

The Nicodemus Project



Visioning day exciting, challenging and full of possibilities

Saturday's (Nov. 26) Visioning Day with Nick Brotherhood and David Edwards was exciting, challenging and full of possibilities. About 80 New Brunswick Anglicans from all over the diocese — from the upper St. John River Valley through Saint John and up to the North Shore — got a close-up view of Fresh Expressions of Church through animated lectures, colourful power points, fast-paced videos, well-focused object lessons and lots of group interaction. The energetic Nick who was once a rock and roll drummer — and who is more properly the Rev. Canon Nick Brotherhood, coordinator of Fresh Expressions Canada, assistant director of the Wycliffiee College Institute of Evangelism and half-time incumbent in St. Stephen's Church, Westmount, Quebec — covered all the bases with the help of Archdeacon Edwards, our parish development officer.

In one exercise we were asked, in table-groups of six or eight, to remove all our jewelry, including watches and glasses, and put everything in the middle of the table. Then we were instructed to try on something that belonged to someone else. While some things were definitely 'not us' (didn't fit, didn't suit, or, as was the case with glasses, were unusable), we were really surprised to find that some did work, that we liked some things we might never have chosen for ourselves. In fact, I think there were those of us would have quite liked to keep some of them! So it is when we change well-worn habits like church practices. Sometimes the new practices don't work for us, but there are also times when we are surprised to find we like some of them better than the old ways.

When we consider starting a Fresh Expression of church, listening prayer is of the utmost importance as we try to discern God's will. We need to take off our blinkers and look around our communities to see what God is already doing — then look for ways to join in. Our mind set must change from the kind of thinking that says, "the Church has a Mission," to one that tells us "God of Mission has a Church." God has a church that can and should do his work, and that work often takes place outside the walls of the building we call 'the church.'

Nick actually spent a three-day weekend with us. On Friday he led a well-attended day for the clergy and on Sunday he preached at three services at Christ Church Cathedral.



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FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

The Rev. Canon Robert (Bob) Smith is appointed priest-in-charge of the Parish of Campobello effective immediately.

The Rev. Canon Stuart Allan is appointed interim priest-in-charge of the Parish of Lakewood in Saint John for a six-month period effective Jan. 1, 2012.

The Rev. Dick Black is appointed priest and rector of the Parish of Bathurst effective March 1, 2012.



RESOURCES

A message from Jarvis de Condé re The Diocesan Insurance Program

Please note that the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton's insurance program has been bound and renewed for the term of December 1, 2011 to December 1, 2012 at the following terms:

- For the All Risks, including equipment breakdown coverages, the limits and/or values for all parish owned buildings and contents are increased by 3 percent to reflect the normal increase in costs of labour and materials. This increase is an effort to keep the values up-to-date and is ultimately in the best interests of parish corporations and congregations. The applicable rates are as expiring, therefore there is no increase in these rates.
- The Commercial General Liability and all its extensions — third party pollution liability (if applicable) and the comprehensive crime coverage — are also renewed on the same terms and conditions as expiring.
- Our broker, Marsh Canada Limited, is in the process of issuing the myriad of renewals, they will be sent to each certificate holder as soon as possible.
- There will be no change in the format of remitting payment to the diocese's office in Fredericton as established by the late Canon Fred Scott.
- Under the present circumstances, all questions or concerns relating to your insurance should be directed to me: call my home office toll free, 1-866-727-8855, or email <jdeconde@eastlink.ca>.

Thank you