

# Northern Lights

# 170

The Journal of the  
Anglican Diocese  
of Yukon  
Winter 2014



**The Old Log Church and Rectory  
have been designated a Yukon Historic Site and a  
City of Whitehorse Historic Site.**

# Thank you for Praying

## Day 1 & 16

### Whitehorse: Christ Church Cathedral.

The Very Rev. Sean Murphy; Rev. Martin Carroll, Ruth Carroll; Licensed Lay Ministers: Beverley Whitehouse, Gaya Tiedeman, David Robertson

## Day 2 & 17

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

Licensed Lay Minister in Charge - Ida Reid; Licensed Lay Ministers Terry Reid, Glen Gough, Jeanie Arva & Mark Tudor.

## Day 3 & 18

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

Aidan; Dease Lake; Glenora. Licensed Lay Minister in Charge - Ford Hewlett, Aqiu Zhang; Licensed Lay Minister: Tim Liverton

## Day 4 & 19

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

Teslin: St. Philips. The Rev. Sarah Usher, Len Usher and the Ministry Team

## Day 5 & 20: Communities of: Carmacks & Keno.

Day 6 & 21: Atlin: St. Martin. The Rev. Vera Kirkwood; The Rev. Dorothy Odian. Licensed Lay Minister: George Holman.

## 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 Rev. Lynn de Brabandere and the Ministry Team

## Day 9 & 24

### Whitehorse: Church of the Northern Apostles.

The Rev. Rob Langmaid, The Most Rev. Terry Buckle, Blanche Buckle, The Rev. Sarah Usher, Len Usher. Licensed Lay Ministers Eileen Carver, Monica Langmaid, Shelia Robertson

## Day 10 and 25

Mayo: St. Mary with St. Mark. Pelly Cross-

ing: St. James the Lord's Brother: the Lay Ministry Team;

## Day 11 & 26

Dawson City: St. Paul's. Moosehide: St. Barnabas; The Klondike Creeks; The Dempster Hwy. The Rev. Laurie Munro, The Rev. Percy Henry. Licensed Lay Ministers: Mabel Henry; Shirley Pennell, Betty Davidson.

## Day 12 & 27

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

The Rev. Laurie Munro, The Rev. Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer & Lay Ministry Team

## Day 13 & 28

The Rev. 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: Betty Davidson

Diocesan ACW President, Blanche Buckle, and all ACW members.

## Day 15 & 30

### Those retired from Missionary Service:

The Rev. Canon David Pritchard

The Rev. Dorothy Thorpe.

The Rev. Bruce Aylard & Audrey Aylard.

The Rev. Don & Rev. Lee Sax.

Canon Geoffrey & Rosalind Dixon.

The Rev. Canon David Kalles.

The Ven. John & Rev. Carol Tyrrell.

The Rev. Fred & Marcia Carson.

The Very Rev. Peter & Barbara Williams.

The Rev. Mary & Lino Battaja.

The Most Rev. Terry and Blanche Buckle;

Marion Carroll, Aldene Snider.

## Day 31 and daily:

The Rt. Rev. Larry and Sheila Robertson

Pray for the Shaping Our Future Committee under the leadership of Dean Sean Murphy as the members plan for the future of our Diocese.



## A Message from the Bishop



*<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." <sup>11</sup>Today, in the town of David, a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.*  
Luke 2:10-11 (NIV)

I bring you greetings in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought great joy to the people over 2000 years ago, and can still bring that same great joy to us today.

With the events of the last month, there has been, in Canada, a sense that things have changed and may never be the same again. Terrorism used to be what happened "over there", not here in Canada. With the slaying of two unarmed soldiers right in Canada, acts of terror are right at our footsteps. Our prayers go out to the family and friends of those two soldiers.

The Ebola disease is spreading very quickly. Over 10,000 known cases and half of them have already died. Daily, as we listen to the news, it seems to be getting closer to our own homes. Panic and fear seems to be taking hold of our world as we try to keep the disease away from us and those we love.

Fear of terrorism and disease is causing many to lash out in hate, revenge, isolationism or racism in order to protect their own.

