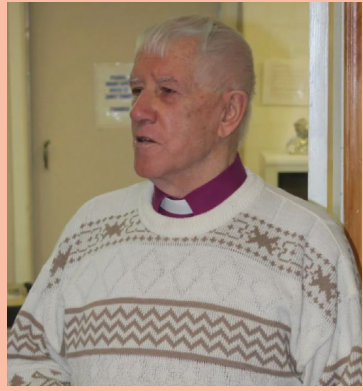




## Ecumenical Lenten Lunches Resume



*Bishop Chris Williams (ret.) speaking at Holy Trinity.*

One of the little blessings in Yellowknife was re-starting the ecumenical Lenten Lunches hosted by Holy Trinity Anglican Church. The weekly soup, sandwich, and guest speaker goes back over 60 years.

Organized by the Yellowknife Ministerial group, it brings together Christians from Anglican, Roman Catholic, Salvation Army, Baptist, Pentecostal,

United Church, Christian Alliance, and non-denominational Christian traditions.

Across the North, our parishes are blessed to serve the entire community, ministering with and to Christians of many different traditions as we stand united on the Word of God.

*We look forward to sharing more stories of ecumenical ministry in future editions of Arctic News!*

## A New Church for Puvirnituk

Following years of successful planning and local fundraising by the vestry and leaders at St. Matthew's in Puvirnituk, Quebec, the Executive Committee of the Diocese has granted approval for construction to begin on a new church building in the community.

The existing church was no longer meeting the needs of the congregation. In the application to the Diocese, Aipilie Kenuayuak wrote "presently there is no heating, both furnaces are not working!",

yet "we have a very dedicated congregation whose spiritual side needs continual feeding on the Word of God". "The new church will have a capacity of 208" says Maxime Héroux, the Montreal-based project manager who worked on the \$3.85-million project.

Thanks be to God, this community-changing project will be completed without the need for loans or mortgages. The Lord will provide all we need if we are faithfully doing the work He has given us to do! Any community planning construction is reminded to contact the Synod Office for help, advice, and approval as soon as early as possible in the project.



## Our Growing Team: A New Cathedral Dean & ATTS Administrator



*In December 2021, the Very Rev. Chris and Amy Dow moved to Iqaluit with their 3 girls. Chris is the Rector of St. Jude's Cathedral and Dean of the Diocese, and Amy is the Administrator of the Arthur Turner Training School. Here's Amy's story of their journey to Ministry in the Diocese of The Arctic.*

Early in the days of my relationship with Chris, he had expressed an interest in serving in the Arctic. My answer was always the same. "Yeah! Maybe if you were single!"

We have lived in Toronto, Birch Hills (a town of a 1000 people in Saskatchewan) and, just recently, Chris ministered in a parish an hour outside of Toronto. We had a home there, friends and family. Everything we would ever need or want.

Yet here we are. In Iqaluit, Nunavut, where Chris is currently the Rector of St. Jude's and Dean of the Diocese of the Arctic.

*How did we get here?*

This past summer, we felt God nudging us in a different direction. It all started when I found the job posting for the Rector of St. Jude's/ Dean of the Arctic and passed it on to Chris saying, "Hey, your dream job is calling! The kids and I will come visit."

From there, something changed. Chris felt a tug to pursue as I remained hesitant and reluctant to follow. Bishop Joey and Chris knew each other through Facebook and they started making a connection. After Chris got approval from his Diocesan Bishop, he applied. I wasn't on board at the time, but I wasn't totally opposed either. I had always told him from the start. "If it's a no-go from me, I will tell you."

But it wasn't an easy journey. We looked at other options, too, as I was nervous about what little I knew about Nunavut.

Our children have various concerns that require specialists such as Ophthalmologists, Speech Pathologists and Occupational Therapists. Due to the nature of how often they needed to be seen coupled with my lack of understanding of medical travel covered by the government, I was scared.

