

BY GEORGE

154 Years

A MEMBER CONGREGATION OF THE ANGLICAN NETWORK IN CANADA (ANIC)

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My eyes
have seen the
King, the
Lord of
Hosts!



RADIO!!!



Holding confidences is one of the most sacred functions of a pastor. It is part of my role that I take most seriously. Many of you will know that I even ask if I may share concerns with my wife so we can pray together for you, if you consent. Otherwise, your confidences are held strictly and sacredly between the Master and me.

This sacred trust has been a gift from God to me. It is an unction I did not have when I was 3 years old.

That Christmas in the 1970's, my dad was a young man with cool sideburns, a big car and a leather coat. My mom was busy at home raising two

young boys under 5 years of age. The excitement was thick in the Glenn household. One day my mom bundled up my brother and me and dragged us to the mall to buy my dad's Christmas present.

We found him a clock radio. Not one of these fancy clock radios with digital lighted display, but an old-school AM/FM radio with backlit-numbers that flipped over throughout the day and night. It was the coolest thing my 3 year-old eyes had seen. I was bursting with excitement and could hardly wait to tell my dad what we had purchased for him.

Both my brother and I were under strict instruction not to tell dad till Christmas. We both promised mom (under the close scrutiny of Santa Claus himself) not to utter a word to dad.

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

My mom made us repeatedly promise to hold confidence for the whole ride home from the mall. Big eyed, and with the best of intentions, we both restated our commitment to secrecy.

We arrived at home and sprinted from the warm car, through the cold air and burst through the front door. Fresh home from work, my dad met us in the front hall and before I knew it – and against my will! – the word RADIO bubbled over my tongue and burst out of my mouth.

RADIO! RADIO! RADIO!

My dad pretended not to understand and my mom looked at me with compassion. She knew that such a great gift, such great joy, was too much for a 3 year old to keep to himself.

Exploding with good news!

That is the picture of Epiphany. During the season of Epiphany we celebrate the wise men that, having followed the star and seen the Christ-child, took the news of God's salvation back to the Gentiles.

Ray David

Matthew 2: 1–12

“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.””

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. [ESV]

“I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

Women's Advent Tea

The thought of gathering women together for an Advent tea seemed a wonderful idea during this season of Advent as we anticipated the arrival of Christ the King. And what a celebration it was: our speaker, Rhonda Glenn, praise and worship led by Dianne Biggar, Jude Carriere and Jill Bonham, delicious teas and spectacular desserts, and the Town Square beautifully decorated for Christmas. All these combined to make a delightful afternoon of fellowship and fun. Emily Rigo had made a very beautifully decorated fondant snowflake which she graciously donated and which raised \$64 for St. Matthew's House Christmas fund. Indeed it was a day to "taste and see that the Lord is good."

Karen Wilson

Women's Conference Committee



but now my

eye sees you."



"Leaning into the Wind of the Holy Spirit"



a Conference

with speaker

BISHOP MALCOLM HARDING,
Bishop Suffragan (retired) of
The Anglican Network in Canada

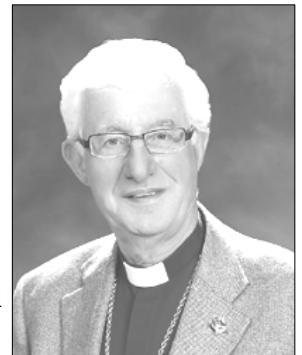
February 26—28, 2010

*"You shall receive power when the
Holy Spirit falls upon you and you
will be my witnesses."*

Acts 1:8

CONFERENCE LEADER

Bishop Malcolm was ordained a priest in Dauphin, MB in 1973. He was elected Bishop of Brandon in 1992. He retired in 2001. In November, 2007, he relinquished his ministry with the Anglican Church of Canada and was received by Bishop Don Harvey of ANiC and then served as Bishop Suffragan until July 2009. Since then he has made himself available for teaching on parish renewal and church growth.



In addition, Bishop Malcolm has a masters degree in social work and has worked professionally in that field. He has also served as Ambassador for Anglican Renewal Ministries.

