the end of that long night of moaning and complaining... God is up to something and you are part of that... We are in a space, a

space we've never been in before but God is already in that space." The pre-Synod day was packed to beyond capacity and there was a great deal of energy being generated at St. Dunstan's.

An added feature of the day were the many display tables of organizations, committees and initiatives connected to the Diocese of New Westminster available for viewing in the hall.

See Leslie Buck's article *Moving Back into the Neighbourhood* found below in this issue of *Topic* for more details. ✦

On April 17th the St. Edward's church green team was joined by volunteers from the Cambie Community Centre and Fraserview Church for an earth day cleanup. The City of Richmond supplied large garbage bags and a truck to haul away the trash. As well as the usual fast food garbage the team found someone's Chinese homework,

a television and a shopping cart that had been completely flattened. Thank you to all who participated. On Sunday parishioners were given recipes for "green" weed killer and liquid laundry soap. ✦

St. Edward's Green Team and volunteers.



MORE Around the Diocese on PAGE 5

## Moving Back into the Neighbourhood

LESLIE BUCK  
St. Paul, Vancouver

On Saturday, April 17th, 2010 clergy, synod delegates and interested parishioners from around the diocese attended a workshop at St Dunstan's, Aldergrove as part of the Road to 2018 workshop and conference series. Presentations by Alan Roxburgh and Sara Jane Walker of the *Roxburgh Missional Network* were enthusiastically received by the large gathering of parish representatives. This is what I, as one participant, heard them say.

It is easier to recount, to begin with, what parishes were told not to do. First, if the community around has changed its character don't isolate ourselves by pulling up the drawbridge. If we do that we might just as well fold up without delay. As far as my own parish (St Paul's Vancouver) is concerned, our predecessors explicitly decided not to do that when, twenty-five years ago, they chose to engage the gay community in the West End.

Secondly, and more to the point where most parishes are concerned, don't look to improved and enlarged programs as a means of attracting new members. This is not to say that we should not have programs, or that we should not ensure that the programs we do have are well-designed and operated. The point is that we should not think that they are going to help us survive and grow.

Like many parishes, St Paul's has many programs, more in fact than some members are aware of. They are there to serve us (and our neighbours), not to make converts. Many parishioners find this idea difficult to accept: if we do not do these things to make converts, they say, why should we do them? But we should not approach our mission as if we were a supermarket seeking to attract customers who will purchase the items on sale. This only leads us into unnecessary anxieties, looking for results that are not going to appear.

So what should we do? Our workshop leaders pointed us to a story in St Luke's Gospel (Luke 10:1-12). The story tells how Jesus sent disciples into the community ahead of him. In brief, Jesus tells them to offer peace and then to accept what is given to them. The disciples are the ones who are to receive, not those to whom they go. The outcome of the mission is to be judged on the giving and receiving of hospitality (just as, the story implies, Sodom was judged for its lack of hospitality).

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## The Rev. Kevin Dixon

Appointed Dean of Huron and Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ontario

After 11 years as the Incumbent and 2 years as the Priest Associate at St. Mary's Kerrisdale, the Rev. Kevin Dixon is heading back to Ontario where he has been appointed Dean of the Diocese of Huron and rector of St. Paul's Cathedral in London, Ontario.

Kevin grew up in Windsor, where his father was rector at St. James, Roseland. After completing his undergraduate studies at the University of Windsor, Kevin attended Huron College in London where he received his Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained at St. Paul's Cathedral in 1987 and was priest-in-charge of the Anglican Parish of the Bruce Peninsula until 1991. From 1991 until 1997, Kevin was rector of St. John the Evangelist in Leamington, Ontario. A highlight of this period in Kevin's ministry was the time he spent as chair of the Board of Directors of the South Essex Community Council, a provincially funded agency that provided direct service to the immigrant population, seniors, and at-risk youth in that part of Ontario.

Kevin's role as rector of a large and vibrant parish has only been part of his ministry here in the Diocese of New Westminster. Kevin has done an incredible amount of work

around Stewardship and Congregational Development and Mission to the global south. He will be sorely missed.

Kevin was informed of his successful candidacy on May the 4th when he received a telephone call from Bishop Robert Bennett. After a meeting with the Bishop and the wardens of the cathedral on May 10th, Kevin accepted their offer.

Kevin will remain at St. Mary's Kerrisdale until August and his new ministry is scheduled to begin September 1st. The service of installation is scheduled for September 12th at 4 pm at St. Paul's in London, Ontario.

We will have more information about farewell festivities for Kevin and his wife Diane as they develop. ✦



## St. Cuthbert's Welcomes Diocesan Council

Diocesan Council, the principal legislative body of the Diocese of New Westminster chaired by Bishop Michael Ingham held its April 13th meeting "on the road" at St. Cuthbert's in Delta.

It has become a tradition in recent years to leave the friendly confines of the St. Augustine Hall in Marpole and hold a meeting in a different diocesan church facility at least once during the year.

