

# The NicodemusProject



## Fresh Expressions of Church

Fresh Expressions started in the Church of England. Bishop Graham Cray says, "It is a way of describing the planting of new congregations or churches which are different in ethos and style from the churches that planted them. They are designed to reach a different group of people from those already attending the original church."

There is no single Fresh Expressions model to copy, instead there is a wide variety of approaches for a wide variety of contexts and constituencies. The emphasis is on planting something which is appropriate in its context, rather than cloning something which works elsewhere."

The Rev. Canon Bruce McKenna researched the Fresh Expressions movement while on sabbatical last year. He has since inspired two Greater Chapter meetings (Saint John and Fredericton) with his talk on what he saw and many of us are still intrigued with the message "Managing decline is not a Gospel value."

The Archbishop of Canterbury is calling for the introduction of 'fresh expressions' forms of worship while maintaining the more traditional "mixed economy" church. The Fresh Expressions movement is blossoming in Australia and Canada and there is interest in Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, the USA, Chile and New Zealand. Check out Fresh Expressions websites like [freshexpressions.org.uk](http://freshexpressions.org.uk) and [freshexpressions.ca](http://freshexpressions.ca).

In *The Problem of Pain*, C.S. Lewis wrote, "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains; it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

## Is this God's megaphone moment?

### NICODEMUS NOTES

- The Nicodemus clergy and warden learning weekend is postponed.
  - Diocesan Council granted approval, in principle, of the Companion Diocese Grain Grinder Project. Stay tuned.



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### FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Rev. Kevin Borthwick is appointed priest and rector of the Parish of Prince William, Dumfries, Queensbury and Southampton effective June 15.
- Condolences to the family of the Rev. Canon Basil Buckland who died March 30.
- The Rev. Robert Barry is appointed honorary assistant in the Parish of Derby and Blackville, under the direction of the Rev. Douglas Barrett.
- The Rev. Deacons Fran Bedell and Joyce Perry, Canon Neville Cheeseman and Mr. Thomas Nisbett are re-appointed to the Commission on the Diaconate for a term ending April 30, 2011.
- The Rev. Wally Collett's appointment as priest-in-charge of the Parish of Upper Kennebecasis is extended until April 30, 2011.
- The Rev. Marian Lucas-Jefferies is appointed full-time priest-in-charge of the Parish of Upham for one year. She has been serving the parish on a part-time basis.

## *Come and Celebrate!*

*Come to an Anglican family dinner in Celebration and Thanksgiving for the appointment of Archbishop Claude W. Miller as Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada. We will gather at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Queen Street in Fredericton on Friday evening, May 7 for a reception at 5:30, dinner at 6:30. Guest speaker Bishop Bill Hockin's subject is "Simply Anglican." Dr. Willis Noble will coordinate the music which includes classical guitarist Stephen Peacock and soprano Sally Dibblee. Tickets are \$50 and can be obtained from the Synod Office at 115 Church Street in Fredericton (506)459-1801 and from territorial archdeacons.*