As a Diocese we are changing. The

"Shaping Our Future" committee is looking at what changes our Diocese should make so that we can best serve our Lord with the resources we have in order to reach the people we serve. We do not know the results of the committee, but we do know that change is coming.

The message of the Angels gives us hope and assurance that in Jesus there is peace and joy that can bring stability to our lives, our church and our world. With Christ in our lives we know that he walks with us through all our journeys no matter what hardships, tragedies or sorrows we face. Christ gives us the inner peace and joy it takes to live triumphantly, because we know our eternal security is firm in Him. With Christ at the head of our church, no matter what changes take place, there is still the eternal message of Salvation through Him that we have to offer to the world around us. It is that same message that we offer to the world. The peace, love and salvation of Jesus is offered to all, victim and perpetrator alike, and it is by accepting this message of love that individual lives and the world can truly be changed.

As we draw close to this Christmas season, Sheila and I will look for ways to reach out and share Christ's love with the people around us. I encourage you to do the same. It may be extra donations to the food bank, Christmas hampers for needy people, Christmas Shoeboxes, inviting someone to supper, or giving a little more to someone in need. In Whitehorse, where we live, as the cold weather comes upon us, the need to reach out to the homeless and hungry grows stronger then ever before. There are many ways to reach out. There are many ways to show you care and share the joy of Christ with someone near you.

Sheila and I wish you a blessed and merry Christmas. May the Christ Child fill your life with joy and give you the hope and security that you need to face the changes ahead.

In Christ.  
+Larry Robertson

## The Diocese in Brief from Top to Bottom

The Diocese from Top to Bottom

**Old Crow - St. Luke's** - Besides the continuing plans to build a new Church building, during the summer the community was the location of the Gathering of the Gwich'in People. This is a traditional meeting held every three years in Old Crow. **The Rev. Laurie Munro and the local Deacon Rev. Marion Schafer with invited guest Bishop Mark MacDonald, the National Indigenous Bishop.**

**Dawson City - St. Paul's & Moosehide - St. Barnabas** - St. Paul's held a Vacation Bible Study that was well attended. **Rev. Laurie Munro, and Lay Minister Betty Davidson along with Bishop Larry** and many of the parishioners provided good teaching crafts and music. Later in the summer, Moosehide hosted their **Traditional Gathering**. St Barnabas held a Holy Communion Service led by Rev. Munro and assisted by the local Deacon, **Rev. Percy Henry.**

**Mayo - St. Mark - Pelly - St. James the Lord's Brother** - Ministered by St. Paul's Dawson and the Diocesan Office - it is hoped that a person with the **Ministry of Presence** will be in Residence as of the Summer of 2015. In preparation of this, funding is being raised to replace the furnace and do some plumbing and flooring in the rectory in Mayo.

**Whitehorse - Christ Church Cathedral** - Led by our dean **The Very Rev. Sean Murphy**, the Cathedral was a busy spot throughout the summer. They held Historical Evening Prayers in the Old Log Church twice a week giving tourists and regulars alike a time to pray and learn a little of the Anglican Church's part in the History of the Yukon. A Vacation Bible School

was held that attracted over 30 children from all over Whitehorse. Weekly BBQ Lunches held to support the Swaziland Educational Society, a Society created by **Rev. Canon David Pritchard** for the education of the poor in Swaziland. This lunch served as a welcoming open door to the city to come and relax at the Cathedral over lunch. As an outreach of the parish the **Most Rev. Terry Buckle** and his team in **Street Hope** reach the many in Whitehorse who are in need of a friend. Street Hope is run in conjunction with **Threshold Ministries.**

**Whitehorse - Church of the Northern Apostle** - **The Rev. Rob and Monica Langmaid, along with the twins Bobby and Toby** were away over the summer to have the twins baptized among Rev. Langmaid's family in Fredericton. Upon their return the parish had a celebration to receive the twins into the parish. The new rectory was completed including the paving of the parking lot without the need of taking on a mortgage. This is a true blessing as the parish takes on more and more of their financial responsibilities.

