

CHURCH NEWS ... for the pews

Special Edition

The Church of the Resurrection

with St. Paul's, Oak Point and St. Peter's, Wickham Chapels-of-Ease

20 Macdonald Avenue, Grand Bay-Westfield NB E5K 0B3

<http://www.churchoftheresurrection.ca/>

Archdeacon Vicars Hodge

The Rev. Michael Caines

Mrs. Marie-Hélène Morell

Priest and Rector

Assistant Curate

Youth Minister

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

05 October 2008

Mission Statement: Our Mission is to be a unified, faith-driven, growing Anglican Church proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, serving the community in traditional and innovative Spirit-led ministries.

From the Rector

Friends

As I reflect about our parish life I am deeply grateful and thankful for all that God is doing in our midst. We are nearing the end of a very long sojourn as a church on wheels. Another few months and we will be given the keys to our new facility for the Church of the Resurrection. To be sure, there will be many unfinished items - but we will have a permanent home for worship and ministry. I am tremendously thankful for God's providential care during these past 5 years since amalgamation and for his direction during the two years of consultations prior to that. It has been a long journey – and now, very soon, we will move in.

This season - the months before and year after we move in are critically important.

We will receive many visitors - people from our community and farther away. This will give us ample opportunity to demonstrate the Christian hospitality for which we already



The Rector with our Assistant Curate, Michael Caines - inside the Nave of the Church of the Resurrection.

have a very good reputation. For the next couple months we will be sharing the River Valley Middle School with parents and children who are there for in-door soccer practices in the gym. Rather than lamenting the reality of Sunday morning team sports it might be more useful for the Kingdom to invest our energy in being extra gracious to those with whom we share the school. Lets go out of our way to invite the soccer players and their parents to join us for refreshments. Many people will be 'checking us out' during the coming year - both before and after our move. We live and serve Christ in a culture where 'shopping around' to find the best church for one's needs is a reality. Genuine welcome of the stranger and a desire to share the good things that our Lord offers with all are the hallmarks of the churches that God blesses and causes to grow.

Another source of my thankfulness is that we have a marvellous staff team in place. Our new Assistant Curate, **Michael Caines** is now at work. He brings very strong gifts for ministry to our parish and he is a very welcome addition. His wife, Anna, is well known to many here as she served as our Youth Minister some years ago. Do make yourselves known to them and help them to get settled in our parish.

Our Youth Minister, **Marie-Hélène Morell** has really found her stride and our ministries with youth are bearing fruit. Her ministry is part-time and includes Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, Dance-group, Youth Alpha, and our new monthly Parish Family Fun Night - Connect.

Eleanor Dryden - who is a candidate for the office of Vocational Deacon is a very major contributor to the pastoral care team of our

parish. Eleanor is not yet ordained - though we do hope that this development is not all that far in the future. Eleanor's ministry includes direct involvement in much of the outreach of our parish as well as oversight of the Care Connection Team who visit shut-ins and those in hospital.

Our Administrative Assistant, **Sandra Morton's** strong administration and communication skills are a real blessing in this busy parish. She can be found at the parish office on Monday through Thursday mornings. Our Sexton, **Emily McCoy** has a passion for ensuring that everything at the Parish Centre is clean and tidy and in working order. I am also grateful for retired clergy who assist with Sunday Worship and in other ways: **Canon David Jackson** and **Archdeacon Arthur Gregg** make an important contribution.

Beyond the staff roles there are countless hours of ministry done each week in Christ's name in this parish. For all of these I am tremendously grateful. One new ministry that I am excited about is soon to launch: **Erin** (nee Boudreau) and **Jason Smith** (newlyweds) have agreed to give primary leadership of a new "**Junior Youth Group**." (Which NEEDS a better name.) This group will be for children in Kindergarten to Grade 5 and will meet once a week for about an hour and a quarter. If you would like to be involved with this emerging ministry please speak to them or call the parish office.

My thankfulness for this wonderful parish grows every day.

May God bless you all.

The Ven. Vicars Hodge, Priest and Rector

from the Assistant Curate

Greetings to old and new Friends in the Parish, My name is Michael Caines and I am the new Assistant Curate in the parish. Before coming to the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John I spent three years at Wycliffe College in Toronto. This was an amazing experience. I was able to learn a great deal and do a lot of really interesting things. I took many intriguing courses including "Benedictine Spirituality", "Forgiveness and Reconciliation", "Preaching Beyond Predictability", and "Postmodernity". I also had many opportunities to travel with the school.