At some point, the issue with fuel in the water came out and that was hard to swallow. The kids were taking the school bus, loving school, their friends and their neighbourhood in Ontario. It felt like an injustice to take them away from all of that, on top of no longer being able to see relatives all the time.

We met with the bishops for an interview. I played my guitar and sang for them during our worship time. The interview went well. But what I appreciated the most was how the bishops showed concern for the kids and my well-being. I knew I would not be alone. Bishop David said, "If Chris were to gain all of Iqaluit and loses his family in the process, what then have we gained?" I loved the importance placed on family and community. I felt like they cared.

That's when we decided to visit Iqaluit. In October of 2021, Chris and I came a for a few days and stayed in Apex. We had a great trip but the most important part of the trip for me was the sense of community. I immediately felt a sense of hospitality, friendship and love, from people I hardly knew. The shift for me happened when I met the people from Iqaluit, especially after the Wednesday service. I had never met any Inuit before, and I fell in love with

the spirit of community. It would also be remiss of me not to mention how much Bishop Joey and his family have made us feel at home. It's like we have known them for ages!

Sure, I didn't get all the answers I wanted. I still feared the lack of daylight in the winter, the water issues, high prices, new transitions, and the lack of retail options (I like shopping!). The cons to moving to Iqaluit seemed to outweigh the pros. But I loved the people and wanted to get to know them more.

I remember thinking, 'Chris would be happy.' That meant the world to me. So we continued with the process. And he finally accepted the job.

We had a rocky start. It was hard to tell our family we were moving North. They would miss us and we would miss them. From the flight getting delayed a day, sick kids, a blizzard, Covid lockdowns and not being able to see folks during Christmas, it was like there were hurdles in most every direction.

We had a very warm welcome at the airport. My fondest memory was probably being welcomed into our home with Christmas lights, a tree, gifts, and new friends. We knew we were home. The parish had done an amazing job making the house 'home.' They painted the kids' rooms, got beautiful furniture, had stocked the kitchen with groceries, and helped us unpack.

Since our arrival on December 19th, we have settled in happily to our new house, our new community, and our new Church home. We look forward to meeting folks in person as restrictions loosen. The girls love their learning packages sent from school, though one has a little trepidation on starting school in person. Meeting new people can be hard for little ones.

I have started as the Administrator at the Arthur Turner Training School, a theological school in Iqaluit aimed at equipping Inuit and Indigenous peoples in Christian leadership and ministry in the North. To learn more about ATTS, please contact me at [atts.admin@arcticnet.org](mailto:atts.admin@arcticnet.org) or by cell at 1 (867) 222- 5502. We consider ourselves very blessed to be here and thank you for joining us on our journey.

Much love to you from Iqaluit, Nunavut!  
*Chris, Amy, Clara, Hannah and Abigail Dow*

Bishop David's Message:

## Where do you camp?

The Bible is filled with promises from God which He wants us to trust in, to rest in. You could even say he wants us to set up camp in those promises.

But the Bible is also filled with stories of people living by fear rather than faith. This lack of trust grieves God. In Psalm 95, often recited as the "Venite" in Morning Prayer, we hear God's grief when He says, "Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest."

God intended to lead His people Israel in an 11 day walk from Egypt's slavery to the land of promise, a land of rest, but fear caused them to set up camp in the wilderness for 40 years.

Every generation will face a wilderness or a desert. Every generation must decide to trust in God's promises or camp in the wilderness of fear. Faith doesn't keep us from having to face the wilderness, but it does mean that we will never walk it alone.

