

# Northern Lights

# 158

The Journal of the  
Anglican Diocese of  
Yukon  
Winter 2010/2011



St. Paul's prepared for the Christmas  
Eve Pageant by making a slide show  
of the Christmas story before the  
snow fell in October.



# Thank you for Praying

## Day 1 & 16

### **Parish of Whitehorse: Christ Church Cathedral.**

The Ven. Dr. Sean Murphy; The Rev. David Pritchard & family; Rev. Martin Carroll, Ruth Carroll & family; Licensed Lay Ministers:: Gaya Tiedeman, Beverley Whitehouse.

## Day 2 & 17

### **Fort Nelson: St. Mary Magdalene. Toad River, Alaska Highway, mile 150-506**

The Rev. Dn. Don & Lana Thompson and family; Licensed Lay Ministers: Glen Gough, Jeanie Arva and Mark Tudor

## Day 3 & 18

### **Watson Lake: St. John the Baptist Lower Post, Swift River. Telegraph Creek: St. Aidan.**

#### **Dease Lake; Glenora.**

Rob Langmaid (Evangelist)  
Licensed Lay Minister: Tim Liverton

## Day 4 & 19

### **Carcross, Tagish, Johnson's Crossing St. Saviour's.**

The Rev. David Pritchard and family

#### **Teslin: St. Philips**

The Rev. Dn. Sarah Usher and the Ministry Team

## Day 5 & 20

Communities of: **Carmacks & Keno.**

## Day 6 & 21

### **Atlin: St. Martin.**

The Rev. Dn. Vera Kirkwood & family.  
Licensed Lay Minister: Dorothy Odian.

## Day 7 & 22

Communities of: **Faro and Ross River.**

## Day 8 & 23

### **Haines Junction: St. Christopher's. Beaver Creek: St. Columba.**

#### **Alaska Highway: mile 918-1202**

The Ven. Sean Murphy and the Ministry Team

## Day 9 & 24

### **Parish of Whitehorse: Church of the Northern Apostles.**

The Ven. Dr Sean Murphy (Archdeacon of Liard);The Most Rev. Terry Buckle, Blanche

Buckle and family; The Rev. Dn. Sarah Usher, Len Usher & family

## Day 10 and 25

**Mayo: St. Mary with St. Mark.** The Lay Ministry Team

### **Pelly Crossing: St. James the Lord's Brother.**

Licensed Lay Minister: Betty Joe.

## Day 11 & 26

### **Dawson City: St. Paul's. Moosehide: St. Barnabas.**

**The Klondike Creeks; The Dempster Hwy.**  
The Rev. Dn. Percy Henry. The Ven. Ken Snider (Honorary Assistant) and Aldene Snider. Licensed Lay Ministers: Mabel Henry; Shirley Pennell, Betty Davidson.

## Day 12 & 27

### **Old Crow: St. Luke's.**

The Rev. Dn. Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer & family. and Lay Ministry Team

## Day 13 & 28

The Rev. Dn. Sarah Usher: Diocesan Administrative Officer

Members of the Diocesan Executive Committee.

Diocesan Prayer Partner: Diocese of Fredericton.

## Day 14 & 29

Patti Tettichi, Yukon Apostolate: Bishop's School of Yukon Ministries.

PWRDF Diocesan Representative:

Diocesan ACW President: Evelyn McDonald and all ACW members.

## Day 15 & 30

### **Those retired from Missionary Service:**

The Rev. Dorothy Thorpe.

The Rev. Bruce Aylard & Audrey Aylard. The Rev. Don Sax & The Rev. Dn. Lee Sax. The Ven. Ken and Aldene Snider.

The Rev. Geoffrey & Rosalind Dixon.

The Rev. Canon David & Alice Kalles.

The Ven. John & The Rev. Dn. Carol Tyrrell.

The Rev. Fred & Marcia Carson.

The Very Rev. Peter & Barbara Williams.

Marion Carroll.

The Rev. Mary & Lino Battaja.

The Most Rev. Terry and Blanche Buckle

## Day 31 and daily:

The Rt. Rev. Larry Robertson, Sheila Robertson & family.

## Our Bishop Writes ...



I was 18 when I accepted Jesus as My Lord and Saviour. If you had said then that I would become the Bishop of Yukon, I would have said that you were crazy. Nevertheless here I am and I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus and may He bless you and your family.

