

## Pastoral Letter #65 – May 27, 2009

Dear Friends:

1. Four of our clergy, the Rev. Ann Marie Nicklin, the Rev. Alex Parsons, the Rev. John Seib, and the Rev. Peter Norman, participated in the “Fresh Start” conference in eastern Canada recently. They are available to assist parishes in transition or parishes looking for new ideas for growth. I recommend a conversation with one of these four resource people.
2. The “Starting Now” Conference, part of our “Turning Hope into Action” strategic planning, will be held in Saskatoon on October 30 and 31. The keynote speaker and facilitator will be the Rev. Canon Harold Percy of Trinity Church, Streetsville, Ontario. It is hoped representatives of all parishes will participate. Please mark your calendars now and make plans to attend this vital conference on the subject of church renewal.
3. The Rev. Canon Henry Comerford has resigned as Rector of St. George’s Church, Saskatoon effective August 31, 2009. Henry has decided to take a break from duties and to enter a period of discernment. Henry emphasizes that he is not retiring or giving up the practice of ordained ministry!

Henry, a graduate of Wycliffe College, Toronto, and the holder of a Doctor of Ministry degree, has been Rector of St. George’s Church for seventeen years. St. George’s Church has developed a strong outreach ministry, an excellent music program, activities for youth and children, and an increased membership.

Henry was honoured for his work at St. George’s Church when he was made a Canon of the Diocese last October.

Thank you to Henry for a fine ministry at St. George’s and best wishes as you move to a time of discernment.

4. The Rev. Dr. David Tyler has been appointed Priest in Charge of the Parish of the Good Shepherd. Best wishes, Dave, as you embark on this new ministry serving Pike Lake, Delisle and area.
5. The Rev. Carlos Roberts has resigned as Rector of St. Timothy’s Church, Saskatoon effective February 28, 2009. He has been transferred to the Diocese of Qu’Appelle by Letters Bene Decessit as a priest in good standing. Best wishes to Carlos for his future ministry.
6. Please remember Tim Sandell and Sheila Martin in your prayers. Tim has been in hospital for surgery. He is “making good progress and will likely be home in a day or so”. Sheila is on short term medical leave in Hamilton, Ontario.
7. Congratulations to Tim and Karen Sandell on the birth of a granddaughter, Vivien Sandell, on May 21.
8. A 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Banquet for the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism will be held at the Western Development Museum in Saskatoon on Thursday, June 4 at 6 p.m. As a Diocese, we are partners with the Centre. You are encouraged to purchase tickets from the Centre at 653-1633.

9. For those parishes planning a Vacation Bible School this summer, a complete program with music is available through the *On Eagles Wings* website. Further information is available from the Director, Anne Zimmerman, at [aezimmer@telus.net](mailto:aezimmer@telus.net)
10. All parishes are encouraged to think about the future of the Anglican Church of Canada on Trinity Sunday, June 7 by making a written or video contribution to Vision 2019. Vision 2019 is a “church-wide exercise to discern, dream and decide where God wants the church to be by the year 2019.” Many resources are available at [www.anglican.ca/vision2019](http://www.anglican.ca/vision2019).
11. Congratulations again to all who participated in the “Amazing Grace” project last November. At last report \$91,000 had been donated for the work of the Council of the North dioceses. Council members have decided to use the money to employ a suicide prevention counsellor who will initiate programs to deal with the critical issue of suicide.
12. Thank you to everyone who donated to the Anglican Journal Annual Appeal. The diocesan share of the donations was \$ 2,504.18.

“Creator of the fruitful earth,  
You made us stewards of all things,  
Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness,  
And steadfast wills to use your bounty well,  
That the whole human family,  
Today and in generations to come,  
May with us give thanks for the riches of your creation.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

(The Collect for Rogation Days, Book of Alternative Services, p. 396)

Yours sincerely,

Rodney Andrews  
Bishop of Saskatoon