As St. Cuthbert's is in the Fraser Deanery, the meeting opened with an introduction to the Deanery by Fraser Archdeacon, the Venerable Stephen Rowe. The Regional Dean of South Fraser, the Rev. Craig Tanksley was not available that evening but Archdeacon Rowe did an excellent job summarizing the current mission and ministry of the churches in the region for those in attendance.

Early on in his presentation, Stephen introduced the Incumbent of St. Cuthbert's, the Rev. Allan Carson who warmly welcomed the council and gave a short list of highlights in the recent life of the parish. A feature of St.

Cuthbert's ministry is an ecumenical Good Friday service supported by the Delta Ministerial Association which has absolutely exploded over recent years, a very encouraging sign of Christian cooperation and shared ministry.

Next, the Rev. Michael McGee, Incumbent of St. Helen's Surrey spoke about his experiences so far in 2010 dealing with many deaths in that community but energized that the grandchildren of some of those faithful parishioners have returned to church seeking God through Baptism.

The agenda was relatively light that evening which allowed Council to relax and enjoy the extremely comfortable and pleasant surroundings of the St. Cuthbert sanctuary.

Long-time parishioner Lynn Stringer was on hand to serve coffee and treats during the break in the attractively appointed narthex area.

The meeting ended with a discussion about the Diocese of New Westminster's role in the Provincial Synod as that

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## PONTIUS PUDDLE by Joel Kauffmann



## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

compiled by Anglican Archivist Melanie Wallace

- 50 years • 1960 Bishop Godfrey Gower ordains the 3rd female deacon, Miss Julie Prior.
- 45 years • 1965 "Parishes drag feet in apportionments," leads to a 10% decrease in payments.
- 20 years • 1990 Diocese welcomes six Somali refugees to be welcomed by St. Philip, Dunbar.
- 15 years • 1995 Christ Church Cathedral gets approval for \$3.5 million restoration program.
- 10 years • 2000 Coming Home Society becomes an "official related group" to the diocese with unanimous Diocesan Council endorsement.

# SYNOD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

## Diocesan Council's Strategic Planning Steering Group (SPSG)

Diocesan Council's SPSG put forward a presentation in power point and film (the film was an address from Dr. Alan Roxburgh the principal speaker at the April 17th pre-Synod Conference "Moving Back into the Neighbourhood" and his video address was viewed in two sections).

The SPSG through pictures and stories led Members of Synod through 150 years of Anglican Ministry in the Diocese of New Westminster, punctuating each era by singing a verse of a hymn associated with that particular era.



TOP Bishop Michael, Rabbi Daum and Dean Peter Elliott.  
BOTTOM Members of Synod during pew exercise discussions.

At the conclusion of this historical analysis of mission in the Diocese of New Westminster, Bishop Michael contributed to the discussion by offering a personal reflection. Following Bishop Michael, Dean Peter Elliott the Co-Chair of the SPSG, instructed the Members of Synod in a pew exercise where the following three questions were discussed.

1. What did mission first mean to you?
2. How has your understanding of mission changed over time?
3. What questions/reflections do you have for the future of mission in our parishes and diocese?

The Dean gave the plenary 12 minutes to turn to their neighbours and discuss the three questions but asked them to be prepared to come up to the microphones and share the experience of discussing question number 3.

For 15 minutes Christ Church Cathedral buzzed with conversation.

More than two dozen Members of Synod responded to Dean Peter Elliott's request to respond to question number 3 by stepping up to the microphones and speaking out.

### The responses were wide ranging:

- "We must reach out as Christians not Anglicans."
- "We need to look to the global south and we in the north need to listen to the south."
- "It is for us, our job to go out into the streets and talk to people and expand God's Kingdom."
- "Faith communities can be forums for dialogue."
- "We need to return to visual representations of our faith communities, seasonal displays, bells, and a visual neighbourhood presence."
- "People of faith should become an *us* and a *we*, as all people of faith combined are less than half the population of BC."

"Mission is one of those terms with a lot of historical baggage."

"Be followers of Jesus, not people who tell the world about church dogma."

"If you want true dialogue with others you must ultimately be completely transformed yourself without an agenda."

"Going out into the neighbourhood in new forms and spaces is not always going to be revenue producing. Are we prepared to face these changes? Part with our buildings?"

"The ghost of the evangelical past of going out to love people to bring them back instead of just going out to love."

"In missional life, listening is key but listening can be terrifying as we may not be prepared for what we hear."

"It's time to change direction from mission being outward to inward, transformation and dealing with our own woundedness first before we go out into the world."

"We must go back home and wake up the people we have left behind."

"When we do mission in our community we must continue to focus on what is needed now. Do mission out of conviction and love and faith and not for what we can get out of it."

Bishop Michael and the Youth Members of Synod enjoyed the traditional Pizza Lunch together. They were joined by Synod Partner, Rabbi Dr. Robert Daum and Synod Planning Committee Members: Rev. Stephen Bailey, Rev. David Taylor and Jane Dittrich.