**Carcross - St. Saviour's** - Through the hard work of the **Rev. Canon David Pritchard** and friends of the parish, St. Saviour had a facelift on the inside. All the floors were sanded and all the wood, including the pews, were re-stained and looking like new again. The parish, visited by hundreds of tourists annually, as well as the regular twice monthly services, shares with all those who enter God's love and a little piece of Yukon's history. The gravesite of Bishop Bompas, the Yukon's first bishop, was also repaired and restored.

**Haines Junction - St. Christopher's** - The newly ordained deacon **Rev. Lynne De Brabandere** continues to service in her capacity of the **Ministry**

## The Diocese in Brief from Top to Bottom

**of Presence.** The parish, as it grows, is seeing the need for wheel chair accessibility so this is in the process. Throughout the summer the Thrift shop has been kept open and the Artist's Fair completed their third year in the basement of the Church. A youth Leadership Camp was held with 25 in attendance. This is the third time it has taken place and it is gratefully received by the community.

**Atlin - St. Martin's** - this parish truly has the Gift of Hospitality. The Ministry team of vocational deacons **Rev. Vera Kirkwood, Rev. Dorothy Odian and Lay Minister George Holman.** One can not walk down the street without someone praising the service of St. Martins to the community. Whether it be the Foot Clinic in the respite home that used to be the rectory, or clothes given away from the thrift shop out of the Church Hall because there was a need or help received from a stranded tourist, God's love is shown in acts of kindness.

**Teslin - St. Philip's** - With **Rev. Sarah Usher** being away on Sabbatical the services at St. Philip's were taken by **Bishop Larry Robertson.** As you look out over the lake from the porch of the Church it becomes easier to worship as you realize the Creator and His creation is all around you.

**Watson Lake - St. John the Baptist - Ministry of Presence minister Mr. Ford Hewlett** entering his second year in the parish brings with him a wealth of experience. Retired Priest **Rev. Canon David Kalles** and **Lay Minister Tim Liverton** are always there to give a helping hand. Besides the many people touched by Mr. Hewlett's visiting, many members of the parish have a strong

curling ministry in the community. Canon Kalles is somewhat of a curling icon in the area.

**Telegraph Creek - St. Aidan's** - With our current ministry, only periodic services are held in the community, with our building being under used. The community has moved away from the building and discussions are underway that might see the current buildings traded for something in the middle of the community, with a one bedroom apartment attached to it. This may very well be a site for further ministry

**Ft. Nelson - St. Mary Magdalene** - Lay Ministers **Ida and Terry Reid** have entered their third year in Fort Nelson. This **Circle Ministry** parish is running strong with the ministry team of Lay Ministers, musicians and teachers. This once self-supporting parish is rebounding after several hurts in the past that have resulted in lower attendance and all that this means. Visiting and teaching plays a large part in the ministry of this energetic parish. Plans are already started for a **Bishop's School** in the new year.

**Diocesan Office - Bishop Larry Robertson** spent the summer filling in for the clergy on holidays. **Rev. Sarah Usher** was sorely missed as she was on Sabbatical. Unfortunately while on sabbatical both she and her husband **Len** came down with medical issues. Although the medical issues are working out through the processes, it meant that many of their plans were changed. As Bishop, I realized even more than before how important Rev. Usher's position as Administration Officer is and the amount of work she does, much of which goes unnoticed.

**SPRING EDITION DEADLINE:  
MARCH 1, 2015**

## Old Log Church and Rectory Recognized

WHITEHORSE—The Old Log Church and Rectory are now officially designated as a Yukon Historic Site, Minister of Tourism and Culture Mike Nixon announced today.

“The Yukon government is proud to have worked with the Yukon Church Heritage Society and the Old Log Church Museum to officially designate the church and rectory as the ninth Yukon Historic Site,” Nixon said. “The Old Log Church and Rectory are important Whitehorse landmarks and are strongly associated with many historically key people and events in Yukon.”

The church and rectory, located on the corner of Elliott Street and Third Avenue, were built in 1900 and 1901 respectively and are among the oldest structures still standing in Whitehorse. Rev. R.J. Bowen designed and built the church in less than two months.

Used for services up until 1960, the church reopened as a museum in 1962 and renamed the Old Log Church.