God certainly does have a sense of humour. He took a poor city boy from the slums of Toronto and made him Bishop of Yukon. It proves the scriptures, "My dear friends, remember what you were when God chose you. The people of this world didn't think that many of you were wise ....and not many of you came from important families. But God chose the foolish things of this world to put the wise to shame. He chose the weak things of this world to put the powerful to shame." (1 Cor 1:26-27)

I look forward to working with the people of the Diocese to serve our Lord as, together, we travel the paths God the creator has given us for our journey. Where He will lead us is not for us to say but there are some challenges and opportunities that are in front of us.

Although our goal is to have 7 fulltime clergy in the Diocese to work with the part time and the non-paid clergy and lay leaders, we will have to settle for 4. We are currently looking for one minister who is willing to work in the exciting area of mutual ministry and is prepared to go where God calls, working with First Nations peoples.

I am overjoyed with the formation of a ministry project in the city of Whitehorse that will lead to increased Anglican participation

of First Nations ministering to First Nations. (I am told that there are at least 200 First Nations people who call themselves Anglican in Whitehorse.) This project is in its infancy stage and more will be said in the future. Please pray as I meet with First Nations people to discuss how their needs might be met in Christ and how the Diocese of Yukon can be part of that.

We give thanks for the fine work that has been going on in the Bishop's School and look forward to more things happening. During a visit to Dawson City several people asked when the next Bishop's School will take place. In reality the school is continuing with personal mentoring as it has been for several years. In support of this, we will be having gatherings of students from across the diocese for teaching and fellowship next year.

2011 will mark 150 years of Anglican presence in the Yukon, since the arrival of Rev. Kirkby to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ. Much has happened in the meantime, some to our credit and some to our shame. Nevertheless we will be celebrating 150 years of the presence of the Church in the Yukon. We are hoping to have celebration events in several places. A committee has been formed so please watch the webpage to see what is happening.

2000 years ago if you had said that the Son of God, Lord of the Universe would be born in a manger people would have said you were crazy. But He was and we seek to worship Him this Christmas. Remember to take some time this Christmas to go to Church, hear afresh the story of that astounding and surprising birth in Bethlehem and allow the story to refresh and revitalize your faith in Him.

My friends I am truly honoured to be here as Bishop. When we walk by faith and not by sight we will see God do amazing things. Please walk with me and the rest of the Diocese through prayer and support, journeying with us in God's amazing adventure.

Blessings in Christ

Bishop Larry Robertson

PS: PRAY EXPECTING – SEE EXCITING

## Circle Ministry in the Diocese of Yukon

The Diocese of Yukon is committed to Circle Ministry. It has been for several years. We see its development in many of the parishes. Therefore it is surprising as I begin to travel, the number of people I meet who are not sure of what Circle Ministry is. In the next few paragraphs I will share with you my thoughts of what Circle ministry is all about.

Traditionally, the minister is looked upon as the one who does the ministry and the people receive it. Where the minister has been skilful and open to the spirit, the ministry of the Church often grows. Where the minister is not so skilful or open to the spirit, the ministry often is weak. Even when the minister is skillful the ministry of the church was limited to the abilities and the time available to the minister. As the needs of the Church began to grow and diversify, and the finances of the Church began to get smaller and smaller, it became obvious that the Diocese of Yukon could not continue this way.

Circle Ministry is the recognition that every member of the Church is a minister. When we were baptized and confirmed, we promised to serve God and follow Jesus. Circle Ministry says that God has given all of us skills and gifts that He wants us to use to serve him. Circle Ministry recognizes that ministry is everything we do to reach out to others and to serve God in the Church and in the World.

Circle Ministry helps us to discover our gifts and talents that God has given us and then to put them into action for the benefit of the Church and God. There are some basic steps in doing Circle Ministry. They are as follows:



1. The ministry of the Church is broken down into individual jobs or ministries. This includes not only the Sunday services but all work the Church does. Some big areas would be Services, Administration, Buildings, Outreach, and Hospitality etc. These areas would then be broken down again. Buildings might be broken down into Cleaning, Emergency Repairs, Regular Maintenance etc. Regular Maintenance might be broken down into Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, etc. Each area would be broken down into small jobs or ministry.

2. The second step is to begin to identify the various gifts, talents and skills of each member of the Church

3. The third step is to match the skills of the people with the ministries that are required. In many cases there may be some training and mentoring required.

4. It will be the role of the diocese and parishes to organize and provide required training needed, and to appoint people to do the various ministries.

