
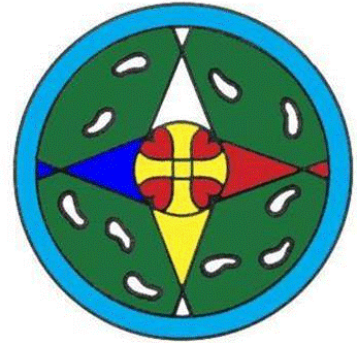


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A black and white portrait of a woman, likely a historical figure, shown from the chest up. She has dark hair pulled back and is wearing a dark, high-collared garment. The portrait is enclosed in an oval frame.

gospel to this land. In the years that followed Mr. Budd established Christ Church and several other missions along the Saskatchewan. Christian ministry in the Anglican tradition has lived on in the area and next year we will celebrate this major milestone in our community.



The Rev. Verna Jebb

May, 1989



Verna and Primate Michael Peers - 1990

## Celebrating the Life of the Rev. Verna Jebb

Verna Jebb along with Priscilla and Tom Constant were the first students at Henry Budd College in 1980. She has been a student here ever since.

To earn a diploma required a tremendous amount of study and commitment. In addition to her studies and raising her five children Verna also worked in the church first in a lay ministry capacity and later as a deacon and then a priest. By taking one course at a time and attending Winter Term at Cook College in Arizona, Verna, along with several others was awarded the Diploma in Ministry in 1990. For Verna this was not the end of her studies.

When the Master of Divinity became available through Vancouver School of Theology Native Ministries Program Verna again picked up the books. This involved a combination of extension courses here in The Pas along with two weeks each year at Summer School in Vancouver. At the time Verna became ill she had just a few papers left to complete and her final integration project to do. She was unable to finish her studies. VST awarded the M. Div. to Verna posthumously at Convo-

cation on May 5 this year.

Over the course of her career, Verna served in several parishes in this diocese as well as in the diocese of Keewatin. This list includes Moose Lake, OCN, Grand Rapids, Easterville, Wabowden, Sapotawayak, Town of Gillam, and Fox Lake (Keewatin).

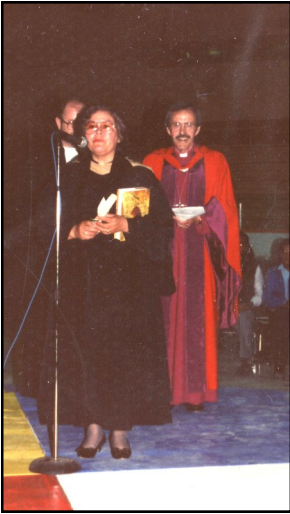
In addition to exercising her vocation in the church Verna worked for community organizations as well. She served at a healing centre in Fox Lake. She was an addictions counsellor at Rosaire House, a residential treatment centre in The Pas. Her final position was as Chaplain at The Pas Correctional Centre where she was well respected by inmates and staff alike. One of the highlights of Verna's life was a trip to the Fiji Islands as part of an Anglican Mission. She also travelled all over northern Manitoba and northwestern Ontario attending Gospel Jamborees, preaching, teaching, and ministering to those she encountered.

Verna passed away peacefully with her family by her side, Saturday, March 15, 2014 at the Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre, at the age of



60 years. Her celebration of life was held March 21, 2014 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Cathedral (the largest church in the community). Bp. Jim Njegovan presided and Bp. Mark MacDonald preached. She leaves to mourn her husband, Michael, son Michael Jr. (Lorette), daughters Rema (Phillip) Head, Tanya (Jerry-Ron) Campbell, Ronald (William) Grey, and Evelyn (Harvey) Scott. She will be missed by her many grandchildren and one great grandchild. Verna was passionate about ministry, her education and teaching others. In her memory we welcome donations to the Henry Budd College Bursary Fund which supports our students to attend Summer School at Vancouver School of Theology, the only fully accredited school in Canada that offers an M.Div. by extension for Indigenous students from around the world.





The Ven. Lydia Constant  
Graduation 1990

*"One of the big learnings for me has been to walk in two cultures. It has been very challenging and I have grown to like it."*

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## Celebrating the Ministry of Lydia Constant

Thirty years ago a very timid Lydia Constant set foot inside the doors of the Henry Budd Christian Training Centre as it was known in 1984. Revs. Bruce and Alyson Barnett-Cowan were the directors of the day. Lydia came at the invitation of her friends Priscilla and Tom Constant who were in their third year of study. As Lydia says, she just came to take a look. As Lydia wrote in the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book, she "found something that gave her comfort and solace in a time of personal distress" and so she persisted in her studies. Four years later she was ordained.

In 1990 Lydia was invited to join the staff on a three month contract. She has been here ever since. Besides being a faculty member Lydia has held a number of other positions in the church and community. She has served as a hospital chaplain and Territorial Archdeacon of The Pas and has held numerous volunteer roles in the Anglican Church.

For thirty years Lydia exercised a unique community ministry as a bus driver for Opaskwayak Educational Authority. Every school day Lydia would rise early in the morning to get her charges safely to school. After school she would make the return journey delivering the children home to their parents. All this bouncing around in a school bus over unpaved roads took a serious toll on Lydia's back and in 2007 she was forced to go on medical leave from both the bus driving and the college while she awaited and then recovered from back surgery. It was a lonely couple of years for us as Lydia was not part of our everyday life and work.

When Lydia retired we were not prepared to let her go, and so created the position of College Elder which she has held since the summer of 2010. Lydia still teaches from time to time when the need arises and there is a course that appeals to her. As Elder, Lydia works as much in the community as she does in the office ministering and supporting others in ministry as the needs arise.



Lydia in her office

Although no longer driving a school bus Lydia has maintained her contact with the children spending her mornings in a classroom as an elder. Since Sept. 2013 Lydia has been offering a very special ministry to the elementary school on OCN providing classes in basic Christian teaching.

On April 20 the Ven. Lydia Constant celebrated her 70th birthday and we celebrated and feasted with her family that afternoon. On June 14 we celebrated and feasted once again with Lydia's larger family of the church and college.



Lydia cuts her cake

Lydia tells us that she wants to slow down and eventually retire but we don't see much evidence of a slow down. It will be a sad day for the College and the Deanery when Lydia does hang up her stole and put away her books for the last time. Paul and I are hoping that day does not come very soon.

Lydia Constant has been a friend, mentor, and teacher for us in the decade we have been at the College. We deeply value her friendship and her wisdom and rejoice in her gifts to us, the College, the Deanery and Diocese.

## After