"I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, February 26, 2010

7:00 pm – 9:30 pm: The Call to Christ

Saturday, February 27, 2010

9:00 am – 9:30 am: Worship and Scriptures

9:30 am – 10: 15 am: The Call to Christian Community

10: 45 am– 11:30 am: The Call to Servant Ministry

LUNCH

1:15 pm – 2:30 pm: The Making, Marks and Ministry of a Christian Disciple

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm: Person, Power and Release of the Holy Spirit (Spiritual Gifts and Spiritual Warfare)

Sunday, February 28, 2010

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm: Beware of Spiritual Junk Food

Time of Ministry and Prayer

**WHERE: Crossroads Centre, 1295 North Service Road,
Burlington, ON, L7R 4M2
St George's office: 905-335 6222**

REGISTRATION: Cost is \$40

**Registration forms are available in the town square on
Sundays.**

**Contact: Margaret Hunt, Donna Rigo, Pam Bales,
Betty Pristol**



St Georges Winter Family Fun Day

Saturday January 16th

2pm – 7pm



The Lovelesses
3319 Britannia Road
905 331 2054

Skating (weather permitting – please pray)

Free skating

Hockey Game (4-5pm)

Small toboggan run (6 and under)

Winter hiking

Indoors:

Board games and children's toys.

Hot & cold drinks

Pot-luck supper (5pm)

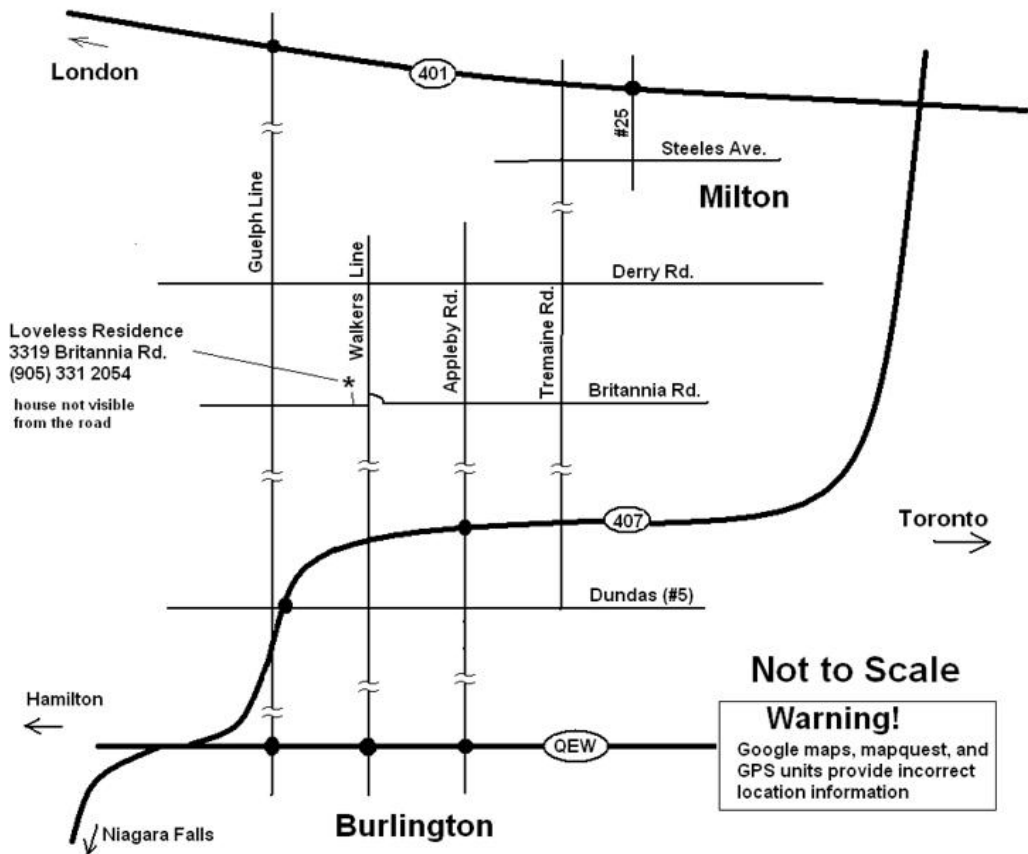
Fellowship

Bon-fire (6pm)



Bring your skates, hockey stick, toboggans and flash-lights. For dinner, please bring a dish (main course or dessert) that would feed your family and one or two more adults. **Everyone Welcome**