When this is done then everyone will be doing ministry and the work of the Church will be done by people who are able and trained to do the ministry. At the same time no one is overburdened and tired out.

The concept is simple but not simple to carry out. It takes each of us to commit both time and talents to serve God in the Church. The role of the trained Clergy changes from the traditional view. They become trainers and equippers themselves. Their own role will depend much on their own skills talents and experience. They may share much of their traditional role with other lay people.

Circle Ministry – Ministry by the people of God, to the people of God and

the World. This is something we should have been doing long ago.

The question each of us needs to ask ourselves is what are our skills, desires, and possessions and am I using them to serve God. As a parish we need to ask ourselves "Do we practice Circle Ministry?" If you need help from the diocese, bringing Circle Ministry into your Church, then you need to ask. Write a letter or email to the Diocese and we will answer. Circle Ministry is our ministry and it is in working together that we can make it happen.

+Larry

## **Anglican Church Women National Conference**

**Sept. 16-19**

This year the National Conference was held by the Diocese of B.C. at Shawnigan Lake, Vancouver Island. The annual conference included business meetings; addresses from the President, Bishop Cowan; a continuing presentation including a project entitled "Soliloquy" presented by Rev. Dr. June Maffin.

We got together with each other, nearly 50 of us from all over Canada, covering almost all dioceses. It was so friendly and informative, and emphasized that we are all Anglican Church Women from all over Canada. a group of women who have a ministry to continue to grow the Kingdom of God, proclaim the good news, respond to need, transform unjust and oppressive structures, and promote the well being of the worldwide community.

Marion Saunders spoke about her time as president and encouraged us to

embrace the idea that we are not just women within our parish, but that we have diocesan ties all over Canada. She discussed the forming of an ACW Foundation to help with travel for women of the north to come to conferences and to help fund northern women to become lay ministers and ordained ministers where other funding does not exist. We are all encouraged to support this fund and promote it as a place to direct donations such as in lieu of flowers, donations in memoriam and as a place to make an endowment.

We have new ACW pins for all Anglican Church Women. They are \$5.00 each and can be purchased from the National ACW Secretary. We are all encouraged to buy them. The profit from them will go to the foundation. These pins are not meant to replace other ACW pins already in use.

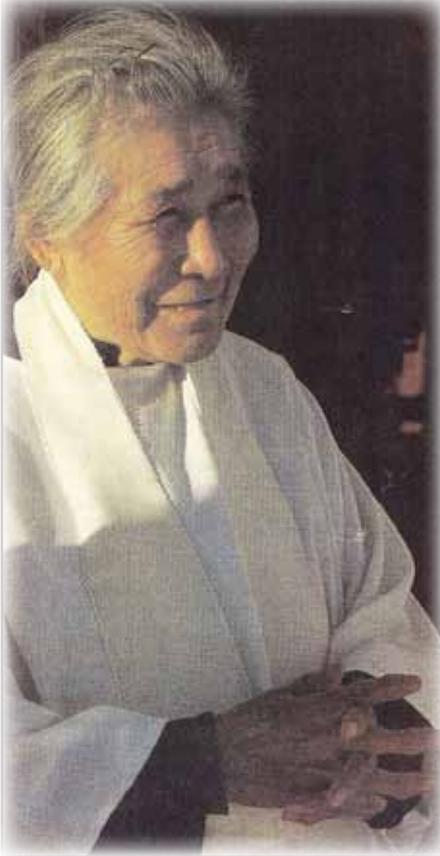
- Evelyn McDonald ACW Diocesan President -



**The Reverend Dr.  
Ellen Bruce  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1911 –  
October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Ellen was born on an island across from Rampart House to Katherine and Joe Kyikavichik. From an early age she was taught the importance of hard work and this was especially tried when she lost her mother at the age of 12. As the eldest, Ellen took on the role of mother to her younger sisters and brother. Ellen married Robert Bruce in 1933. They were blessed with 62 years of marriage spending most of their lives together doing what they loved; living the traditional life out on the land. Ellen had seven children but many others referred to her as Mom.

Ellen continued on the family tradition of serving the Lord as her grandfather



John and father Joe Kyikavichik were leaders in the church. Ellen always knew that she wanted to serve God, “even if it was just sweeping the floor”. However, God had different plans for Ellen, as she became a deacon in the Yukon on April 10, 1985. She was the first Gwitchin woman to be ordained in the Anglican Church. She was given an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity from St. Stephens College in 1986 and she was priested on Aug 30, 1987. In December of 1990 Ellen received the order of Canada. Throughout her accomplishments Ellen remained humble and rarely spoke of her achievements. It was this humility and sincere love for her Lord, her family and her people that she will be remembered for.

