

THE SAN JOAQUIN ANGLICAN

The Bishop's Corner

The Right Reverend Eric Vawter Menees

Alleluia, Christ is Risen! The Lord is Risen, indeed, Alleluia! We began our Easter Service with those words. They are Joyful words, Amazing words, Assertive words, Confident words and Powerful words. Our Easter acclamation runs completely contrary to the mindset of the world around us which seeks to avoid certainty or bold speech with regards to anything religious.

Why is that? Why is our culture so passive and reserved about faith? Why are WE so passive and reserved about our faith? The answers to that question are as numerous as there are people but ultimately we have, as a people, shied away because we don't want to be divisive, we don't want to bring any controversy to our relationships and if anything certitude brings controversy certitude.

I think that's why in 2011 the great "Easter" movie (Hop) was not about Jesus – not about the Resurrection – not about forgiveness – it's about an "Easter Bunny" who rebels against his father not wanting to take up the task of traveling around the world distributing his jelly beans and chocolate eggs to deserving children, instead he wants to be a rock-n-roll drummer.

However, it doesn't have to be that way. Jesus gave his life for all those who would put their trust in Him, seek His forgiveness and invite Him to be Lord of their life. The reward for that invitation is everlasting life with God in heaven. Can't we stomach a little controversy given that sacrifice and that reward?

(Continued on page 4)

BISHOP'S SCHEDULE AND DIOCESAN CALENDAR

April 7 - Sequoia Deanery Meeting,
St. Paul's Visalia 3 p.m.

April 13 – DOK Assembly,
St John's, Stockton

April 14 – Bishop at St John's,
Stockton

April 20 – Anglican 4th Day,
St Luke's, Merced

April 21 – Bishop at St James', Sonora

April 26-27 – Diocesan Altar Guild
Conference,
St Luke's, Merced

April 28 – Bishop at St Philip's,
Coalinga

April 29-May 1 – Clergy Conference
at ECCO

Upcoming in May:

May 3-5 – Well South Youth Retreat
at St Mark's, Shafter

From “*History of the Diocese of San Joaquin*” ...

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ST. PAUL’S, VISALIA

Visalia is located on the delta of the Kaweah River, which drains Sequoia National Park watershed. The dependable supply of water made it a choice and desirable location for settlement, both by Indians and whites. The first white settler was John Wood, who settled eight miles east of present Visalia in 1850, but was driven out a few months later. Nathaniel Vise and his brother came soon after, and in 1851, they gave a quarter section of land for a town-site named for themselves, with a mock-Spanish twist, Vise+alia. When the vast original County of Mariposa (encompassing most of the San Joaquin Valley) was subdivided, Visalia was selected as County Seat for Tulare County in 1853. At the time, it was the only Anglo settlement between Stockton and Los Angeles.



In 1855, the Kern River Gold Rush brought many from the north through the town, and some discovered that their farming skills could be put to good use more easily than they could extract gold at Havilah, for that required heavy machinery, not hand tools as at the Mother Lode. The remoteness of Visalia in those days was not conducive to industry; cattle were the chief product, until 1874, when farmers were given preferential rights by the “No Fence Law,” making cattlemen responsible for keeping their livestock on the range. At first Visalia rejected the offers of railroad builders, who therefore bypassed the town and started Tulare; but a spur line was extended to Visalia in 1869. Visalia’s prosperity began with that extension.

The first church services were held in the frontier town by W.C. Powell and Elias Birdsall on exploratory trips around 1876. When D.O. Kelley made his first journey through the valley in June, 1879, he spent the 15th and 22nd in Fresno, then went to Visalia and Tulare before going on to Bakersfield for the 29th. On Tuesday, June 24, he was in Visalia and conducted an evening service for about 20 people. By the Spring of 1880, when Bishop Kip visited all of Fr. Kelley’s new missions, there was one Confirmation candidate in Visalia, and some 80 people attended on Wednesday, April 14. The “Tulare County Mission” (St. John’s) was then organized, including Hanford and Lemoore, as well as Tulare and Visalia (Kings’ County was created in 1893. Hanford soon became a separate mission, and the Tulare County Mission was reorganized in December, 1886. The Vicar of Hanford, however, was the priest-in-charge. St. Paul’s traces its formal organization to February 9, 1887.