“On behalf of the Yukon Church Heritage Society and The Diocese of Yukon we are honoured to receive the designation,” president of the Yukon Church Heritage Society Linda Thistle said. “The designation not only recognizes the historical importance of



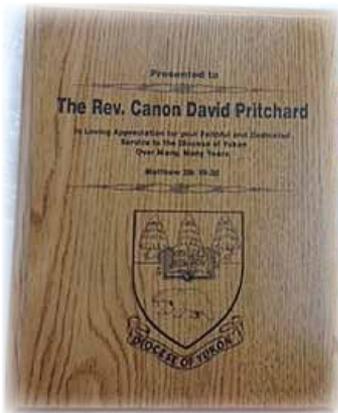
*Pictured with YTG Minister Mike Nixon and Mayor Curtis are Yukon Church Heritage Society/Old Log Church Museum board members, (L-R) Len Beecroft, Linda Thistle and Marjorie Copp.*

the buildings and what they represent but also ensures their continued recognition and existence for the future.”

The site is now legally designated under the *Historic Resources Act*. The City of Whitehorse has also designated the Old Log Church and Rectory as Municipal Historic Sites.

“The buildings are historically and culturally significant to the development of Whitehorse, and are one of the city’s most popular visitor attractions,” Whitehorse Mayor Dan Curtis said.

A formal ceremony recognizing the designation will be announced at a later date.



## Pritchard Honoured

The Reverend David Pritchard, soon to be departing to Swaziland and leaving the Yukon for a final time, was presented with the plaque at left to commemorate his time here. “In loving appreciation for your faithful and dedicated service to the Diocese of Yukon over many, many years.” The scripture reference is

Matthew 28:19-20:

# REACHING OUT - BECAUSE WE CARE

**“You are blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full’, you find yourselves cared for.”** (*The Message Matthew 5:7*)

SYNOD - April 23 - 26 2014

I am happy to announce that at our recent Diocesan Executive Meeting we set date for the next Diocesan Synod. After much prayer the overall theme will be “Reaching out - because we care”. In this time of great change one thing that remains constant is the wondrous care of God. As God’s servants, the Church also has that care of the world around them, which is a primary motivation in reaching out to the people in our communities, our territory, our country and the world. At our Diocesan Synod we want to emphasize the wondrous care our Creator has for us and how it is revealed through the people who make up our Church.

It was felt that our time together should include an element of teaching that will be open to everyone. A first draft of the schedule is:

Thursday April 23 Evening - Welcoming and First Session of Teaching

Friday April 24 Morning & Afternoon - Second & Third Sessions of Teaching

Friday Evening Opening Synod Service (Holy Communion) and Bishop’s Charge

Saturday April 25 Synod Meetings

Sunday April 26 Closing Synod Service and the Ordination of the Rev. Sarah Usher to the Priesthood.

God willing the Rev. Lesley Wheeler-Dame will be our teaching presenter and our Synod Chaplain

This will be a time of celebration, of learning, and fellowship. We hope you will set these dates aside and join us in this very Special Occasion.

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## Diocese of Yukon Synod & Conference

April 23 - 26, 2015

### Synod Prayer

O God our Creator: You reached out to us from the hard wood of the cross. You gave us your love and comfort. Guide our Diocese as we plan for our upcoming Synod. May we, being so filled with your love and being guided by your Holy Spirit, reach out to our families, our communities and the world with the message of your wondrous Salvation. May your son Jesus reach out from our discussions and touch our hearts enabling us to reach out with your love to the community and world around us. In the precious name of Jesus. Amen.



“You are blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full’, you find yourself cared for” The Message - Matthew 5:7

## News from St. Paul's



*The Youth Choir, led by Betty Davidson, with occasional help from Dan, is composed mostly of children from other congregations or families that do not attend any churches, but they can be counted on to provide music several times a year.*



*Preparations for the annual ecumenical Christmas Eve Service involves members from all the churches of Dawson and, once again, some folks who attend no churches, but still see this as an important community event. This year the photo shoot for the slide show took place at the Davidsons' home on October 18.*



*The annual Dawson Daycare Christmas Bazaar in mid-November is a great fund raiser for St. Paul's, with lots of baked goods, crafts and items from the Thrift Store on sale.*

## Rev. Derek F. Nicholls, Nov. 22, 1932 - May 7, 2014

Derek died suddenly, but peacefully, at home on 7th May, 2014 beside his beloved wife, companion and friend. His life was spent and committed in the service of God, spanning his whole life and ministry in England and Canada.