## Report of the Returning Officer

The first item on the agenda for the afternoon was the report from the Returning Officer, David Rolfe who voiced his disappointment at not receiving a free lunch this year. David reported that all diocesan officers for 2010 were elected by acclamation except for a tightly contested race involving two candidates in South Fraser.

### Report of the Returning Officer • Synod 2010

*Treasurer* • Ian Robertson (acclamation)  
*Clerical Secretary to Synod* • Karin Fulcher (acclamation)  
*Lay Secretary to Synod* • Vacant

### DIOCESAN COUNCIL DEANERY REPRESENTATIVES

- Burnaby Deanery* • David Nash\*
- Burrard Deanery* • Carol Passmore\*
- Capilano • Kingcome Deanery* • Bonnie Paetkau\*
- East Vancouver Deanery* • Bob Tipping\*
- Granville • Point Grey Deanery*  
Elsie Stevens (two year term)  
Richard Leggett (one year term)
- North Vancouver Deanery* • Dana Bowman\*
- Richmond • Delta Deanery* • Roger Farrier\*
- South Fraser Deanery* • Jack Blachford
- Westminster Deanery* • Roger Cooper\*
- Yale Deanery* • Reinhard Rudersdorfer\*
- Youth Delegate to Diocesan Council*  
Geoffrey Martin\*
- Anglican Initiatives Fund Administrator (Clergy)*  
Kelly Duncan\*  
following the withdrawal of the other candidate
- Anglican Initiatives Fund Administrator (Lay)* • Russ Harding\*
- Bishops Advisory Committee on Appointments (Clergy)*  
Neil Gray\*
- Bishops Advisory Committee on Appointments (Lay)*  
Moira Morgan\*
- Board of Discipline (Clergy)*  
Ellen Clarke-King  
Elizabeth Northcott  
John Oakes
- Board of Discipline (Lay)*  
Rosemarie Bundock\*  
Anne Schreck\*  
Monte Worthington\*

\* acclamation

## What Happened to the Churches?

After the election results, the next 45 minutes of the afternoon session were dedicated to the story of the selling of two Japanese Canadian Mission Churches by the Diocese of New Westminster: *Church of the Ascension*, founded and built in 1935 in the Pennyfarthing neighbourhood near Granville Island and sold by the diocese in 1945, and *Holy Cross*, founded in 1904 and located in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and sold by the diocese in 1949.

Prior to the internment of Japanese Canadians by the Federal Government in 1942, there were approximately 1,500 Japanese Canadian Anglicans worshipping at these churches. The presentation included a short documentary film entitled *Relinquished—Understanding, then Reconciliation*. The film offered an explanation of what happened and provided some context for understanding that the decisions to sell the churches by the Diocese of New Westminster without consultation with the community caused and continues to cause, many people a lot of pain. Both the Diocese of New Westminster and the Japanese Canadian-Vancouver Consultative Council (JC-VCC) hoped that bringing this story to light may create an environment where reconciliation with the Japanese Canadian Anglicans affected by these events becomes possible.

The film includes interview footage of members of the Japanese Canadian community telling their stories.

The Rev. Dr. Cyril Powles responded to the film on behalf of the group formed to support the Japanese Canadian Anglicans, the aforementioned JC-VCC.

Bishop Michael then presented an apology to the Japanese Canadian Anglican Community on behalf of the Diocese of New Westminster past and present.

*Both of these documents are available from the diocesan website (www.vancouver.anglican.ca) or can be obtained from your priest or the Member(s) of Synod from your parish.*



LEFT The Rev. Dr. Cyril Powles. RIGHT Holy Cross warden Basil Izumi appears in film.

## Resolutions

There were seven motions brought before Synod this year. Motions 1 and 2 were defeated by a substantial majority. Motions 4, 5, 6 and 7 were passed with a substantial majority.

*Details about these motions are available on the diocesan website or if you do not have internet access the motions can be obtained from your priest or Member(s) of Synod.*

## Synod Partner's Reflection

Rabbi Dr. Robert Daum reported that he was inspired by his attendance at Synod and the Synod's energy and dedication and intention to be a "Missional Church."

Ordinarily Rabbi Daum leaves his cell phone turned off on the Sabbath but as today was an unusual Sabbath for him he kept his phone turned on and answered a call that came through from a Muslim colleague. He couldn't help reflecting that; here he was on the Sabbath receiving a cell phone call from a Muslim while in an Anglican Church. This experience truly illustrated being in a *liminal space*.

Rabbi Daum reported on his growing experiences with groups currently forming in Vancouver that promote and nurture Inter-Religious dialogue.

Rabbi Daum told Members of Synod that although it may be a difficult and a somewhat contradictory proposition, ours is an "Inter-Subjective" mission, to know the other, to seek the other and to be transformed by the other.

He ended his address by offering a blessing on Synod from *Our Shared God*.

His closing reflection was greeted with a sincere and spontaneous ovation, causing Bishop Michael to quip that Rabbi Dr. Robert Daum will likely be the most sought-after preacher at Anglican churches for quite some time.