The Vuntut Gwitchin, as well as all of the surrounding communities, have lost a very valuable, respected leader. Ellen takes with her a wealth of knowledge, tradition, culture, language and history. Ellen always had a special place for the younger generation and encouraged them to learn their traditional values.

Living a traditional and healthy lifestyle allowed Ellen to remain independent, active and determined throughout her life. She had an incredible spiritual strength and her loving nature that was a blessing to all those around her. Her family will remember her smiling eyes, her tender love, her words of wisdom, sense of humour, warm hands, loving hugs and her beautiful laughter. She is survived by five children; a brother and sister; 20 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; and 3 great-great grandchildren.

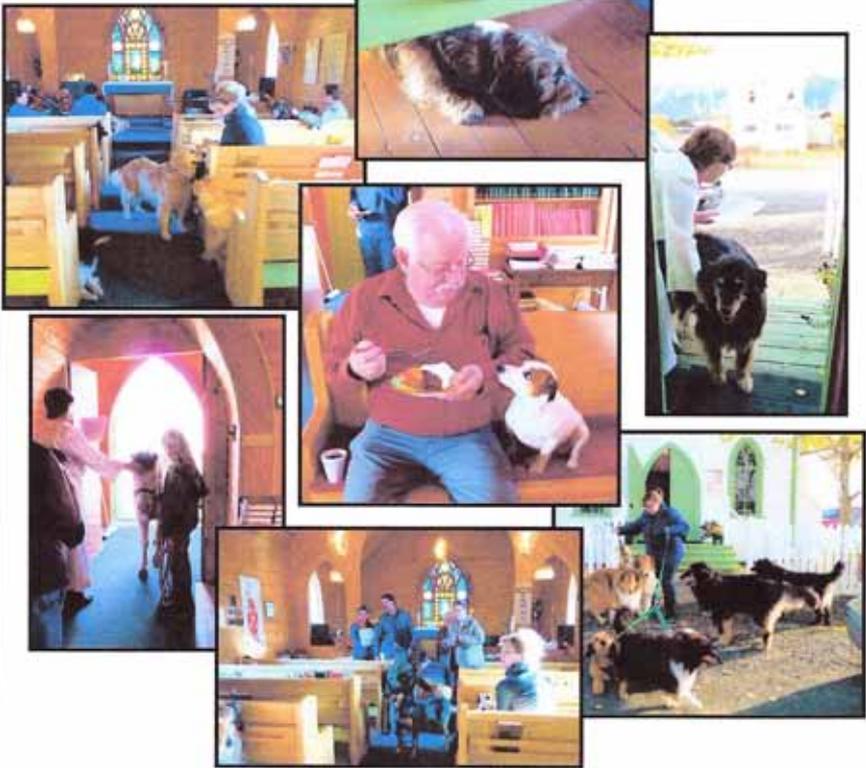
## **Watson Lake: Meet Rob Langmaid**

I grew up within a family that had a strong Anglican background with three priests in the last 4 generations of the family. As a result I did all of the normal Anglican events growing up, Baptism, Sunday school, Confirmation, Server training, attending summer camps and youth group. However, even with all of this background it didn't make me a Christian yet. It not until I was 16 attending a Teens Encounter Christ weekend, did everything I had learned about God growing up click in and I developed a personal relationship with Jesus.

After starting a personal relationship with Jesus it brought change into my life where daily prayer and Bible reading became an important part of my life. My final year of high school was marked by

# St Martin's Anglican Church

Was host to a variety of people and pets at their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual  
Blessing of the Animals Service  
Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.



The Blessing of the Animals is based upon St. Francis of Assisi's love of all creatures great and small. St. Francis, a Catholic monk is patron saint of animals and the environment, and founder of the Franciscan Order. The Blessing of the Animals service is now celebrated worldwide by numerous denominations, usually on the Sunday closed to Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, St. Francis's Feast Day.

this new relationship with Jesus, I started getting very involved in the Christian fellowship at school, studying any Christian material I could get my hands on, and helping to lead the youth group at church,

The summer after graduation I started my first of five summers working at Camp Medley, one of the two Anglican summer

camp run by the Diocese of Fredericton. Those were amazing summers having the opportunity to share the good news of Jesus with many children. It was these summers that factored greatly in my spiritual growth, because through being in a place of sharing your faith on a daily bases, one learns to completely depend on their faith.