In 1961, Derek came to Canada as an exchange teacher. While in Canada, Derek pursued his calling to the ministry and graduated from the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad in 1965. During this time he was joined by Margaret from South Wales and they were married at St. Luke's, Edmonton on Dec 28, 1964. They returned to the U.K. in 1966 where Derek served in the English Church until 1971 when they returned to Canada. In the U.K. Derek and Margaret received their 2 chosen sons, Stephen and David.

It was in Oct. '71 that Derek and family came to the Yukon, serving under Bishop John Frame - 1971/73 in Elsa, Mayo and Pelly Crossing and 1973/75 in Faro/Ross River/Carmacks. After this Derek served in the Dioceses of New Westminster, Edmonton and Qu'Appelle. He "retired"



*Derek and Margaret Nicholls* in 1998, continuing his ministry across the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, including interim priest, hospital chaplain and Hon. Asst. at St. James, Regina where he celebrated the Eucharist regularly and was actually scheduled to do so on the morning of his death.

Rev. Nicholls was born in 1932 in Cardiff, Wales and was a proud Welshman, active in the local St. David's Society, Monarchist League of Canada and various other organizations. He was a Priest Associate of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret of nearly 50 years (Dec 2014) and their two sons, Stephen and David together with their families and Derek's siblings in the U.K.

A Requiem Eucharist was held at St. James the Apostle Anglican Church on May 1th, 2014. Officiating Clergy - Rt. Rev. Robert Hardwick - Bishop of Qu'Appelle, assisted by Rev. Malcolm French and Fellow Clergy. Inurnment at St. Paul's Cathedral Columbarium.



## News from St. Savior's in Carcross



**A Baptism at St. Savior's.**  
from left to right - Father, Michael Baerg, daughter, Oksana Baerg, Irene Winzer, sponsor, Mother, Deborah Baerg and the loose Canon (wording by David Pritchard).



### Bompas' Grave Restored in Carcross

William Carpenter Bompas (20 January 1834 – 9 June 1906) was a Church of England clergyman and missionary in northwestern Canada, first Anglican bishop of the Athabasca diocese, then of the Mackenzie River diocese and then of the Selkirk (Yukon) diocese as these dioceses were successively carved out of the original Rupert's Land diocese.

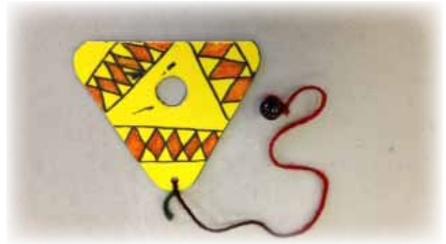
Born in London, England, he died in Carcross, Yukon. His wife Charlotte

*John Kirkpatrick, now living in Whitehorse and attending Christ Church Cathedral, was a huge help in the restoration of Bishop Bompas' grave and also with the interior painting of St. Saviours Anglican Church in Carcross.*

Selina (Cox) Bompas participated in his missionary work, and wrote *Owindia: A True Tale of the Mackenzie River Indians, North-West America.*

# Messy Church at the Cathedral

Messy Church is an informal program we have here at the Cathedral once a month on Sunday afternoon. It has a message for young children plus the whole family. There is also singing, prayers, crafts and a supper to finish off. This is our second year of having this program, led by Bishop Larry and Dean Sean, and with others from the Cathedral also serving in this ministry. We are having a lot of fun, attracting new families and usually have between 20 and 30 folks attending.



# Good and Faithful Servant

After 31 years of dedicated ministry, Rev. Don Thompson, has departed Fort Nelson on a new adventure. St. Mary's held a special potluck in Don's honour on Sept. 14th to celebrate his ministry in Fort Nelson and to send him off to the Diocese of Brandon with all the love and prayers he was due.