Rabbi Daum's reflection was followed by: "Thanks" given by Rev. Elizabeth Northcott, the commissioning of the newly elected Diocesan Officers, a hymn and the meeting ended with the Bishop's blessing at 3:50 pm. ✠

## AROUND THE DIOCESE



**The Annual Fundraiser for Camp Artaban • The Cream Tea** took place at St. Augustine's, April 24th and it was another great event. There was plenty of delicious baking, featuring fresh scones and of course lots of orange pekoe. ✦

LEFT Longtime organizers and bakers extraordinaire, Gwen Lamacraft, Doreen Parker and Jean Quinton (left to right), take a break from The Cream Tea.

RIGHT Jenna Reemeyer helps serve the scones at the Artaban Cream Tea.

PHOTOS Susan Foulds.



Bishop Michael has appointed the **Rev. Arthur Nash** to a two-thirds term appointment at **St. Andrew's, Langley** beginning May 1st and at the same time extended the term of the **Rev. Janice Lowell** beyond her curacy to Assistant Priest at **St. Andrew's** for two-thirds and one-third at **Holy Trinity, White Rock**, until year-end.

Similarly, the Bishop has appointed the **Rev. Gordon Dominey** to a half-time position for a 13-month term at **St. Edward's, Bridgeport** in Richmond beginning May 1st. Gord has been providing Sunday supply there recently. ✦



The Rev. Margaret Cornish with members of Richmond's Multi-faith Community.

Nearly 3 dozen women were nominated in 5 categories for the 2010 **Ethel Tibbits Women of Distinction Awards**. The Awards are presented in honour of Ethel Tibbits who was the firebrand first editor of the Richmond Review newspaper.

The award recipients were announced at a luncheon May 18th. St. Alban, Richmond Incumbent, the **Rev. Margaret Cornish** was the recipient of the award in the **Community** category. Margaret and her parish are a great example of living into the Plan 2018 priorities of *Participating in Local Communities, Cultivating Interfaith Understanding* and *Addressing Issues of Poverty*. Congratulations Margaret!! ✦

May 18th, Bishop Michael presided and Archdeacon Stephen Rowe preached at the installation of the **Rev. Scott Gould** as rector of St. Helen, Point Grey. A healthy congregation of 200+ attended the service which featured some excellent music by St. Helen's choir and a Spirit-filled welcome for Scott, Suzanne, Chester, Veronica and Phineas from the parish community. Also in attendance was a large contingent from Scott's former parish, St. Andrew the Apostle, Langley. ✦



Services of Confirmation were held on consecutive Sunday afternoons at Christ Church Cathedral, April 25th and May 2nd. In the accompanying photo we see our Diocesan Archivist, the newly confirmed Melanie Wallace with Bishop Michael. Melanie was one of 102 confirmations. The service also included two Re-affirmations and four Receptions. ✦

Beginning May 1st, the Bishop appointed the **Rev. John Firmston** as Priest-in-Charge for **St. Mary the Virgin, South Hill** on a two-thirds term appointment. John has been there, technically as "supply" for a very long time, so this is welcomed by all. Incidentally, the Parish will celebrate their centennial at 10:30 am on June 27th, with the Bishop presiding, and guests will include the Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. Stephen Point. ✦

## The Neighbourhood

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

From this story, the workshop leaders developed several points. We should be ready to cross boundaries, looking for God in (what to us are) God-forsaken places. We should expect to find God already there and be ready to see what God is already up to. We should not go with an agenda, assuming that we already know what is needed (or that we can supply it). Nor should we go

there looking for people like us who are going to confirm us in our prejudices. Only when we get there can we work out the next step. We should be prepared to experiment (and, it might be added, sometimes to fail), and to accept change.

In short, we should adopt not goals but an attitude. We should not set ourselves objectives of the kind that can be evaluated (double our membership in twelve months!) but learn to approach our task of mission in trust and with some degree

Bishop Michael assured the St. Helen's community that such a large group attending the induction from the priest's previous parish was a very good sign. In the photo below we see Scott receiving the Bible from St. Helen's parishioners Louisa Farrell and Barry Pointon. ✦



**Bladers! Come and join Our House at its second annual roll-a-thon!** • We will be meeting in Stanley Park near Second Beach between 9 am and 2 pm on Saturday, July 17th and blading around the seawall, led by Norm Sharkey.

The **Rev. Grant Rodgers** will preach at the ordinations on **June 27th** at 4 pm in Christ Church Cathedral. **Christine Magrega** of Holy Trinity Cathedral and **Robert Mitchell** of St. George, Maple Ridge will be ordained as Deacons. **Chris Derkes** will be ordained a transitional Deacon and will begin his two year curacy at Christ Church Cathedral, July 1st. ✦

June 29th at 7:30 pm, Christ Church Cathedral, 690 Burrard Street will host a **General Synod Report**. Diocese of New Westminster delegates to General Synod (held this past June 3-11 at St. Mary's University in Halifax) will gather at the Cathedral and present a synopsis of the issues discussed at the National Church meeting held every 3 years. There will be opportunity for questions and comments from the audience. ✦