How to find the Lovelesses'



but now my eye sees you."



opportunities

Men of St. George's: Missing football these days since the Grey Cup? Keep February 7th evening open for a get together at Crossroads. We'll fire up the Bar-B, roll out the BIG High-def screen (we're talking 10 feet!), fill the munchie bowls, and watch the closest thing to football the NFL has to offer. That would be the Super Bowl. Even if the football doesn't pan out, the commercials are great! Maybe there will be a CFL guest speaker too. Reserve the date for a fellowship time with other guys even if you don't watch football. Feel free to invite family, friends, neighbours etc. More details to follow. *Dave Wilson*



Help! Our Nursery is in need of adult volunteer caregivers. Will you help? For a variety of reasons the present list of volunteers has been reduced to eight and soon will be down to seven. Most months have four weeks and there must be two adults in the Nursery each week. The frequency of adult involvement could be reduced to once every six or seven weeks if there were more names on the roster.

What is required? A desire to welcome the youngest children of the parish, newborn through age two, as part of the ministry of St George's. Be willing to work as a team member to assure the parents that their children are in a supervised, safe and comfortable place surrounded with Christian love. Provide loving care for these young children during the time they are in the Nursery for the period of morning worship. On an average Sunday there are three and sometimes four children present.

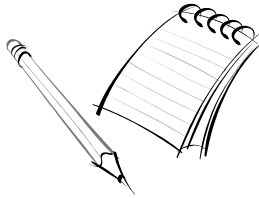
This is a wonderful way to uplift and encourage the young families at St. George's and an opportunity to meet and build close relationships with them. Contact **Naomi Neeb** at the Church Office 905 335 6222 or 905 659 0402 if you feel you can be available to help.

Read the Bible in a year! <http://bibleplan.org/#ch> A friend of mine just sent along this great resource for reading the Bible in a year. You will find there several options and many different translations to choose. I am doing the Bible in a Year in the ESV. Please prayerfully consider one of these for your own Bible reading this year. Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest! *Ray David*



"I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

Afternoon Women's Fellowship will be gathering for worship, prayer and sharing, Thursday, January 14, 2 p.m. at Margaret Harris' home, 4448 Lakeshore Rd., Burlington. For a ride, contact Margaret Hunt at (905) 854 0233.



A six week inductive Bible study on the Epistle to the Ephesians will be held at Crossroads, Thursdays from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. beginning January 21st. Each participant will need to invest about five hours in lesson preparation at home before we gather together to share what we have learned. Please contact Pam Bales for details.
(905-827-1097 or rbales@cogeco.ca)

Your Reach Out Committee is looking for a mission-minded person who enjoys writing letters to send notes of encouragement two or three times a year to our mission partners. Please contact Pam Bales at 905-827-1097 or rbales@cogeco.ca .



Service of Prayer for Healing, Sunday, January 17, 4 p.m.

Epiphany Reach Out Program The Mission Statement of St. George's Church is "Disciples Making Disciples", taken from our Lord's final instructions to His disciples in Matthew 28:16-20. These same disciples learned that their mission field was to start in Jerusalem, progress to Judea, then to Samaria, and finally to the uttermost parts of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

We cannot all go to the ends of the earth but we can all be 'senders' of those who do go. That is what your Reach Out Committee is all about...prayerfully allocating one tenth of your weekly offerings to Mission Partners who can go for us and make disciples among peoples of other nations around the world.

Throughout Epiphany, the season in our church calendar when we recall the presentation of the baby Jesus to the Gentile Wise Men, the Reach Out Committee will present two of our mission partners on each of the four Sundays during 'announcement time'.

Please record their names and remember them in prayer. ***Pam Bales***



but now my eye sees you."



thanks

To all of those who supported the 2009 St Matthew's House

Christmas Adopt-a-Family program, thank you. Your contributions to this ministry provided Christmas gifts of clothing, toys and a food voucher for Christmas dinner to three families.

I had requested the Christmas Program Co-ordinator to provide us with families who were in greatest need and were the least likely to be sponsored. There were two single parent families of 3 each. Both of these families were parented by a single mom. One family had both parents. All of the children were in their teens. This age group is not chosen by most people. Clothes are always requested, especially winter jackets/coats, socks and jeans. We were able to provide these clothes plus another non-clothing item: a basketball, a football, makeup, and an art kit.