As we're reminded through the season of Lent, Jesus began His ministry as the Holy Spirit led Him into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan. The Lord faced the same temptations that we all face: lust of the flesh, lust of things and pride of life. But Jesus did not give in to temptation and therefore Jesus is sin free. Although Satan couldn't defeat Jesus in the wilderness Satan influenced religious and political authorities to falsely accuse Jesus and ultimately kill him. Death is the wages of sin. Being a sinless person, the only way sinless Jesus could die, was to take our sin and becoming sin for us. Colossians tells us our sins were nailed to Jesus cross. Through Jesus' blood and the laying down of His life, he bore the punishment you and I deserved. Our sins have been dealt with. God has forgotten our sins and thrown them away into the depths of the sea. The book of Hebrews chapters 3 & 4 repeatedly remind us of the Venite and say, "today listen to

God." As the dawn breaks on Easter morning, we are to proclaim that Jesus rose victorious over sin and death! From the book of Hebrews the Holy Spirit calls us to trust in Jesus' completed work and to enter His rest.

### Will we be faithful in the wilderness?

I'm reminded of Matthew 11, when Jesus rebuked the people for not listening to the prophets or His own message as the Incarnate Word of God. Yet again the God of mercy, after rebuking the people for their hardness of heart, still invites them to come to Him, learn from Him and to rest in Him.

We need to be careful of Satan's demonic temptations as our modern society faces its own deserts, quick to look back at all the things that can enslave us. It is all too easy to set up camp in the wilderness listening to fear-based media, to politicians who demonize one another, to religious authorities who call us to follow secular humanistic practices and want us to lose heart and believe our churches will closed by 2040. When COVID-19 began, the "experts" said few will return when the church reopens.

Friends, it is important to remember it is Jesus who is building His Church. Jesus has not forsaken us. Rather than join in the cursing and demonizing, doom and gloom, we are to be the people who bless others, pray for our political leaders, and pray for peace in this world. As Jesus' ambassadors of reconciliation, we have been given a mandate to preach the gospel to make disciples of all nations. We are not to be paralyzed by fear or be polarized by prejudiced people to take sides. All have sinned and all need Jesus, the one and only perfect Saviour who bore our sin and shame.



If we're following Christ who was led into the desert, we shouldn't be surprised that Satan will oppose us, too, and cause doubts to arise. We must meditate and choose to be faithful in the wilderness of temptation. We must choose to camp in the promises of God which will move us from fear to faith, from slavery into the land of plenty that He has promised.

That means we live as citizens of God's Kingdom. We replace our sin with His righteousness. As former slaves of sin, we enter a time of mental renovation, transforming the mind by the work of the Holy Spirit as we encounter the living Word of God in the Bible.

### His Strength made perfect in our weakness.

Here in the Arctic we can only boast that although we are weak, Jesus is alive and at work. Yes, we face the temptation to set up camp in doubt, fear, and despair as we face the wilderness ahead of us. But we'll walk by faith, not in fear.

I once more encourage you to set up camp in the Word of God. When you hear of bad news, when you're tempted to despair by the voices that seek only to beat us down, focus on Jesus, the victory won through His blood, and His faithful promise to never leave or forsake us.

*The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

## Clergy Appointments in the Diocese



**The Rev. Enid Pow** joins the Diocese of the Arctic as Rector of St. Steven's Church in Kuujuaq, QC. She was born in the UK, trained and worked as a mental health nurse before being called to ordained ministry.

Coming to Christ as an adult, she was ordained in 2002 and served in Essex and suburban London before moving to Canada to serve churches in British Columbia and Manitoba.

Rev. Enid is particularly looking forward to making connections with youth, making them feel welcome and creating opportunities for them to hear and experience God's love and mercy.

Kuujuaq is the largest community and regional government hub in the Nunavik region, sitting at the mouth of Ungava Bay.



**Venerable Alexander Pryor** has been appointed as Executive Archdeacon of the Diocese of the Arctic. He served as Director of Music, Worship, and Residential Life at Nashotah House Theological Seminary before coming to Fort Smith, NWT as Rector

in June 2019. As Executive Archdeacon he will work very closely with the Diocesan Bishop to carry out the work of the diocese, and is available as a resources to help clergy and vestries in matters of administration or planning for ministry. Alexander remains chair of the Education Committee for the Diocese, overseeing the publication of new courses on Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage Preparation, and other topics over the next two years. Please pray, as we are waiting on God to provide the funds to purchase a new Mission House in Yellowknife for Alexander and his family.