Over my three years at Wycliffe I was able to go on five mission trips to various places. Four of these trips were to northern Quebec to work with Cree Anglicans. This proved to be a powerful experience each time. In northern Quebec there are many Cree people, and their Anglican faith has descended with them from the time of the Hudson Bay Trading Company. It was very rewarding to fellowship with other Anglicans of different backgrounds and to learn how they express their faith in their context. We were able to visit people in hospitals, play hockey with the youth, teach confirmation classes of ninety, and even celebrate Ash Wednesday together.

Another very rewarding trip happened in my final semester when I went to Tanzania with a mission team. We went to teach about evangelism and lay ministry for two weeks in the Anglican Diocese of the Rift Valley. We landed in Dar Es Salaam as the sun was rising Easter Sunday 2008. The entire trip was saturated with fellowship, encouragement and education for our host diocese and ourselves. I was given the opportunity to teach a series of Bible studies to an entire secondary school of three hundred students as well as at the

diocesan seminary. I was repeatedly humbled by the faith and hope of the people there. I returned to Wycliffe refreshed and ready to graduate, thankful for all of my experiences while studying.

Thank you all for welcoming us to the parish. I am glad to be here and I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone.

The Rev. Michael Caines

CONFIRMATION preparation will begin after Christmas. We are looking toward a Fall 2009 Confirmation service.



Michael and Anne Caines - the evening before his ordination to the order of Deacons.

from The Rev'd Michael Caines

Welcome to the ALPHA COURSE!!

A few weeks ago I mentioned in a sermon about how I had found as a young Anglican that we are not the greatest at talking about our faith. This was my experience in the Church I attended as a youth. I have found that this challenge is not limited to just that parish. Christians need to talk about their faith. It is how the next generation learns the Christian story. There are some things that every Christian should be learning like: Why



and how do I Pray?, Why and how should I read the Bible?,

How does God Guide us?, How can I Resist Evil?, Why and how should I tell Others?, and Does God Heal

Today? These questions are essential to the Christian faith. They are questions I wish I had the tools to answer when I was a young, curious Anglican. All of these questions and more are covered in the Alpha Course.

Alpha is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting. Alpha has become a worldwide phenomenon, now in 164 countries, where millions of people have come to explore the meaning of life. At the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John we meet Wednesday evenings in the Parish Centre for supper, singing, and discussion. Each session people enjoy great food, laughter and learning in a fun and friendly atmosphere where no question about life and God is seen as too simple or too hostile...questions like—Is there a God? Why am I here? Where did I come from? Where am I going?

So far we have watched such videos and discussed the topics of "Who is Jesus?" and "Why did Jesus have to die?" I have enjoyed getting to know the others in the course and I am looking forward to seeing what is in store for us as we explore together. If you are interested in joining the Alpha course it is not too late. Each week we discuss a different topic. There is also a weekend component where we focus on learning about the Holy Spirit. Please feel free to join us if you are interested. There's always room for more on the journey.

from Eleanor Dryden

CHALLENGING LIFESTYLE

"Where do we go from here? What is there for us to do next?" are common questions heard at the end of every Alpha course. In answer to this question a course based on the teachings from The Sermon on the Mount has been put together by Nicky Gumbel and some of his colleagues.

If you have ever wondered: "How do I understand the Old Testament", or "How to pray", or "How to Live Under God's Influence" or even "How to Deal with Anger" or "How to Stop Worrying and Start Living" These are only a few of the themes that are covered in the course "Challenging Lifestyle."

Come and join with folks at the Parish Centre on a Wednesday evening at 6:15pm for a fun time of questioning, laughing and sharing. The evening begins with a shared meal, a time of praise in singing, a video and/or discussion. The atmosphere is easy, and you are sure to be blessed with love and laughter.

Come and whet your appetite, satisfy that inner questioning. No prior knowledge is needed. Just bring your questions, your thoughts and your ideas and see what happens.

Introducing... CONNECT

"Connecting generations with God, each other and the greater community."

This fall we are beginning a new monthly event in the parish. Once a month the entire parish family is invited to come to the parish center for fun and fellowship for all generations. We plan to sing, eat, play games, and offer our service to the community in some way. This will involve activities that allow us as a family to give to the community of our time and talents. It is our vision that this will strengthen us as a parish

family. It will especially provide a fun way to reach out to the people in our community who may appreciate some help or who may feel left out. This will be a faith-growing exercise with God.

We are inviting all who are able to join us in this exciting new chance to connect with God, others in our parish and the wider community. There will be activities for all generations; there will be food; there will be laughter; there will be friendships; there will be a place for **YOU!**

TIME: Saturday, Oct. 18th at 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Parish Center, Grand Bay

WHO: All generations of the community. Invite your friends!! For more information please contact Marie-Hélène Morell.

from Marie-Hélène Morell, Youth Minister

YOUTH GROUP this year will be awesome!! Here is a little snapshot of what will be going on this year.