The Sunday School class taught by Shelley Loveless gave a gift of \$50.00. With this money we bought ten \$5.00 coupon books from McDonalds for children. The ladies Christmas tea provided a gift of \$100.00. This money was used to buy four \$25.00 food vouchers from the Loblaws Superstore chain. Thank you for your gifts to people who would otherwise have gone without.

My grateful thanks are extended to Margaret Hunt for all her help and support, shopping for items that only a parent would know the correct sizing. Thanks also to Dave Shantz and Wayne Neeb for helping to load my car during the year. Thanks to Pam and Ron Bales for their weekly food gift, and to Don and Barbara George for their weekly gift of an item that is not food, but almost as necessary – toilet tissue. Thanks to each of you who provide food, clothing and other items throughout the year I can assure you that everything is used and appreciated. *Betty Pristol*

Sixty eight shoeboxes destined for "Operation Christmas Child" were delivered to the local sorting station ready for Christmas. Thanks to everyone who eagerly filled a box.

The children of St. George's say a special "thank you" to Elsie Eke who made them a special Christmas Stocking with a hand-made cross in it. A lot of love and work went into each one. Thank you Elsie for your gift that will be remembered at Christmas as the crosses get hung each year on our trees.

"I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

ADVENT BLESSINGS



In November I was challenged by a sermon of the Youth Pastor at St. Tim's in Montreal. He spoke of the season of Advent as being like Lent - a season for examining one's life for sinful habits, confessing these, denying self and striving to live a life more pleasing to the Lord. I was aware that Advent's colour, like Lent's, was penitential purple, but I had always sailed joyfully through this season in anticipation of the second coming of Jesus.

But wait - what was the message of John the Baptist, the one sent by God to prepare the way for Jesus' earthly ministry? "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and "Bear fruit in keeping with repentance." Maybe this young pastor was on to something.

What would I give up for Advent? Dessert was the first thought but quickly discarded. The benefit would show more on my hips than in my relationship with the Lord. Self denial.....? Once I started thinking seriously about an Advent project my mind kept being invaded with suggestions of rising early to pray. No, that wouldn't succeed, for a person who struggles with depression needs sleep. The suggestion wouldn't go away - rather it intensified as Advent Sunday drew nearer. I bit the bullet and reset the alarm.

It was cold and dark when the clock went off that first morning and the last thing in the world that I wanted to do was to get up to pray. But this was day one, and I determined not to quit before I got started. There certainly was much to pray about. Once I finished with myself, there was the appeal of Judge Kelleher's decision in Vancouver, our local court situation, St. Aidan's in Windsor, our friends in Ottawa, and unity among all ANiC people. There was revival in the church, beginning here at home and spreading across Canada, before sweeping around the world. Time flew and then Ron was up to start his day.

Every morning in Advent but one (when our clock battery failed), I kept my appointment with the Lord, huddled on my knees under the afghan in our dark, cold living room. It never got any easier to get up and I never ran out of things to pray about. There were some precious quiet moments when I felt the Lord speaking to me.

But the blessings for me were unbelievable! Losing that hour of sleep each morning, rather than rendering me chronically tired at the busiest season of the year, turned me into the "energizer bunny". My thinking was clearer, my traffic patterns inside and outside were direct, the 'to-do' list got done each day, the inevitable challenges were met head on cheerfully, and I finished each day with energy to spare. I know that my perseverance and the blessings which followed were gifts from the Lord, and all the credit goes to Him.

I'm still getting up early to pray.

Pam Bales

but now my eye sees you."





Church of the Messiah News

He appointed twelve—designating them apostles—that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach. Mark 3:14

The Magi came bringing gifts to a baby lying in a manger, a King, who came to save us. For me the picture of this child lying in a stable in Bethlehem reminds me that God is with us always and that we do not need the structure of a church building to recognize this. The shepherds and the wise men entered into a stable to worship the King. God has called us into the world to worship Jesus. That world has a different look to us now as we gather in alternate worship spaces. We are so thankful for the blessings we have received through our ministry at The Upper Deck in Norwich. It was here that we celebrated the birth of our Lord on Christmas Eve for the first time.