After arriving in Fort Nelson in 1983, Don and his family quickly became part of the community and the St. Mary's family. With a young family and new business, he was busy, but always made time for doing his part in the parish.

Don was a regular member of the St. Mary's Vestry holding a variety of positions up to and including Warden, which he always performed to the highest of standards and commitment. Not only did he serve in the leadership, his ministry was generously shared in Bible studies, game nights, potlucks, picnics and many other social events. Don was also generous with his time and ministry with the Diocese of Yukon, sitting on the Executive and attending Synods as a parish representative. Don even served at the national church level, spending a term on the Council of General Synod (COGS).

Don was involved in leading services and assuming duties when St. Mary's clergy needed assistance. This started him on a path of education first of personal growth but soon became one of service. Don became a Licensed Lay Minister, then finished his Bachelor's of Theology from Thorneloe University, a theological school of the Anglican Communion. As Don completed his degree, he was ordained Deacon and served St. Mary's as Incumbent during a critical time for our parish as we transitioned to a Circle Ministry model, eventually with Lay Leadership. When Don was ordained a Priest in the Anglican Church of Canada, his service to St. Mary's did not end. While under



Lay Leadership, Don still provided priestly ministry for the parish; but the writing was on the wall and St. Mary's knew we would not have Don serving our parish forever. We knew he wanted to serve in his own parish and take the next step in his ministry.

Don has departed for the Diocese of Brandon to a five point (yes, 5 congregations!!) parish just outside the city of Brandon. We know he will minister to each different community and parish with the same dedication and love that he brought to St. Mary's in Fort Nelson for so many years. A true man of God is never lost from one's heart; our parish gained so much from Don's ministry, and we pray for him and the new parishes his ministry now benefits.



# St. Mary's Comfort Quilters

The Comfort Quilters meet every Tuesday from 7 - 9pm. As each quilt is finished prayers are said over it, then it is brought to the Sunday church service where more prayers are said over it before sending it to the recipient. The quilts are sent wherever there is a request, which includes all across Canada, from BC to NL and provinces in between. Comfort Quilters have given 13 quilts, 2 shawls, and 1 sash so far this year.



*This "St. Mary Pencil Picture" is what the congregation had framed for Don's going away gift.*

# Discovery Day Parade Watson Lake



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## Swaziland Educational Trust Society

*Presentation of a cheque for \$1,000 to the Swaziland Educational Trust Society from the congregation of St. Martin's Anglican Church - Rev. Dorothy Odian and Lay Minister George Holman making the presentation.*



## Report from the PWRDF Regional Meeting



### By Betty Davidson

Twenty-five of thirty dioceses were represented at the Regional PWRDF meeting in Peterborough, Ontario Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Here we are at an organic farm in its acre long greenhouse. The focus was on Food Sovereignty, Food Sustainability and Food Accessibility

Gigi Labradores, visiting from the Philippines, shared the struggles that the Farmers Development Centre there faces to establish fair trade farming practices. It has been a PWRDF partner for 16 years. Workers are being harassed, arrested and there have been several deaths.

Primate Fred Hiltz met with us to share information about what PWRDF has been doing throughout the past year. He stressed that PWRDF helps our church to live out Marks for Mission, especially #'s 3,4, and 5 and that PWRDF is a faith-based movement and a good news story.

*Delegates visit an organic farm in Millbrook.*



*Beautiful artwork in the sanctuary at St John the Evangelist.*



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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 If you would prefer an electronic edition please contact the Diocese  
 Editor: Dan Davidson Email: [uffish@northwestel.net](mailto:uffish@northwestel.net)

Articles, photos and any inquiries including subscriptions, changes of address, donations and correspondence regarding the work of the diocese should be directed to:

Diocese of Yukon, PO Box 31136, Whitehorse, Y.T. Y1A 5P7  
 (867) 667-7746 Fax (867) 667-6125

Email: [synodoffice@klondiker.com](mailto:synodoffice@klondiker.com) Web site: <http://anglican.yukon.net>

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