The Rev. C.S. Linsley, resident in Hanford, was in charge of Visalia from 1887 to 1892, and again from 1895 to 1896. Services were held sometimes in a former Presbyterian building, or the Odd Fellows’ Hall, sometimes in private homes. The Visalians had an altar and lectern (from Trinity Parish, San Francisco), which were faithfully taken wherever the service might be held. John Waterman was Vicar of Tulare County from 1892 to 1895. During that time Mr. Elias Jacob donated a lot on North Church Street at North East Avenue, and the congregation collected funds to build a first church, completed in 1894. Waterman worked side-by-side with the carpenters until late the night before the arrival of Bishop Nichols, in order to finish the ceiling. The pews gleamed with fresh varnish the next day, but it was recorded that “many a new dress and suit received a lasting mark at that time. Certainly the adhesive quality of the Episcopal faith was clearly demonstrated!”

A quick succession of priests followed: William Hart, 1898; C.M. Westlake, 1899; Archdeacon Scriven of Canada, in the winter of 1900; H.L. Badger, 1901; William Burns, 1903. Despite his brief stay, Westlake had the church building moved to the corner of Encina and Center Streets. The Rev. Hubert C. Carroll remained from 1904 until 1908, and was followed by Lee A. Wood, Sr. They “did especially fine work” building up the congregation and facilities. A rectory and parish house were erected; the latter was opened by Bishop Nichols on January 16, 1910. The church size was nearly doubled in 1909. Seeing that Visalia’s young people had no place of their own, Fr. Wood opened the parish hall to them for dances. At once the place was dubbed “The Episcopal Dance Hall” by scandalized Protestants. Fr. Wood later resigned Visalia to devote his efforts at Porterville in 1911.

Another period of rapid changes followed just as San Joaquin became a new jurisdiction: W.H. Webb, September 1911 to October 1912; W.D. Williams, September 1913 to September 1914; J.F. Hamaker, September 1914 to March 1915. More stable leadership was required, so Visalia was once again placed under the charge of Fr. Wood, assisted by two clergymen, covering all of Tulare County. It was evidently a depressing time. In 1916, the Rev. R.A. Griesser came. After two years, the mission listed 30 communicants in good standing out of 70 on the records. It was Fr. Griesser’s opinion that, since the membership had hit rock bottom, it was a matter of necessity and pride for the members to strengthen the bonds that drew them together. Nevertheless, things continued to decline. In 1920, Bishop Sanford assumed the debt on the building. That brought about a response. The Vestry considered themselves morally bound to take care of

Continued on page 9



Plans for 2013

Fr. Martin will return to Laos this month to continue his work with discipling house church leaders and overseeing the manioc crop at Jacob's Farm. Rose has finished being evaluated by medical specialists and is relieved that she needs no surgery or further testing. She will remain in Fresno to help care for grandchildren as the Bunsy's daughter finishes her accelerated nursing program.

Financial accounting for Lao Mission Project for 2012

Please see tables below for records for the two Lao Mission Project accounts maintained at the Diocese of San Joaquin:

“Jacob's Farm Account” for farm related expenses, and

“Lao Ministry M. Bunsy Account” for school and health insurance related expenses.

(Please note that the Diocese does not collect contributions towards the Bunsy's personal support).

Praise God for generous contributions in 2012. 2013 started with a surplus that will go towards the Bunsy's monthly health insurance premiums (which increased since last July from \$552 to \$767) and towards \$3900 that remains to be paid on last year's deductible charges.