Looking back over the past months, we see that God was calling us into this community to minister to the children. He has brought them into our midst. What a joy it is to see them coming to us each week. We are also very blessed to have Debby, a woman with a heart for God's children. Debby has been such a wonderful influence in the lives of these children. Our Sunday school is growing in so many ways and we are thankful for what God is doing. Debby began giving the children verses to memorize and if they memorized them they received a small gift. She also recognized the need for the children to spend some time with Peter and decided that it might be best for them to recite the verse to Peter. This also provides an opportunity for Peter to teach them a little more about what they have memorized. God's word does have power and we see it through the eyes of these children.



While games, stories and crafts are all important, even the children recognize that God's word is most important. Because of their eagerness to look up the verses in the Bible, we decided to give each of them a Bible so they could 'mark, learn and inwardly digest'

"I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

these verses. Shortly before Christmas, Peter presented each of them with this very precious gift in the midst of the congregation. We are so appreciative of all that Peter and Debby have done in the lives of these children and we look forward to seeing how God will continue working in them. Jesus did call the children unto him and Jesus has called us to minister to the needs of the children of Norwich.

We witness God's presence in our midst. One of our members had come a few times and heard God's word. She saw it at work in the life of her daughter and God spoke to her as well. She has been evangelizing her family and has been speaking to them about baptism. God continues to work all around us. We have taken to the streets of Norwich and invited many to join us. God called us to make Christmas gift baskets and many contributed to filling them; distributing these baskets we saw some of the need in our own community. In spite of her own limited resources, one of our members gave willingly to someone who desperately needed help. This reminded me of the widow who gave all she had for God's kingdom. How thankful I am for God's presence among us.

The Church of the Messiah looks forward to the many "firsts" that 2010 will bring for us. Our first Annual Vestry meeting as a recognized Parish in ANiC is scheduled for February 7th. The New year will bring many challenges but also many blessings. One of our many blessings has been the ministry of Peter who gives so freely of his time and talents. One Saturday, Peter joined us in setting up for Sunday; he also used his carpentry skills to fix several areas at the Deck. This is just the type of man that God has provided and we recognize how fortunate we are. But Peter would not be with us had it not been for the generosity of St. George's. We are thankful for Peter, Ray David, and St. George's as we begin our second year eagerly anticipating all that God has planned for us.

We also ask you to continue to pray for us, for boldness to proclaim God's word in our communities, for a willingness to hear his call in our lives, and for God to continue to open doors in this community and this nation as He sends us out to preach the Good News.

Sheilagh Roloson



but now my eye sees you."

There Must Be Another Way



“. . . *they departed to their country by another way*” [Matt 2:12 ESV]

Epiphany—It’s about eastern stargazers miraculously finding the King of the Jews. It’s about Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, having moved from the stable to a residence, still in Bethlehem. It is also, as the Book of Common Prayer asserts, the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.



This Epiphany, 2010, let us centre around family for a few moments.

Two millennia later, there are still important cues to be taken from the Holy Family. In this day of anti-family influences, we can receive guidance and encouragement in our search for biblically-fulfilled and blessed families.

Let us take some cues from Mary. She didn’t have to understand God’s will in order to cooperate with it. She only needed to know that it was indeed God’s will. Our prime source in discerning God’s way for our homes is still His word. We may not find the pattern easy because of the pressures of the culture around us. However, obedient faith will yield rich rewards over time.

Joseph too is a great mentor. He provided for Mary, pregnant and suspected young lady that she was. He provided her the protection of marriage in a nation that would have stoned her. He provided the courage of conviction. God had spoken. He would pay whatever price to carry out the heavenly purposes, strange though they were. He would provide escape to Egypt from Herod. He would provide financially as they resettled in Nazareth. He would provide parenting skills to his stepson. He would be diligent to establish Jesus’ connection to the temple and the Jewish faith. Most of all, he would provide a sterling example of self-restraint. In this age of all kinds of “rights” to indulge our worship to the god of sexuality, Joseph is to be admired that he remained celibate until after Jesus’ birth. His priorities governed his physical appetites.

Jesus also gives us cues. When He became conscious of His life’s purpose, He also placed high value on obedience. He submitted to His earthly parents as part of His peerless example to us. He gave us great reinforcement in rearing children. St. Luke observes: *“And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him And Jesus*

“I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.” Thus Jesus, Joseph, and Mary cooperated with heaven’s plan. This prepared Christ to face incredibly challenging situations in His manhood. Epiphany blesses us with the opportunity to reflect on ageless family principles and values.