Arthur Turner Training School

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# Morning and Evening Prayer - English & Inuktitut - Now on your phone!

Article by the Very Rev. Chris Dow

The Common Prayer Canada daily prayer mobile app was released on Advent Sunday 2020 by the Prayer Book Society of Canada (PBSC). It has been very well received throughout the Canadian church. Many users have commented that the app makes it so much easier to get into a rhythm of daily prayer and Bible reading.

The app allows you to pray the complete Anglican services of Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Family Prayer and much more. It automatically generates the full services for every day of the year, including the Psalms, Bible lessons, seasonal variations and collects. It's simplified and streamlined for a user-friendly experience, and also offers many advanced settings for customization preferences.

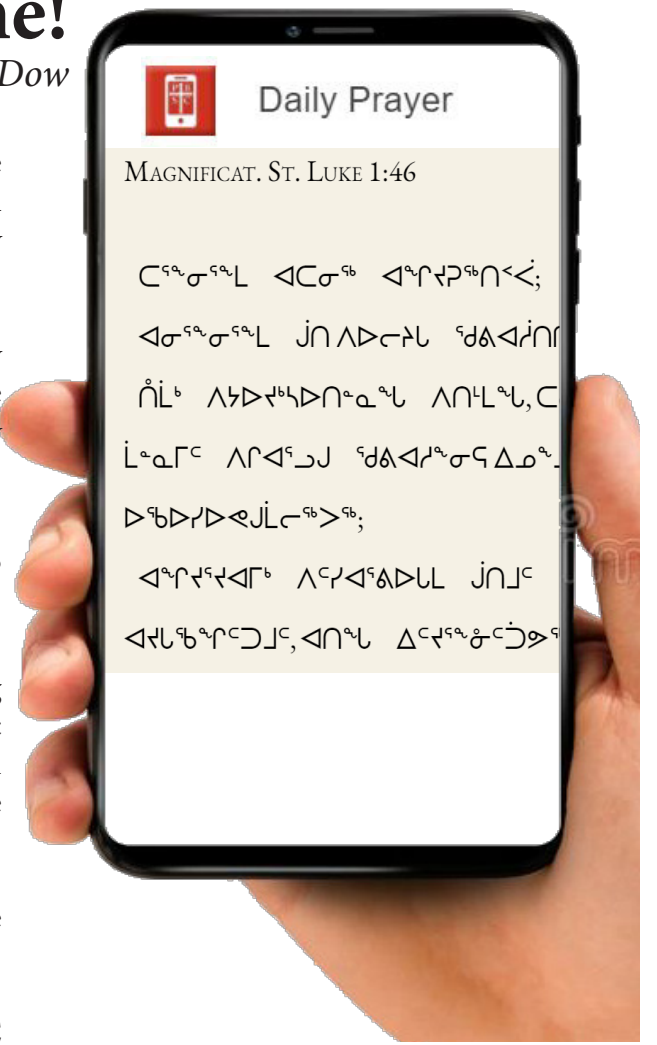
**We're very pleased to announce that the Eastern Arctic Inuktitut Bible has just been added to the app!**

This means that many parts of the liturgy can now be displayed in Inuktitut syllabics: the Opening Sentences, Psalms, Bible Lessons and some canticles, namely the Benedictus, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. At this time, we're unable to offer the entire app (Collects, etc.) in Inuktitut, because the Eastern Arctic Inuktitut Prayer Book has never yet been digitized, though this is a project the Diocese would be happy to sponsor as funding allows.

Later this year, we also have plans to add the Inuinnaqtun language from the Central Arctic and the Walton Cree Prayer Book from the eastern shore of Hudson Bay.