**New Bishop for BC Lutherans** • The Rev. Dr. Greg Mohr was elected Bishop of the BC Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, May 14th. Greg's ordination will take place **Monday, July 5th, 7 pm** at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Surrey. All are welcome. ✦

**Music that Makes Community at St. Mark, Kitsilano July 8th-10th** • This three day conference is dedicated to exploring a style of singing that transforms worship and more deeply forms Christian community. These conferences draw together facilitators and leaders from around North America to explore paperless music in an environment of mutual learning. Registration fee is \$270 and group discounts are available. Registration includes daily lunch. To register visit [www.allsaintscompany.org](http://www.allsaintscompany.org). For more information contact Tricia Coldren through St. Mark's. ✦

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[www.vancouver.anglican.ca/Resources/Downloads/tabid/60/Default.aspx](http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/Resources/Downloads/tabid/60/Default.aspx)

Call St. Paul's Church at 604.685.6832, or email [office@stpaulsanglican.bc.ca](mailto:office@stpaulsanglican.bc.ca), to pick up a pledge form. We'll be having a barbeque to keep you rolling. Spectators are welcome too! *Our House* is the drug recovery program featured in the April issue of *Topic*. ✦

Bishop Michael Ingham has appointed the **Rev. Patrick Blaney**, Interim priest-in-charge of St. Thomas, Vancouver beginning Sunday, August 15th. Patrick will have completed his two-year curacy at Christ Church Cathedral and his last Sunday at CCC will be August 8th. ✦

**St. Cuthbert, Delta** is looking forward to their **Fall Round-Up and Community Fair** and they want to invite the diocese to join in the fun. Saturday, September 11th, 11 am-4 pm at St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church, 11601-82nd Avenue, (corner of 82d & 116th Street, North Delta) Phone 604.594.8822.

Highlights include *The Great Chili Competition* (register by calling the Church Office) \$25 registration fee. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners!!

Mini golf, Elsie the Milking Cow, dance demos, face painting, lots of music, Korki the Clown and much, much more! Lots more fun and food too! All are invited. ✦

**Cycling for Seafarers** • The Third Annual event is on Saturday, September 18th. Don't miss the opportunity to participate or sponsor someone in this fun-filled day to raise funds for the *Mission to Seafarers*. For details about registration or sponsorship email [spchaplain@flyingangel.ca](mailto:spchaplain@flyingangel.ca) or call 604.253.4421. ✦



## St. Cuthbert's

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

body is looking at entering a discernment process to take a hard look at its future.

There will certainly be more discussion about this at future meetings.

All in all, the entire trip to St. Cuthbert's was very pleasant and a wonderful way for those who are in leadership to experience the diversity and energy of different components of the Diocese of New Westminster. ✦

of unpreparedness or, at least, lack of clear expectation. We need to recognize and respond to opportunities as they are presented to us.

Looking back at St Paul's, as in many parishes, over recent years, we can see how that has sometimes happened. So the approach is not new: it simply has to be more widely recognized and embraced, first by parish leaders and then by all of our parishioners. ✦

# OUTREACH

## Food and Shelter Outreach

Diocese of New Westminster • Tri-City, New Westminster & Fraser Valley

COMPILED BY WILNA PARRY

Synod Office Staff and Parishioner at St Clement, Lynn Valley

*Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'*

*The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'* Matthew 25:37-40

Welcome to the third and final feature article based on material submitted by parishes and organizations around the diocese that focuses on direct service outreach programs offered by diocesan churches and their partner groups.

These listings are not about statistics and they are not an "ask" for donations, they are information, information to be shared with people inside and outside the church.

Food and Shelter are two components of ministry; there are many more, but they are foundational and intentional and the commitment of those who answer the call to this ministry is commendable.

Diocesan Communications hopes to create a web presence this summer using the information compiled for these three articles. Stay tuned.

Many thanks to all who took the time to submit information about these ministries and a big THANKS to Wilna Parry for compiling this information.

### Port Coquitlam

**ST. CATHERINE, Port Coquitlam** [www.stcatherineschurch.ca](http://www.stcatherineschurch.ca)  
St. Catherine's in Port Coquitlam serves the needy with a program called **Paul's Place Soup Kitchen**. A sit-down soup lunch is provided with the help of 10-15 volunteers. About 100-150 people turn up every Wednesday, 12 noon until 2 pm except for the last week of December. Contact Bernie Poitras [office@stcatherineschurch.ca](mailto:office@stcatherineschurch.ca). High schools and other churches provide some assistance.

Funding  
Mainly from donations.

### Port Moody

**ST. JOHN, Port Moody** [www.stjohnanglican.ca](http://www.stjohnanglican.ca)  
**St. John Family Food Bank** at St. John the Apostle church operates year-round, on the first and third Thursday of the month. A sandwich lunch (serving about 40-60 people) and bi-weekly food bank are held there. This is a supplemental food program to help families in need. About 10 volunteers assist. Quest provides families with rescued food at a low cost. All funds are received by donations as well as the support of the parish and bread is donated from Cobs Bread, Port Moody. For more information please contact Karen Evans at [stjohn7@telus.net](mailto:stjohn7@telus.net).