I have a concern for believing families of today. We pride ourselves in having divested ourselves of the legalism of former generations. But in actuality, we have not shed legalism. We have, perhaps inadvertently, shed the old constraints for something different. The new legalism embraces a whole “pentateuch” of laws about relationships. We seem to need something besides faith to make us whole. We are saved in the perfection of relationships. We are requiring ourselves to conform to set standards of perfection.

An entire library has been published in recent decades to reinforce this. Seminars on these subjects occupy much of the church calendar in some congregations. These are planned to promote ultimate relationships: in our workplaces, in our social activities, in our marriages (or our celibacy), in our churches, and in our families. What began as procedures became principles; then principles became precepts. For many they have become PRESSURE, pressure to conform in all areas so we can become perfect in Christian relationships. Am I exaggerating? I don’t think so.

Lest you conclude that these are merely my own philosophical reflections, let me quote Denise Dykstra. She is the mother of five children. With her husband and family, she is part of West Edmonton Christian Reformed Church. Writing in the Christian Courier [the denominational newspaper], in an article called “Family time trumps extra-curricular activities” [October 26, ’09], she offered these vital observations. It calls to us to think of “another way”, to break free from near obsession with formulae in relationships, and their subsequent demand for super-achieving kids.

“There are loads of after-school events kids can be involved in today, and many reasons for kids to participate. . . . They’re beneficial; there’s no doubt about it. But at what cost? Whatever happened to the idea that less is more?”

Today’s habit of over-scheduling kids comes at the expense of the family. Instead of enrolling our kids in everything they’ve ever had an interest in, we should be working to simplify our lives. . . .

How do we simplify our lives? By prioritizing. Simple living is about stripping away what doesn’t matter to focus on what does. I don’t believe that we have to drop out of everything

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but now my eye sees you.”



(Continued from page 15)

extra-curricular altogether, but I do think we have to set some limits so we can leave time open to spend together as a family.

In our house, each of our kids is allowed to enroll in one extra-curricular activity. . . . In addition, . . . each of our kids is involved in an age-appropriate church group. . . . Unfortunately, churches can often use some simplifying too. . . .

Wouldn't it be great if every church had the room and resources to hold all of their youth programs on the same night? Living simply is a lifestyle choice. It's about living an examined life in which we've determined what's important for each of us. It's about discarding the extras and investing the time we then get, back into our families. . . . [with permission from Denise and from the Christian Courier]

Well, “Amen,” Denise! At this season of Epiphany, at the start of a new year, perhaps “simplify” and “prioritize” should become watchwords in Christian families and churches. The words “hectic”, “panic”, and “frantic” will probably become less a part of our vocabulary as a result.

There has to be “another way”. After worshipping Jesus, the Magi, warned of God, returned by another way. After Herod died, the Holy Family returned from Egypt. Bethlehem was not an option; another Herod reigned. Instead, they headed for the protection of Nazareth.

Epiphany is about encountering Christ. May I urge you to explore new ways and old priorities as your family observes this significant time, to return to your everydayness by another way.

Prayer: Father, help us to take cues for family faith from your Son. Enlighten us in our journey with the timeless encouragement received from the principles in your Word. Make our homes havens of light and joy in a crazy world. Lord, have mercy!

Ken Bombay

“I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

Questions, questions, so many questions...

Who are you and what do you want? Do we have communion wine? Bread? Vessels? 'Fair linens' for the altar? Is this all there is to life? Will you be needing palms for Easter?

December 5 was a sunny, crisp winter day. Perfect for visiting 100 homes near John Knox Christian School. The five of us split into two teams and had a lovely time knocking on doors, handing out our Christmas gift bags and inviting folks to Christmas Eve service. We adapted our 'patter' as we went, particularly on the last street when the first house we stopped at greeted us with "*Who are you and what do you want?*"!! The Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall on this street made the residents suspicious of two people knocking on their door on a Saturday. Our opening line "we're a new church in the neighbourhood" quickly became "we're the new **Anglican** church...". Only a few refused our gift, Jude was told she "glowed", and John & Zandra received the Vulcan blessing to "live long and prosper!" What a fun day!

