

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

### • September 2018 Synod Staff Meeting •

The Synod Staff of the diocese of New Westminster convened for their first monthly staff meeting following the 2018 summer hiatus on Wednesday, September 5 at 10am in the Trendell Lounge, the meeting area shared by the Synod Office and St. John's, Shaughnessy. The Trendell is now particularly welcoming as new LED light fixtures were installed the previous week and the room is now bathed in bright, warm light allowing even the most myopic (and presbyopic) to see printed materials with ease.

Diocesan Comptroller, Shailene Caparas was the chair for the meeting and Shai did a great job guiding the staff through the agenda.

Items discussed included: the aforementioned new lighting; an increase in work hours for Indigenous Justice Ministry Coordinator, Jerry Adams; the preparation for the

118th Synod (Special Synod on Canon 2 and 3) that will take place at the Synod Office and St. John's, Shaughnessy on October 13; new programs for parish development being planned by Rev. Tellison Glover and Tasha Carrothers, the organization and implementation of a Parish Administrators Training Day, September 18; training of new anti-racism trainers; and the Provincial Synod which took place at Sorrento Centre, September 13–16, largely organized and designed by the Metropolitan, Archbishop Melissa Skelton.

This was also the first Synod Staff Meeting for the Rev. Jessica Schaap who began her ministry as Missioner for Christian Formation on August 1. Mother Jessica has already produced some excellent content for the diocesan

website and other diocesan communications vehicles getting the word out about Christian Formation, what it is and what's available. She is also scheduling information meetings with deaneries and plans to roll out both proprietary custom programs designed in house and existing Christian Formation programs available nationally and internationally recommended by the programming folks of the diocese of New Westminster.

One of the highlights of Staff Meeting is the birthday celebration, and for September the birthdays of the Rev. Tellison Glover, Director for Mission and Ministry Development and Marché Riley, Anglican Archivist were celebrated with the now traditional chocolate ice cream cake, cards and of course the birthday song. ✦



LEFT Mother Jessica at her first Synod Staff Meeting and Amy Thorogood, Building and Grounds Caretaker. MIDDLE The birthday folks, Marché and Tellison. RIGHT September's Chair, Shailene. PHOTOS Randy Murray

### • Covenant in Ministry •

SUBMISSION Wilmer Toyoken

On Sunday, September 9, 2018, St. Michael's, Vancouver (AKA St. Michael's Multicultural) and the Mission to Seafarers solidified what has been an historic and now a growing partnership in mission and ministry with a signed ministry covenant.

The document signed by the parish officers and the ordained leadership of the parish for St. Michael's and by the Senior Port Chaplain on behalf of the Mission to Seafarers is as follows:

#### Partners in Mission • Caring for Seafarers & their Families Why?

Paul's letter to the Philippians teaches us the importance as followers of Jesus of supporting one another with prayer, encouragement and giving.

After consultation and discernment the Mission to Seafarers (MtS) in the Port of Vancouver, BC and the St. Michael's Multicultural Anglican Parish (SMM) in Vancouver, BC have decided to partner in Mission in the care of seafarers and their families.

The purpose of this reciprocal and mutually beneficial partnership is to enable people at SMM to live out their multicultural Christian service as disciples of Jesus, and in so doing broaden and intensify the ability of the Mission to Seafarers to fulfil its mandate through an increase of volunteers.

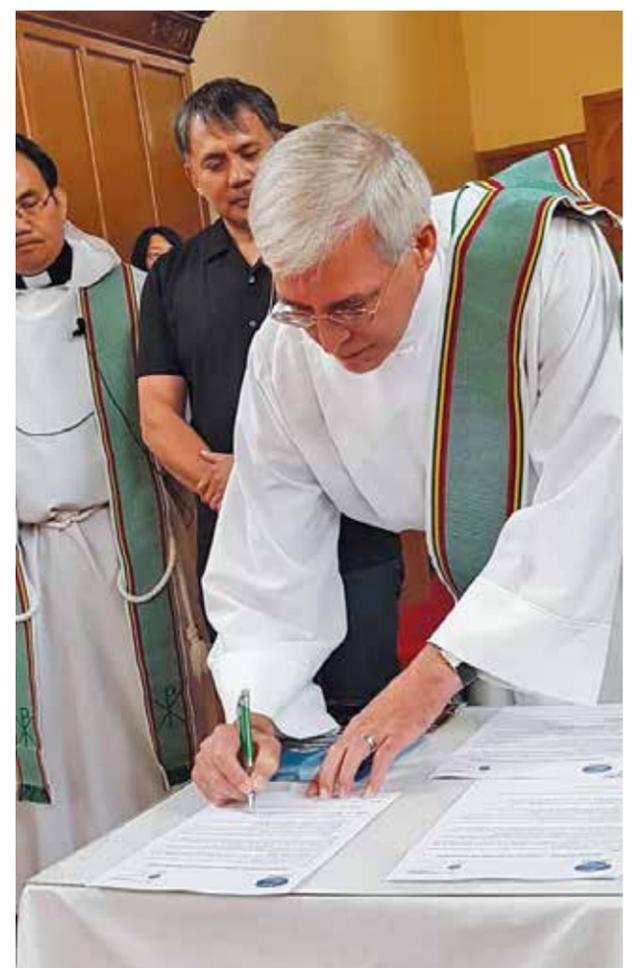
For St. Michael's, this is a return to a ministry that they supported at the turn of the millennium. It has now been institutionalized with this covenant.

#### What?

- The MtS and SMM will jointly explore opportunities where SMM individuals and groups can support seafarers.

- The MtS will orientate, train and equip volunteers.
- The MtS will work to grow awareness of the seafarer amongst the people of St. Michael's and through them to others.
- SMM will support MtS events (Cycling for Seafarers in August, Christmas at Sea, and if possible host an annual fundraiser for the Mission).
- SMM will pray for the Mission, the seafarers and their families.
- SMM will host an annual Sea Sunday service at St. Michael's.
- Representatives from MtS and SMM will meet to plan as needed and to annually review the partnership.

The covenant was signed by churchwardens: James Baldo, ODNW and Moses Kajoba, ODNW; the ordained leaders of the parish, rector, the Rev. Wilmer Toyoken and deacon, the Rev. Eric Stroo and on behalf of Mission to Seafarers, Senior Port Chaplain, the Rev. Peter Smyth. ✦



Rev. Wilmer Toyoken signs the covenant. Left to right: Rev. Peter Smyth, James Baldo, Rev. Eric Stroo, and Moses Kajoba. PHOTO Submitted



Rev. Stroo signs the covenant as Rev. Toyoken and People's Warden James Baldo look on. PHOTO Submitted



Caring for seafarers  
around the world

Seafarers on ships bring us  
90% of all we have.

They face bad weather,  
isolation, loneliness, fatigue  
and long absence  
from family in doing so.

How will you say  
THANK YOU?

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[www.flyingangel.ca/donate](http://www.flyingangel.ca/donate)  
for ideas on how