I attended the University of New Brunswick from 2000 until 2004 earning a BA in History and Classical studies. I was also on the University Wrestling team. During this time I was active in the University Christian fellowship, as well as serving as a Lay Reader and vestry member at Christ Church Parish Church in Fredericton. Also during this time I was actively involved in continuing to help lead youth group, be involved in dioceses wide youth events and do a lot of different evangelism events on campus and other place, whether that was organizing a Bible study in my residence or organizing a church crawl in response to the house pub crawl, gathering 25 people, attending 5 services in one day. My life was and is still based on bringing people to Jesus.

Following university I joined Youth With a Mission doing a Discipleship Training School with training in Richmond, Virginia, and a mission outreach to Israel, doing street evangelism for 2 months, telling the Jewish people about their messiah.

Upon returning to New Brunswick I applied and was accepted to Wycliffe college to do my Masters of Divinity in order to become an Anglican priest. God had other plans. After I was accepted to Wycliffe the Lord told me to join Church Army, a society of evangelists involved in many different forms of ministry throughout Canada.

I did two years of Church Army training, being involved in both street and youth ministry. I was commissioned as an evangelist. I was then given my first post in The Pas, Manitoba, in 2007 as Community Chaplain. As Community Chaplain it was my primary job to look after the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the street people. This involved helping out at a local church-based

soup kitchen most mornings, and most afternoons were spent visiting the street people at their various hang-out locations and helping them as I could. During the three years of the posting I was also involved in leading a youth group out of the Alliance Church, coaching wrestling at the middle and high school level as well as doing small group evangelism throughout the community.

In October of 2009 I started my Masters of Ministry at St. Stephen University.

In May of 2010 Church Army in Canada was re-branded to Threshold Ministries. This has been along awaited name change to better reflect what we are about, which is bringing people across the Threshold of the kingdom of God, initiating them into God's Kingdom, while equipping God's people to be able to go across the Threshold to the world, and giving God's people the tools to help initiate others into God's Kingdom.

In June 2010 I left The Pas to get ready for my second assignment in Watson Lake, Yukon and Telegraph Creek, B.C., with a goal and purpose of expanding God's kingdom in those communities. My primary hope is to expand the kingdom through becoming involved in helping the community youth, whether through coaching different sports teams or leading youth groups and retreats. The hope is that through becoming connected to the youth of the community, I become connected to all areas of the community. By leading the youth to Jesus, it will then cause the youth to bring their families to Jesus. For the most part what I want to do with the Youth will be governed by what I see on the ground when I get there. For this goal of reaching out to the younger generations of Watson Lake and Telegraph Creek I ask for your prayers.

## News from St. Paul's

### Getting Ready for Christmas

Every year, St Paul's Anglican Church, the Dawson Community Chapel and St. Mary's Catholic Church team up to prepare for the Christmas Eve Carol Service. Instead of having the Nativity story acted out at the service, we act it out outside, take pictures and make a powerpoint presentation at the service in December. This year, the photoshoot took place on Saturday, Sept 25, just before the first snowfall, at Robert Service Cabin, part of the Parks Canada sites around town.



*Nativity Scene from Pageant photoshoot*



*Going to Bethlehem*



*Shepherds waiting.*

### Baobab Blast - Vacation Bible School in Dawson & Mayo

For five days, Aug 2 -6, at St. Paul's, 30 children, 3 young adults, and 6 adults sang, danced, acted, created, listened, studied, ate and prayed while learning about God and his creation. Then we took Baobab Blast to Mayo, from Aug 9 -13, where between 3 - 8 children, 2 young adults and 2 adults had a great time at the Recreation Centre there. Finally, the Baobab animals and children participated in the Discovery Day Parade in Dawson. A good time was had by all.



*Ready for Baobab Blast: Chris Collin, Rev. Lee Titterington, Fred Reinink, Mary Collin*



*Listening to a story.*

# Farewell to the Titteringtons



The congregation at St. Paul's bade a reluctant farewell to Susan and Lee Titterington, who decided to move on to Winnipeg after 7 years of service in the diocese. Lee was incumbent for 2 years in Mayo and five in Dawson. Susan served the congregation in Old Crow for 5 years, while also being responsible for youth ministry in the diocese and, latterly, the parish of St. Mary and St. Mark in Mayo. Lee and Susan were instrumental in promoting the concept of Mutual Ministry in this part of



the diocese, and encouraged the development of ministry teams in the parishes they served. Lee was also able to contribute much needed counselling skills to the Klondike region and facilitated workshops for coping with suicides. They will be missed.