Partner Organizations  
Quest (visit [www.questoutreach.org](http://www.questoutreach.org) for more information) and Cobs Bread, Port Moody.

### Agassiz

**ALL SAINTS, Agassiz** [www.nwnet.org/~asa](http://www.nwnet.org/~asa)  
This small church is located in the heart of a rural farming community. In partnership with six other local churches and the support of the whole community, they are providing a program (running for the past 3 years) called **The Olive Branch Dinners**. Every Tuesday at 5 pm, a hot, sit-down dinner is served in the gymnasium of Agassiz Christian School. Cooking and the provision of the menu are done by volunteers from each of the churches in their turn. Volunteers from each parish help feed the 5-20 people.

The local community services also provide a food bank for those in need and donations of items of non-perishable food are collected each Sunday at All Saints and taken regularly to the food bank.

Partner Organizations  
St. Anthony Catholic, Agassiz Christian Reform Church, Agassiz Christian School, All Saints Agassiz, Gospel Chapel, Barton Insurance office, Agassiz Produce Store, meat from

local farmers and Community Services providing a Food Bank for those in need.

Funding  
Shared between the six local churches.

### Mission

**ALL SAINTS, Mission** [www3.telus.net/All-Saints/](http://www3.telus.net/All-Saints/)  
The parish of All Saints serves the people of Mission. It has been designated as an **extreme weather shelter**, from November 1st-March 31st, when the temperature drops below zero overnight. Numbers served are 2-20. The ministry is enabled by 3 paid staff (1 coordinator, 2 overnight staff) and could use more volunteers. It works in partnership with Mission Community Services. Contact Rick Ryckkyn at [allsaints\\_mission@telus.net](mailto:allsaints_mission@telus.net).

Partner Organization  
Mission Community Services.

Funding  
BC Housing.  
**Maple Ridge**



**ST. GEORGE, Maple Ridge** [www.stgeorgemr.org](http://www.stgeorgemr.org)  
St. George is located on the Dewdney Trunk Road in the community of Maple Ridge. Through generous parish and community donations, a **soup, sandwich and hot food** ministry takes place on the second and fourth Saturday every month. Sandwiches are prepared in the church kitchen and distributed year-round. About 15 volunteers serve between 50-90 people on the corner of North and 223 Street in downtown Maple Ridge. Please contact Robert Mitchell at [robertm100@shaw.ca](mailto:robertm100@shaw.ca) if you'd like to assist or learn more.

The parish collects food for the local food bank. Please contact Betty Taylor through the St. George office for more information.

Partner Organizations  
Benz Autotrans, Maple Ridge.

Funding sources  
Parish and community donations.

### Surrey • Langley • White Rock

**ST. MICHAEL, Surrey** [www.stmichaelschurch.ca](http://www.stmichaelschurch.ca)  
St. Michael's is located on 60th Avenue in Surrey. The parish provides a soup ministry, known as **Nightshift Ministries**. About 15 other denominations from Surrey to Langley combine to serve a Soup dinner on Wednesdays, 6 pm to 8-120 people. The food is prepared by parishioners from St. Michael's in a Mennonite church and served by members of two Baptist congregations.

If you'd like to participate or learn more please contact Alice and Elmer Clarke at [ag\\_clarke@shaw.ca](mailto:ag_clarke@shaw.ca).

Funding sources  
Supplies from Nightshift warehouse as well as donations from members of the public.

**ST. ANDREW'S, Langley** [www.saintandrew.ca](http://www.saintandrew.ca)  
The community lunch program offered by parishioners of St. Andrew's started in Advent 2009 and is still in the building stages. Various Ministry group in the church (choir, Thursday morning Bible Study, Journey to Adulthood) invested in providing a **soup, bun, cheese and fruit community lunch program**. Parishioners make cash

donations towards the cost of the lunches, which help the ongoing program. Soups are cooked in the church kitchen during the week by the participating groups, frozen and then served to the community.

During Lent 2010, the Young Adults at Church group took over the food preparation and serving under the guidance of Wil Watchorn, their mentor. Wil visited some of the community Centres and the Homeless Shelter in Langley and met with some of their guests to introduce the program. This one-on-one meeting increased the number of guests quite considerably. At the moment the community lunches are served to approximately 50 guests (including parishioners) during Advent and Lent on Sundays at 11:30 am. St. Andrew's parish hopes to extend this ministry for longer periods and involve some of the guests in the preparation and serving of the meal, leaving more time to be in community together. This is presently under discussion. Contact Penny Ames by email at [standrewslangley@telus.net](mailto:standrewslangley@telus.net).

## OUTREACH



**ST. MARK, Ocean Park** [www.stmarkbc.org](http://www.stmarkbc.org)  
Currently there are eleven projects happening at this busy parish. Please contact Frank Pearson at [frankjp@telus.net](mailto:frankjp@telus.net) or the church office at [office@stmarkbc.org](mailto:office@stmarkbc.org) if you would like to volunteer.