If you would like to donate to the ongoing development of this project, please do so through the PBSC ([prayerbook.ca](http://prayerbook.ca)). You can donate quickly and securely online through the PBSC's Canada Helps page.

Download the Common Prayer Canada app today for free from the App Store or Google Play, or check it out on the web at [pray.prayerbook.ca](http://pray.prayerbook.ca)



Download the Free Common Prayer Canada app from your App Store or Google Play

# You do not have because you do not ask God - James 4:2

## Mission Houses for the High Arctic

Housing remains a major challenge to fulfilling our mission to carry the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the world. The harsh winters in the Arctic mean that houses aren't the safe long-term investment that those from the south often count on. With heavy frost and limited access to tradespeople and building supplies, a single overnight freeze-up or furnace break-down when the house is empty can mean the house is uninhabitable without major repairs. Long-term housing shortages across the North mean rentals are rarely a realistic alternative.

We sometimes get questions about how a person, a group, or a church can support ministry in the High Arctic.

### Adopt a Mission House!

We would love to raise up mission-minded clergy to serve in Cambridge Bay, Taloyoak, Arctic Bay, Igloolik, and Qikiqtarjuaq... but first we'd need to fix or rebuild the house for the minister to live in.

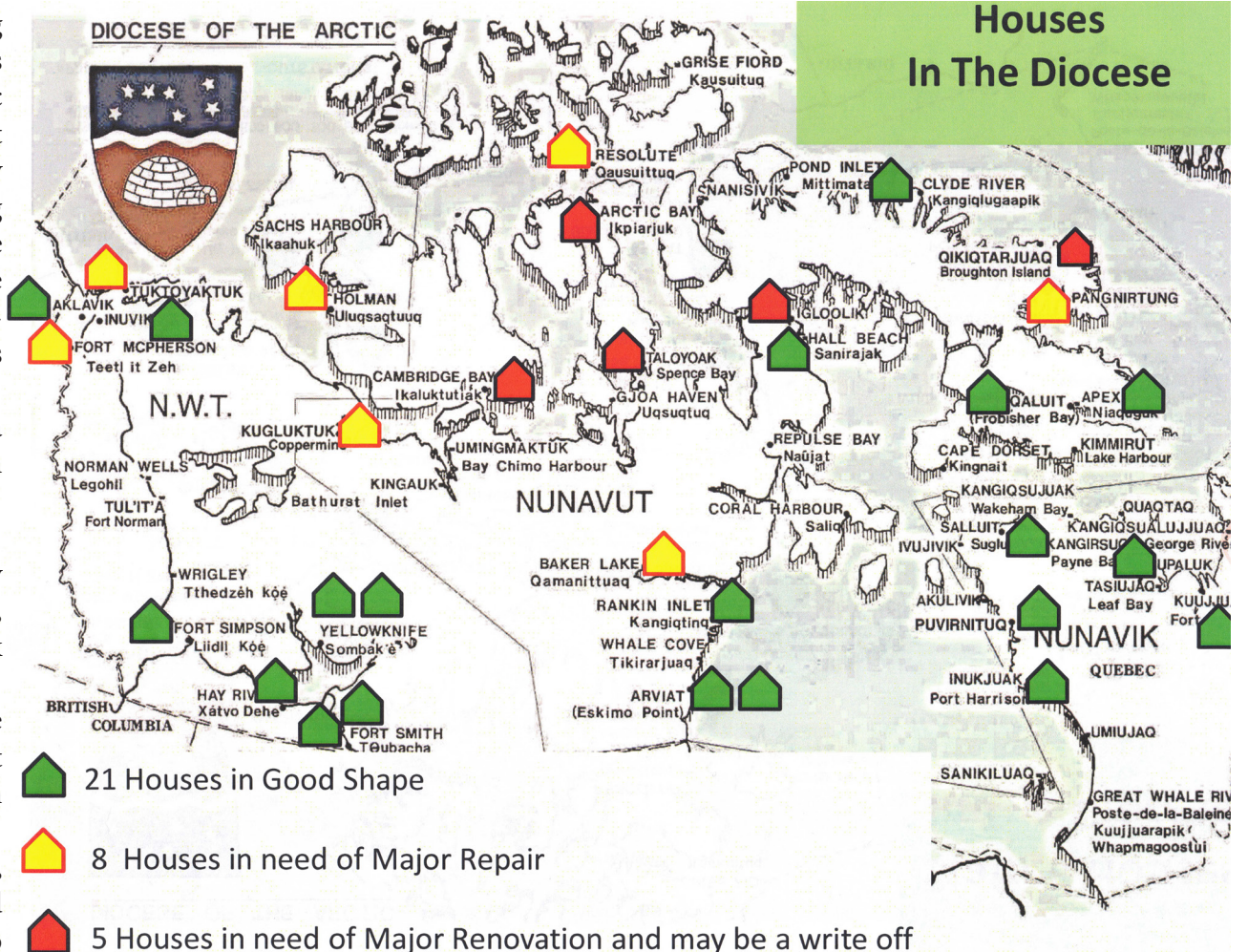
In other places, like Baker Lake and Kugluktuk, the present Mission Houses are on the brink: they're not too far gone to be saved, but if we don't fix them soon they'll become uninhabitable.