*Above: The Baobab Blast team: Vicki Roberts, Joyce Caley, Betty Davidson, Lee Titterington, Colleen Smith, Shirley Pennell and Evelyn McDonald. Left: Lee announces his departure. Not a dry eye in the house*



*Bishop Terry presided over one last Confirmation Service in Dawson on August 8 for Fred Reinink. Shown with Rev. Titterington and the Bishop are Fred and his father, Henry.*

## From Bishop Larry's Installation



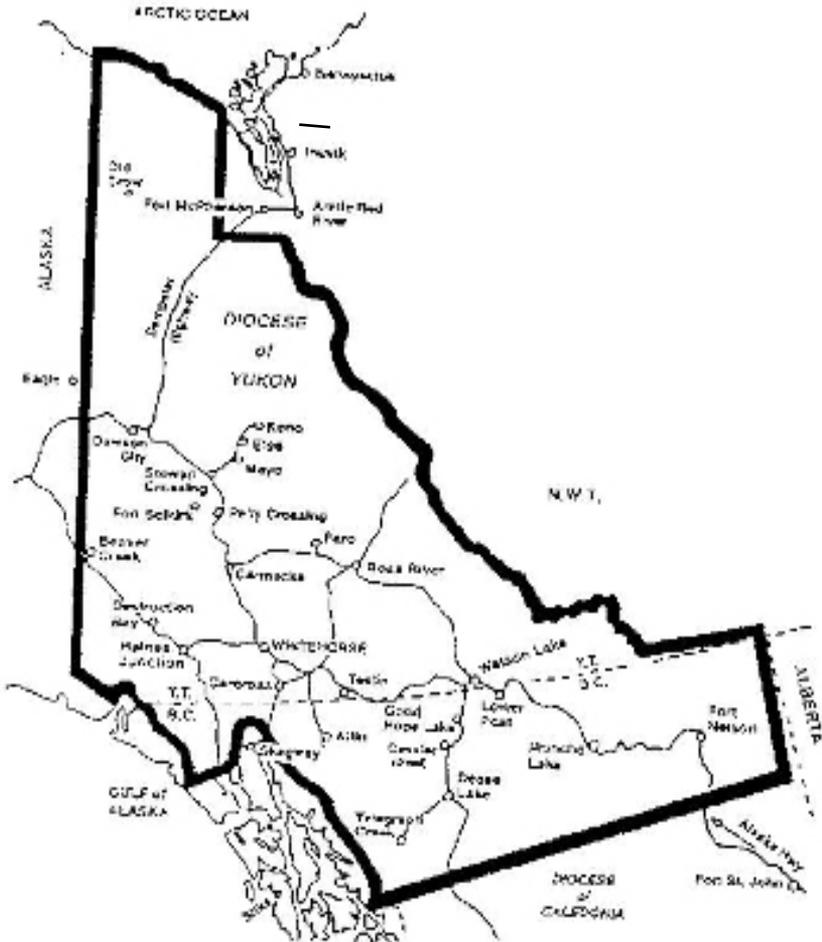
Bishops, Clergy and Lay Leaders from Yukon, BC and NWT at the Installation of Bishop Larry Robertson as the 11th Bishop of Yukon



L-R, Bishop Chris Williams, Retired Bishop of Arctic; Bishop Andrew Atagotaaluk, Bishop of Arctic; Bishop Mark McDonald, National Indigenous Bishop; Bishop Larry Robertson; Archbishop John Privett, Metropolitan and Bishop of Kootenay; Archbishop Terry Buckle, Retired Bishop of Yukon; Bishop William Anderson, Bishop of Caledonia; Bishop Barbara Andrews, Suffragan Bishop of APCI.



Bishops questioning Bishop Larry at his installation



Northern Lights magazine is published by the Diocese of Yukon and its goal is to inform people everywhere about the life, work and mission of the Anglican Church in the diocese and to inform the churches of Yukon about each other, thus strengthening the bonds of mutual appreciation. Opinions expressed herein are those of the writer or contributor and not necessarily those of the Diocese of Yukon.

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