The three projects located in North Surrey:

- **Positive Haven HIV/AIDS Food Bank**  
80 people attend the Food Bank weekly.
- **Front Room Homeless Drop-in Centre and Shelter**  
Donations of food, toiletries and wearable used clothing are sent to the Front Room Homeless Drop-In Centre where approximately 200 people attend daily.
- **School Breakfasts at Old Yale Elementary School, Whalley**  
Every Wednesday during the school year, breakfast is provided to 40–50 children. The Surrey School Board provides similar breakfasts the other days of the week.

St. Mark's is currently seeking another school to initiate a similar project.

Eight projects are delivered in **South Surrey/White Rock** in collaboration with South Fraser Women's Services Society (known as *Women's Place*). These are provided at *Women's Place*:

- Soup lunch for up to 12 disabled women is provided every Monday.
- Forty Dollars per week is given to *Women's Place* to purchase food for a weekly lunch for up to 20 single mothers who attend a support group every Wednesday. Lunch is prepared and served by *Women's Place* volunteers.
- **Lunch Basket Program for Hungry Children**  
Safeway Gift Cards to the value of \$13 per child per week for up to 7 children are provided for single mothers whose

children would otherwise go to school hungry. A dozen cookies per child are also provided weekly for inclusion in the lunches. Offered in conjunction with *Women's Place*. Meat roasts (to an average value of \$60 per month) are provided for up to five families whose children participate in the *Lunch Basket Program*.

- Christmas *Gift Hampers* are assembled by various Bible Study Groups and delivered to *Women's Place* for the children who participate in the lunch program. Special food hampers are also provided (in addition to hampers at Easter and Thanksgiving) at statutory holiday long-weekends, picnic food is provided.
- **A Rocha Christian Ecology Centre Vegetable Farm**  
Four shares in the vegetable farm are purchased at a cost of \$550 per share. Three shares are picked up weekly by members of the congregation during the growing season and delivered to *Women's Place*. This provides organically-grown food for needy women and their children. One share is delivered to the local Food Bank. Donations are also collected in a basket in the narthex of St. Mark's and delivered weekly.



Funding sources  
Weekly donations by the congregation. Members are also invited to pledge \$50 per week as a memorial or thanksgiving donation for the *Lunch Basket for Hungry Children Fund*. A grant of \$10,000 has been received from the Blanche Biddle Trust Fund to fund breakfast at the elementary school and other similar projects planned over the next few years. ✦

## CLINICAL COUNSELLING AND SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

When seeking professional help, it is helpful to know that our spirituality and our thoughts about God and faith are recognized, respected and encouraged as a part of our healing and growth.

As counsellors, rooted in Christian tradition, and trained in spiritual direction, we offer a safe place to explore all of your questions.

### If you or someone you know is experiencing

- Depression
- Anxiety and/or stress
- Life transitions
- Grief and/or loss
- Chronic illness
- Sexual orientation
- Addictions including substance misuse, overspending, sex addiction and compulsive theft
- Desire for spiritual growth



**The Rev. Dixie S. Black**  
MA, RCC

604 605 0833  
[www.spiritualsobriety.com](http://www.spiritualsobriety.com)



**Eleanor Rogers**  
B Mus, MATS, MA, RCC

604 833 5052  
[www.creativecurrents.ca](http://www.creativecurrents.ca)

## OPINION

### Angli/can or Angli/can't?

DON GRAYSTON

*Retired priest of the Diocese of New Westminster*

On April 20th an article in the *Globe and Mail* described the national church's plan to offer possibilities for "corporate sponsorship" at the General Synod in Halifax held this June.

It described a plan for selling space for brand names and logos on documents, for advertising in the meeting spaces, and, the big prize, a private lunch for certain contributors with the Primate. (I've since learned that this last point is erroneous, and that there are other misstatements in the article but then I have to ask myself why it was so believable, or, more personally, why I was entirely ready to believe it.)

Don't get me wrong, I'm not anti-business. There is good business and bad business, just as there is good and bad in any undertaking. But it raises the question, is there anything left that isn't for sale? Perhaps we could put out a new edition of the Bible, with each of its books "brought to you" by Toyota, or Nike or Goldman Sachs.

The article says that our Church is declining faster than any other Christian denomination in Canada, and to me, this plan is evidence of desperation in response to that decline, spiritual as well as numerical. But recovery will not be brought about by any such stratagem. What we do need



to do is something more demanding to encourage *daily spiritual practice*, to bring Christian contemplative perspectives and disciplines to individual members of congregations in new ways. It is my conviction that when enough of us do this at a deep enough level, spontaneous combustion of

*"There is good business and bad business, just as there is good and bad in any undertaking. But it raises the question, is there anything left that isn't for sale?"*

an authentically Pentecostal kind will occur, and the church will move forward again.

And what else? What about a conference of the parishes that are thriving, to help us identify what factors help them thrive? What about bishops *requiring* their clergy to undertake continuing education? (It's optional at the moment, as it is not for many professionals.) What about an expectation that all clergy should have a spiritual director/mentor?

