

Area Council News  
September 2009

We had a good meeting in Port Hope in September and talked about a number of things that are happening in our parishes:

Some parishes in the Rice Lake area have been reflecting further on their work on a Fresh Expressions workshop in the spring held in Campbellford. They have begun a knitting group, some of which are not church-goers. However, those who do not go to church have begun work with prayer shawls and see the benefits of this kind of ministry. It is good to see even these small beginnings to something new that could bring renewal to this part of the Diocese.

St Paul's in Beaverton hosted a dinner for some of the Mexican workers in their area. In fact, the Rev'd Hernan Astudillo from San Lorenzo, a Spanish speaking congregation in Toronto, came out to celebrate eucharist with them. It was a fun event for all and may turn into a weekly ministry and opportunity to sponsor ESL classes for some of the workers, as well as an opportunity for members of the parish to learn a bit of Spanish. This ministry of hospitality has meant a great deal to both the workers and St Paul's.

We heard a proposal to seek funding for a Youth Social Justice Co-ordinator. This would be a pulling together of youth work and the work of the social justice committee. The hope is that this new position would help to network with youth leaders in the Area and come to local parishes to assist the local ministries.

We also looked at funding a project to hire a youth worker to assist the parishes of the Rice Lake area. This is something new for these parishes, who are looking at innovative ways to work together in ministry projects.

And what is coming up?

October 23-25, will be the weekend when Christian Harvey will be going with the youth to Ottawa to encourage political leaders on climate change.