By grace, our Operating Budget keeps us afloat, but we need God to raise up visionary sponsors and churches who are able to look over the horizon to build or repair a Mission House in the Arctic.

It could be a fundraising project to set money aside for Mission Houses, or it could be a multi-year mission project where skilled builders or tradespeople from your community come North for a few weeks of fellowship, mission, and ministry to spread the Gospel by making a home for the leaders God is

raising up to bring His Good News to those who are hungry to hear it!

*If you're curious about opportunities to adopt a Mission House, speak to Bishop David or Archdeacon Alexander at the Synod Office!*



# Student Spotlight: Meet Nick Kigeak



*Nick is known for leading worship with his guitar.*

*Amy: Tell me a little bit about yourself.*

Nick: I grew up in a Christian home. I have one brother and two sisters. I would visit my grandparents a lot when I was a toddler till the age of 6, especially my dad's parents and my mother's mum. My dad would go out hunting when he got a chance and my mother still works at a government office. They are now full-time grandparents to a 10-year-old boy, a 6-year-old girl and a soon to be 5-year-old. I spoke mainly English and a little Inuktitut when I was little. Now, I speak English fluently and can speak some Inuktitut. Growing up, we would go out onto the land a lot during the warmer seasons where I would help my parents. Living in a small town is different. It was freeing to be on the land.

*Amy: Tell us a bit about growing up in the Church there.*

Nick: I went to the Church of the Messiah in Gjoa Haven where I went to Sunday School. I led music a lot. I started playing instruments when I was 8 years old. When I was a teenager, I shared many testimonies. I had been going back and forth from Taloyoak for youth revivals. I dedicated my time volunteering with the Anglican youth committee there during my youth.

*Amy: How many Churches are in Gjoa Haven?*

Nick: There are two. An Anglican one and a Roman Catholic Church.

*Amy: What or who brought you to ATTS?*

Nick: I feel that God has been calling even before I was born. As the prophet Jeremiah says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born, I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." (Jer. 1:5)

*Amy: What is your favorite area of study?*

Nick: The Bible.

*Amy: What do you want to do after you have completed your Diploma?*

Nick: I am going to go where God wants to put me. I'm willing to go where He calls me. As the Gospel of Mathew tells us, 'When the man with leprosy came and knelt before him, he said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing" he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cured of his leprosy'. If Jesus wants me to do his will, I am willing to do his work!

*Amy: Can you tell me about an experience in Ministry that really made a difference, or left an impression on you?*

Nick: Music. I see Bible verses in some of them. Bible based music really affects me. It is also my greatest source of strength.