Is there an idea or a program at the national level that would so fire the imagination of discouraged Anglicans--both clergy and lay--that we would feel that we are working together, rather than on our

own? I am not aware of such leadership at either the diocesan or national level.

Ergo, time for a spiritual revolution, if the decline is to be halted. It is time for us well-brought-up Anglicans to speak up more directly than we have been doing. (Historical note: most of those who went

down on the *Titanic* were Anglicans!)

American eco-philosopher Joanna Macy says that we live in the time of the Great Turning, and I believe she's got that right. So if we are living in such a time, what does our church need to turn *away from* and turn *towards* as the world moves through the Great Turning with or without us?

To read the April 20th, 2010 *Globe and Mail* article entitled, "Anglican Church Calls for Corporate Sponsors" by Michael Valpy please go to [www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/anglican-church-calls-for-corporate-sponsors/article1540046](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/anglican-church-calls-for-corporate-sponsors/article1540046). ✦



# Diocesan Youth Movement

## YOUTH CONNECTIONS

News & Events for Youth in the Diocese of New Westminster

### youth groups

For Parish Youth Groups go to <http://tinyurl.com/DNW-Youth>

### contact

Diocesan Youth Coordinator Phil Colvin

[pcolvin@vancouver.anglican.ca](mailto:pcolvin@vancouver.anglican.ca)

604.684.6306 ext. 225 (Wednesdays and Fridays)



## Youth Ministry Report for Spring 2010

PHIL COLVIN  
Diocesan Youth Coordinator

Youth ministry is sometimes misunderstood as a youthful or childish enterprise. Successful youth ministry does not look childish; it is a profound and sophisticated ministry which becomes so because it has been formulated and implemented by youth for youth. Three events this spring have challenged youth to not just be recipients of someone else's version of what ministry might be, but to become the visionaries of that ministry for themselves.

First, there was *Destination Transformation* at Holy Trinity Cathedral in New Westminster, where youth gathered to take part in a weekend of activity planned and run by the leadership team of the *Diocesan Youth Movement*. During the course of the event, participants were invited to share their ideas and experiences to help redefine diocesan level youth ministry. Youth identified the strengths and weaknesses of youth ministry in the Church and imagined how it could look in the future. It was clear that youth were looking to develop a ministry which would be meaningful to them, having found many weaknesses in ministry initiatives which had been provided for them rather than developed together with them.

These experiences were affirmed during a service of Solemn Evensong later in the evening. The service from the

Book of Common Prayer was planned and carried out by youth of the diocese with Rev. David Taylor. Youth filled the roles of servers and assistants. It was a great experience to see participants become part of an age-old form of worship, given relevance to youth because they became the owners of it.

Two weeks later, at the *Young Sojourners* weekend at the Sorrento Centre, youth from around British Columbia gathered to explore their own sense of ministry from a different viewpoint. The theme of the weekend was *Jesus' Gang*. Throughout the three days of the event, youth were introduced to Jesus' disciples and invited to deconstruct them from distant religious figures into ordinary men and women chosen to fulfil an extraordinary purpose. These explorations were coupled with hands on experiences, both in sessions and by undertaking work projects around the Centre.

In the same way that the disciples were sent out to 'get their hands dirty,' youth were sent out to help with building projects, painting and helping to get the Centre ready for its summer season (the Young Sojourners weekend is offered by donation, and the work projects participants undertake help to subsidise the cost). There were also chances to welcome the summer with nightly campfires and worship in the Centre's outdoor chapel.

And finally, at diocesan Synod back in the Lower Mainland, youth delegates took part in the newest social networking phenomenon: *Facebook: Live!* Using paper, pens, artwork and craft supplies, participants created their own 'real' profiles around ideas which interested them. They then 'shared' their results with each other in the same way we might do with some interesting article across the Internet. As special guest blogger Dean Peter Elliott helped

to explain, this activity paralleled the discussions on the second day of Synod revolving around moving our church back into the neighbourhood. Often we have a great desire to share a piece of music or video clip which we discover as widely as possible. What if the same were true with our church? And with our own faith journeys? How would



Youth lunch at Synod 2010.



that change the way church is regarded by others, and participated in by congregations?

The youth delegates were able to take these discoveries back to Synod, and feed them into the conversations which took place both during the day and at the pizza lunch with Bishop Michael, who introduced another way for youth delegates to continue to engage with their own spiritual journeys and make their own discoveries: through pilgrimages to Taizé and Taiwan, both of which are being planned for the summer of 2011.

The challenge of youth ministry is to do more than just run great events, but rather, to allow youth to make discoveries and to put words into action. It's going to be great to see how participants in this spring's programming take what they've been offered and have found and to act on it for themselves. ✠

TOP The Young Sojourners at the Sorrento Centre.

LEFT TOP Fueling up for Destination Transformation.

LEFT BOTTOM Solemn Evensong.

RIGHT BOTTOM Yes!