Going into our second full year together, there will be lots of great activities and new initiatives happening. We will be doing the Youth Alpha program for the next couple months, which follows a series of talks all about the Gospel of Jesus. There will be several guest speakers coming in to do some of these teachings, to bring a little more variety of experience.

Also, the kids will be raising money to buy Christmas gifts for families in Third World countries through World Vision, such as a goat, chickens, fruit trees, or gifts for villages such as medical materials or school supplies.

We will be doing some fundraisers, setting goals and tracking our progress as a group. The kids are very excited about this!

We also hope to get the kids involved with

Connect, a new initiative aiming to bring together the parish family to serve the community.

Stay tuned for more updates about what the youth group will be doing this year!

Dance Group: **ANASTASIS**

Last spring we topped off a great first year of dance with a fabulous recital where the girls showed off what they had learned during the year. They each received two pink roses to congratulate them on their dance accomplishments. We've started this year on the right foot with about 10 dancers, some of which come from our church family, and some from the community. We are looking forward to putting together some dances for church, for Christmas, and some just for fun.:

Look for the Anastasis dance group on Sunday mornings, or in the bulletin for other events featuring our dancers!

SALT REEF News – Sept 2008

Hey kids, welcome back to **SALT REEF!**

On September 14 we powered up another great year at the reef by putting on the full armour of God.

Everyone at the Church of the Resurrection was greeted by Marie Hamilton, Salt Reef superintendent fully clothed in the armour of God. Some parishioners were scared but she explained that they should not fear the armour that she was wearing but to fear what attacks that armour. The children were not sure what to think at first but they could tell we were going to be having a fun day and an exciting year was waiting for them at the reef.

Francis was back too but he was having some trouble keeping his armour on.....we



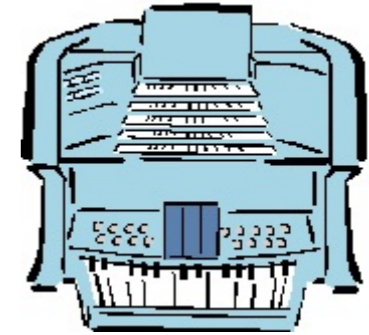
discovered that he wasn't wearing his belt of truth...or any belt for that matteruh oh? What a great time we had as we all learned the ways we can protect ourselves against bad things when we put on our invisible armour of God. Everyone teamed up with a partner and we drew each other on big pieces of paper.

Then as we read Ephesians 6:10-18 learning what each part of the armour meant ~ the belt of truth, the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the sword of the spirit and our feet were outfitted with the gospel of peace~ everyone understood why Marie had been wearing such a funny outfit. Then we made belts of truth that we could wear to remind us to always be truthful and that Jesus is the way and the truth to our salvation. Needless to say everyone had great fun learning, drawing and trying on the armour.

We are very blessed at the SALT REEF to have a great group of teachers dedicated to helping our children learn about Jesus through bible stories, crafts, music & games. We welcome two new teachers this year, Tara Porter and Hannah Palmer, and special thanks to all our volunteers ~ teachers & helpers for making it a great place to be on Sunday mornings.

Our next Super Sunday is scheduled for October 26 when we will be discovering what amazing things you can do if you have God on your side. We are going to learn what happened to a little boy named David when he met up with a giant named Goliath. Think you know all about that story? You just never know who or what will show up at SALT REEF on a Super Sunday!! See you there ~ bring a friend, there is always room at the reef for a few more fish!

Pipe Organ for the Church of the Resurrection!!!



The Church of the Resurrection has been given a Pipe Organ together with a gift of money with which to move and install it. The gift is from the

people of the now closed St. James Church, Broad Street, Saint John. The organ, a 16-rank Hook & Hastings "tracker" was built in Boston some time between 1895 and 1902. The instrument was first used at Stone Church, Saint John and later moved to St. James, where it served for many years. It is described as 'a gem' by professional musicians. This beautiful gift will enhance our worship and add ambiance and beauty to our new Church. We are very grateful to the people of St. James who have made this gift to us and for their request that enough of their residual funds be given to our parish so that we are able to move and install the instrument without financial cost. Given our very tight budget for the new facility, this was a necessary part of our Vestry agreeing to receive this gift. The plan as it is unfolding is that the instrument will be removed in October and installed and 'voiced' in January '09. We have engaged Jean Francois Mailhot of Peninsula Organs, an acknowledged specialist in this field, for this project. The moving will take three days and will require a truck and several willing parishioners to assist the Ven. Arthur Gregg who the Rector has asked to take charge of the project. This is an exciting development and is wonderful news.