And Sunday the 6th was even better. Rev. Keith and Jenny Stodart celebrated Eucharist with us. After service a young man, who had been coming to services for six weeks or so, stayed in his chair during fellowship time. One of the men went to talk with him... he was ready to give his life to Christ. So all of the men gathered around and placed hands on him while Rev. Keith led him in prayer. The first fruits of the harvest! Alleluia! Praise the Lord!

Now on a "high", with new vigour we set about planning Christmas Eve service. Keith pointed out that his small communion set would not be sufficient for a larger group; we would need communion vessels, 'fair' altar linens as well as bread and wine. God, as always, provided for us within our means... silver wine goblets and a small plate came out of storage; these were polished up and consecrated by Bishop Charlie to serve as Chalices and paten. New linen was purchased, and the internet searched for an Altar Guild Handbook with sewing instructions to make a veil, burse, pall and "fair" linens. Religious supply stores were visited and phoned to acquire holy wafers and sacramental wine (we even found a wine called "St. Paul"!!!). Busy, busy, busy!

(Continued on page 18)



but now my eye sees you."



(Continued from page 17)

Christmas Eve we set up our worship area for fifty and rehearsed the liturgy to make sure we had covered everything. Although no visitors arrived, at 8pm eleven of us entered wholly into worship and celebrated our first Christmas Eve service together, remembering that first Christmas when God sent us his Son.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. **Joshua 1:9**

When God calls us his people forward into new territory, we need not fear or be discouraged, only rely on Him.

Plans are in place to start *Alpha* on January 18. Next week we will put up posters and deliver invitations to our neighbours, this time to a free dinner and a movie to “explore the meaning of life.” We pray for our Lord’s blessing as we continue to work the fields.

Last Tuesday, while placing an order with Broughtons, the very helpful sales woman asked “*Will you be needing palms for Easter?*” It’s time to plan for Easter???. Please, can we finish Christmas first!?

With love and blessings and praises to our Lord,

Your tired but joy-filled brothers & sisters at St. Paul ABC

Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.

John 4:35,36

[ESV]



“I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,

Five thoughts about Epiphany [Matthew 2: 1–12]

1. The star was a sign, a miracle of God's might, foretold long before, a sign of the royal birth of the Coming One, Messiah. *"A star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel."* [Numbers 24:17] It was a sign visible to any one, but noticed only by those whom the Lord called.
2. The star was also a sign of God's light shining in the world. Without Jesus, this is a world in very thick darkness, thick hopeless darkness. *"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."* [Isaiah 60: 1 – 3]
3. The coming of the wise men demonstrates clearly God's will that his salvation reaches to the nations. *"He says: It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."* [Isaiah 49: 6]
4. Many could see the star, but only these came. These wise men were drawn to the Saviour miraculously, by God Himself. They were led there. This is one of the many miracles of God's grace, recorded in Scripture. It humbles us and causes us to marvel at God's merciful choosing. *"All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. . . . No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him."* [John 6: 37, 44]
5. The wise men bowed. They fell down and worshipped Jesus; they were not observers only. They came there to worship Him, to offer their treasures. "Falling down" to worship is ultimate surrender. It is final. In that life-changing act their journey was complete. They could return home. They were like Simeon. *"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."* [Luke 2:29-32]

Mary Ann Masters



but now my eye sees you."

**St. George's Anglican Church,
Lowville,
member congregation of the
Anglican Network in Canada
and part of
the Anglican Church in North America**

**Rector: Rev. Ray David Glenn
Pastoral Assistant: Rev. Ken Bombay
Honorary Assistants:
Rev. Peter Parent
Rev. Keith Stodart
Rev. Deacon Garth Hunt
Music Ministries: Bryan Hunt**

**Ministry Coordinator: Naomi Neeb
Church Secretary: Donna Rigo**

**Crossroads Centre Chapel, 1295
North Service Road, Burlington**

**9:00 am Morning Prayer or Holy Com-
munion, and Sunday school**

**10: 45 family service, nursery and Sun-
day school**

**6:30 p.m., evening service at Milton Bible
Church, Main Street, Milton**

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Web Site:

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*As with gladness, men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee.*

*As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him Whom Heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.*

*As they offered gifts most rare
At that cradle rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.*

*Holy Jesu, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.*

*In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King!*

William Chatterton Dix 1860