

# The Nicodemus Project



## **What can we do**

***During this new year to further the goals of the Nicodemus Project and enable our church to better meet the many challenges of our times?***

### **As individuals we can:**

- \* Assess ourselves. How well do we know our Bible? Can we perhaps resolve to commit to regular reading and study? (See Anglican 101 in the February issue of the NB Anglican.)
- \* Pray more. Could we add a few minutes to our daily Bible study to do that?
- \* Give more. Have our offerings risen at all in the last few years? Many of us worship in what might be called a struggling parish. To accomplish the goal of supporting our struggling parishes, we might seriously consider giving a little more each week to accomplish God's work. Or perhaps we might sign up for e-offering so that our church receives a regular contribution from us even when we are unable to attend church.
- \* Be more open to change. Can we allow changes to be tried for the sake of encouraging the young and those who are new to regular worship? It may make it easier for them to understand what is going on and to enjoy worshipping with us. I hope we are not among those who resist change of any sort.

### **As a parish we can:**

- \* Encourage our priest to take advantage of his/her annual two weeks of study leave so that he/she becomes better equipped to serve God's church in such a rapidly changing world. This might mean encouraging attendance at the annual Clergy College in June or going further afield to take a course or two.
- \* Undertake a parish assessment. Many parishes have already done this. If you don't know if yours has or not, ask. There are many ways of doing this and it is well worth the effort.
- \* Engage in mission work. If you don't know how much of your parish income is set aside for mission work, ask! Remember that our Diocesan Mission is to proclaim the gospel for the making of disciples. The mission field is very large and there are tremendous opportunities to reach people with the Christian message right on our own doorsteps.

With God's help, may 2012 be a year in which we truly become a diocese of healthy, mission-focused, welcoming and growing parishes. May we witness the transformation of our beloved Anglican church, see disciples made and become the church God intends us to be.



**JANUARY 2012**

*This is e-for-everyone-news — A monthly print review of news and information contained in the weekly diocesan electronic newsletter.*

*Subscribe to the on-line version at <http://anglican.nb.ca>>  
Click on the "News" button on the top line menu.*



## **FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE**

- Appointments of the acting diocesan treasurer and assistant-treasurer, the Rev. Canon David Kierstead and Mr. Norman McLeod respectively, were extended until June 30, 2012, and will be reviewed again at that time. The diocese appreciates their abilities and willingness to serve in these capacities during this time of change.
- The Rev. Canon Wally Corey was appointed to ministry and pastoral oversight as interim priest-in-charge at the Parish of St. Mark (Stone Church) Saint John for a period of six months effective Jan. 1, 2012.



## **RESOURCES**

- Parish Statistical and Financial Returns (and 2012 Officers and Contacts) are due as usual on 15 March 2012.

### **• From the Parish Development Officer**

Dear Colleagues in Ministry,  
Happy New Year. As 2012 begins I have been thinking about how we might be able to work together during the coming year and beyond in the areas of parish development and stewardship. I hope many of you will feel free to call me on 693-7962 or my cell 721-6701 to discuss your thoughts, but I know in the daily hustle and bustle of ministry such intentions can easily fall down the priority list. Therefore I am going to be pro-active. During the next few weeks I intend to call everyone who has responsibility for a parish or parishes to see if there are things which we may be able to work upon together. Please do not let this prevent you from calling me.  
I look forward to working with you in these key areas of parish development and stewardship.

Sincerely,  
David Edwards