



The Diocese of Rupert's Land

The Right Reverend Geoffrey Woodcroft
Bishop of Rupert's Land

March 2019

Dear Parish Incumbents and PWRDF Parish representatives

We are delighted to introduce our Diocesan initiative to support PWRDF's work through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank: **Anglican Grow Hope 2019**. This initiative has 3 purposes:

- To grow a crop in Canada to create revenue for the alleviation of hunger around the world through Canadian Foodgrains Bank and its member, PWRDF [Primate's World Relief and Development Fund].
- To engage urban non-farming individuals, families, churches and groups in the farming process and in the alleviation of hunger in the world by inviting them to provide funds to cover the input costs of raising a crop in Canada.
- For non-farmers to learn about farming and food production in Canada, about the challenges of food production and about the people whose lives and health depend on food relief and/or food related development projects.

In other words this project will generate understanding and much needed funds for PWRDF's work through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank around the world, and perhaps more importantly, it will help grow and strengthen relationships among us right here in the Diocese of Rupert's Land.

Chris Lea, a farmer and Anglican priest in the Pembina Hills Parishes, has committed to grow 15 acres of canola this summer. The sale price of the harvest will be deposited in PWRDF's account with Canadian Foodgrains Bank, minus Chris' crop production costs. Members of our Diocese are being asked to raise \$300/acre or \$4,500 to cover those crop production costs for seed, fertilizer, etc. Chris is donating his land, equipment, expertise and time.

There are several ways for you and your parish to get involved in this *Anglican Grow Hope* project.

1. Individuals, your parish as a whole or a group within your parish [Sunday School, youth group, or bible study group, etc.] could **sponsor an acre...donate \$300 to this project**. Individual donations would be made payable to your local parish [with *Anglican Grow Hope* in the memo line] and the parish would forward its donations to the Diocese again with *Grow Hope* clearly in the memo line.

and/or
2. **Your parish could host an *Anglican Grow Hope* event** and/or participate in an Anglican Grow Hope event ~ Three events are already planned:
 - **Saturday, April 13th** at St. Mary Magdalene: Grow Hope Pub Night with Bishop Geoff and The Narwhals;
 - **Sunday, April 28th**, St. Peter's is hosting a Jazz Vespers service;
 - **Sunday, June 9th**, St. Luke's, Pembina Crossing is hosting a rogation service to bless the Anglican Grow Hope acreage. This was a very special time last year and we're hoping as many people as possible can make this journey.

Diocesan Office: 935 Nesbitt Bay, Winnipeg, MB Canada R3T 1W6
Bishop's Office: (204)992-4212 General Office: (204) 992-4200 Fax: (204) 992-4219
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Please follow our Diocesan PWRDF Facebook page for details of upcoming events. If you host an event please let the organizing team know so we can publicize it.

and/or

3. Your parish or parish group can learn more about this project, PWRDF, and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank by inviting one of the members of our organizing team to come and speak and/or by exploring any of the worship and/or educational resources on the PWRDF and Canadian Foodgrains Bank websites. They both have good resources for Sunday School and youth groups.

We are a richly blessed agricultural Diocese. This Anglican Grow Hope project is a splendid way to grow relationships and understanding within our Diocese as well as to support PWRDF's food, agriculture and livelihood work through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Know that any money donated to this project grows *twice*: once through the work of sun, soil, rain and Chris' work; and then again, with 4 to 1 matching dollars by the Canadian Government for international food relief programs run through Canadian Foodgrains Bank's supporting programs. Your dollar is not just a dollar, it can grow and accomplish more than we can ask or imagine.

The Diocesan Council commends the Grow Hope program to parishes of Rupert's Land and encourages members and parishes to become involved in this project. We encourage you and your parish to explore this opportunity for mission, learning and fun.

Last year we together raised \$14,588!! May God richly bless this initiative again this year through your enthusiastic support and prayers. Indeed, may there be abundant crops for all to share.

Yours in faith,



The Rt. Rev. Geoffrey Woodcroft,
Bishop of Rupert's Land

Diocesan Anglican Grow Hope Organizing Team [a sub-committee of our Diocesan PWRDF Committee:

Chris, Leianne and Jonathan Lea – St. Luke's, Pembina Crossing

Tanis Thiessen – St. Michael's and All Angels

**Margaret Clarke – St. Peter's mclarke@mymts.net*

**Colin Dorrian – St. Peter's cadorrian@mymts.net*

Mary Fardoe – St. Paul's, Fort Garry

Abid Munir – St. Mary Magdalene

Lynn Doyle – St. Bartholmew

**Cathy Campbell – PWRDF representative on CFGB's Board campbellmcnab@hotmail.ca*

** available to speak about the project and answer [or redirect] your questions.*

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