*Amy: What is your favourite hymn? And where did you learn most of your music from?*

Nick: 'Trust and obey' (By John H. Sammis). I learnt the music I know from Church. I started humming the hymns when I was a year old. Before

Nick Kigeak started his Diploma in Arctic Ministry with the Arthur Turner Training School (ATTS) in 2020. He is currently in his second year of the program. ATTS is a theological school in Iqaluit, is aimed at equipping Inuit and Indigenous peoples in Christian leadership and ministry in the North. To learn more about ATTS, please contact the Administrator at [atts.admin@arcticnet.org](mailto:atts.admin@arcticnet.org) or by cell at 1 (867) 222- 5502.

**An interview with Amy Dow, Administrator of ATTS**

*Amy: Where were you born?*

Nick: Gjoa Haven, Nunavut.

*Amy: What is Gjoa haven like?*

Nick: It is a warm and welcoming community where they help each other. The younger people know to respect their Elders and Leaders. The elders generally speak Inuktitut. The younger generation speaks primarily English.

I turned two, I would follow with the words. The choir sang in Inuktitut. Most choir members were Inuktitut speaking people. Church bands also inspired me to play music and a local community band call the King William Band. They formed before I was born. I learnt to play the guitar by a friend who taught me some basic chords. I can play the guitar (It is my favourite instrument to use), organ, drums, accordion, bass guitar and I'm learning the mandolin.

*Amy: What area of ministry do you gravitate towards?*

Nick: Visiting with people.

*Amy: Who are the people in your life you look up to? Why?*

Nick: My late aunt Salomie Arqviq and my Mother Sara Takkiruiq. They always taught me about the Bible, in terms of what to expect later in life.

*Amy: What do you want to tell other friends out there discerning a call to Ministry?*

Nick: People in the Old Testament asked, 'Why me?' Like Moses and Jeremiah. I believe that God answered them by saying that He would be with them. They were given a task to do!

*Amy: What do you think people need to hear if they have lost hope?*

Nick: In the Bible it says in John 14, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you may also be where I am. You know the place where I am going." Through Jesus, there is hope. It leads to eternal life. Our soul is never ending. God has a plan for you! He will guide you, restore and bless you.

## Support Ministry in the Arctic

We depend on the faithful offerings of Christians around the world, as we minister in the largest and most remote diocese in the Anglican Communion, with one of the highest costs of living on earth.

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# On the Radio

## *in God's Hands*

*A special feature by Rev. Francis Delaplain*

Innovation in ministry has been necessary from very early on in the Diocese of the Arctic. From travelling in remote Arctic areas to translation work, there has been creativity and collaboration all along the way. When the COVID19 pandemic struck it provided an opportunity for a new generation of priests, deacons and lay leaders to engage in ministry in new ways. Ways that have brought a new audience to the church. For some they were just starting ministry in a new community when they were faced with the challenge of not being able to gather in person.

This leads us back to the start of our story. Shortly after her arrival in Pangnirtung the COVID19 restrictions were reinstated due to a spike in cases in the area. And this was right before the Christmas season which is such an important time of gathering for the community for worship, meals, games, and many other interactions. So when, on Christmas Eve, it became known that this wouldn't be available there was a scramble to figure out how to create new ways of connecting. And in many of these communities it is not as simple as going online due to unstable internet connections. Prior to the Christmas season Rev. Keenainak had spoken with the leaders in the church that if necessary the radio was available to them. She noted that she has been so amazed at the way that God has made connections for the church in the community. The person in charge of the radio station had served as a worship leader and was aware of the benefit of broadcasting services. So knowing that this was available she made a plan for what she "thought wouldn't happen". But as the closure came so did the need to take the service onto the radio.

This was the case for Rev. Ann Martha Keenainak, who was already facing ministry in a familiar, yet new context. She had been asked to go to St. Luke's Church in the community of Pangnirtung. Pangnirtung is an Inuit community of about 1,400 people located on Baffin Island in the Territory of Nunavut.

For Rev. Ann Martha this was home. And she had thought it would be challenging to return home to take on parish leadership. People had seen her one way, and now she was going to attempt to lead. This seems a theme in ministry for Rev. Keenainak, who at first wasn't sure she wanted to be ordained at all and then wasn't sure she wanted to go to "Pang", and finally had asked God, that having called her into ministry and sent her to Pangnirtung, that at least she would never have to do preaching on the radio.

This leads us back to the start of our story. Shortly after her arrival in Pangnirtung the COVID19 restrictions were reinstated due to a spike in cases in the area. And this was right before the Christmas season which is such an important time of gathering for the community for worship, meals, games, and many other interactions. So when, on Christmas Eve, it became known that this wouldn't be available there was a scramble to figure out how to create new ways of connecting. And in many of these communities it is not as simple as going online due to unstable internet connections. Prior to the Christmas season Rev. Keenainak had spoken with the leaders in the church that if necessary the radio was available to them. She noted that she has been so amazed at the way that God has made connections for the church in the community. The person in charge of the radio station had served as a worship leader and was aware of the benefit of broadcasting services. So knowing that this was available she made a plan for what she "thought wouldn't happen". But as the closure came so did the need to take the service onto the radio.

The radio has become a gathering place for the community. Working with the local Pentecostal church they offer two services a Sunday, rotating morning and evening service.

On the radio they began to hold games and contests that engaged the community in positive ways. One such contest invited listeners to call in with things they were thankful for. Their names were then entered for the draw. This, for Rev. Ann Martha became the feedback to encourage her that people were listening and engaging with the message.

Another benefit of the radio ministry is that they have been able to have many of the retired Inuit ministers to preach over the radio. This is something Rev. Keenainak is extremely grateful for. Their willingness to support the church and to provide spiritual leadership in a hard time. She speaks of the way that she has been supported



and mentored as she has stepped up in areas of ministry. It is further humbling that they are also open to learn and grow in the message that they preach. The elders preach differently. They focus on works, more on what we do right. Abelie Napartuk, a mentor to Ann Martha, expressed that he did not know when he was young, to preach the love and grace of God. Ann Martha marvels that they are still willing to learn this, though they have done so much and teach so much. And yet there is also so much to learn. To watch them continue to journey in faith. And Abelie is still "a force of nature". And he still speaks to the church over the airwaves. She said it is not as well said in English as in Inuktitut, but in essence, "Your life right now, could you be accountable for it, would you live this way if you were in heaven." She expresses her awe at the strength with which he speaks.

When I ask about how she finds the sacred and meaningful in this new form of ministry Rev. Keenainak shares of a man who tunes in who was an alcoholic who was an abusive partner, he was a thief, he rebelled against his elderly parents, but he has now given his life to Christ. "I know that he listens and that he is hungry. I know that he wants more. And I know that he has Bible beside him when he prays. I know it is a challenge for him. But we have services with him in mind. We are a witness and a testimony, we are walking miracles when we look at where we are from where we were." She says it is with this in mind that she knows that she is doing what God has for her to do at this time. And she says if she knows that he is listening how many are listening that she doesn't know, "and if his heart that was hard has softened, how many more. And so

I completely place my trust in God. A few years ago I was in Jerusalem. I felt God calling me to ministry. I prayed, 'I don't know where you are taking me but I am placing all my trust in you. Here now I place my trust in God. I am holding close to heart the number of people who don't come to church who are listening. I don't know if, when we go to church, they will come. I rely on God, that I accept that we are reaching more people than we were at the church.'

And she sees that going forward there is even more they can do. They are going to do training for people in the region to be able to be tuned in and receive training on vestry responsibilities, some are looking to teach on history, and church leadership. This is just the beginning of what this ministry will be. In a region of the world where it has been necessary to innovate and to be willing to try new things, this is another chapter of that. Doing what we thought we never would, and putting our trust in God.

Do you receive our

*Weekly Update?*

email

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