Personal support

The Bunsy's food, housing, travel, and living expenses are covered by donations to Lao Mission Project through Global Teams. The Bunsys always greatly appreciate contributions towards their personal support. For details see the Global Teams website at www.global-teams.net

Jacob's Farm Account Diocese of San Joaquin, Year 2012	
Opening Balance 1/1/12	\$4,899.00
Donations	\$275.00
Expenses	0
Ending Balance 12/31/12	\$5,174.00

Lao Ministry M. Bunsy Account Diocese of San Joaquin, Year 2012	
Opening Balance 1/1/12	\$10,448.00
Donations	\$19,239.00
Donation: Matching Grant	\$15,000.00
Anthem Blue Cross Premiums 2012	-\$6,944.00
St. Agnes Medical Center payment	-\$1,640.00
Check for Martin Bunsy *	-\$10,000.00
Cash for Money Gram to Laos*	-\$8,440.00
Cash for Money Gram to Laos	-\$620.00
ECCO, clergy retreat cost	-\$186.00
Closing Balance 12/31/12	\$16,857.00
*See December 2012 Newsletter for details	

Anglican Prayer Radio
AM 1410 Keri Christian Radio
“Real – Deep – True”

At Anglican Prayer Radio our mission is prayer, “Joining our hearts to God, and joining His heart to us”. Our radio show is a ministry of St. Luke’s Anglican Church, Bakersfield CA, and is on the air every weeknight at 10:30pm, immediately following the Focus on the Family show. Essentially we desired to format a show that could join the whole of the community of Bakersfield in prayer. As Anglicans, we very naturally have a vehicle available to do just that in the Liturgy of the Daily Office. Since the show is on late in the evening, we are using Evening Prayer and Compline to gather the greater community in worship. Anglicans who have their own prayer books are invited to join in at home. Those listeners who do not have access to a Prayer Book, or maybe don’t even have a clue about what a Prayer Book is, are invited to log on to our website, anglican-prayerradio.com, there they will find the liturgy available. In this manner we are able to introduce the beauty of Anglican liturgical prayer to the greater community which surrounds us.



Continuing further with our heart for prayer, on each show we take time to pray for the specific prayer requests that we have received. Listeners are offered the opportunity to submit prayer requests, and can do so on the website. In addition, they can sign up to be part of our prayer ministry team, who receive a weekly update on requests for intercession. Finally, we close each show with a prayer for Bakersfield. Sponsors and local clergy are invited to come in and record this closing prayer. All in all we seek to follow the admonitions of our Lord Jesus and the Holy Scriptures that in all times and all ways to pray.

In order to round out the week and provide some variation, Thursday night hosts “The Midweek Message”, which is in fact the sermon from the previous Sunday recorded at St. Luke’s. On Friday, Jenny Estes hosts “The Jenny Notes”, reflections on spiritual and devotional readings. Jenny, as you may know, is an avid reader who devours and synthesizes serious spiritual writings. Both evenings conclude with Compline.

I hope you may have an opportunity to check out Anglican Prayer Radio. The previous weeks’ shows are also online at the website, so you can listen in. Who knows, perhaps God will call you to begin an Anglican Prayer Radio show in your town as well.

Blessings to All,
Fr. Jack Estes

The Bishop’s Corner (Cont. from page 1)

My prayer this Easter Season is that we in the Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin will, in fact, proclaim that Resurrection for the mountain tops and from our front porches – at the gas station and the work place and the dinner table.

Alleluia Christ is Risen! The Lord is Risen indeed!

(From AnglicanInk.com)

Anglican accolades for Francis I

Justin Welby greets the 265th successor of St. Peter
ARTICLE | MARCH 13, 2013 - 7:21PM | BY GEORGE CON-
GER

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has offered his congratulations to Francis I, the first Latin American and first Jesuit pope.

Francis' election is "of great significance to Christians everywhere, not least among Anglicans. We have long since recognised—and often reaffirmed—that our churches hold a special place for one another. I look forward to meeting Pope Francis, and to walking and working together to build on the consistent legacy of our predecessors. May the love of Christ unite us, and intensify our service in a genuine and fruitful ecumenism that can be a blessing for the Body of Christ throughout the world," Archbishop Welby said.

Dressed in white the 76 year old former cardinal archbishop of Buenos Aires Jorge Mario Bergoglio greeted the crowds at 8:22 pm on 13 March 2013 stating: "Fratelli e sorelle, buonasera!" (Brothers and sisters, good evening)

"I would like to thank you for your embrace," he said to the crowds before St. Peter's Basilica. "My brother cardinals have chosen one who is from far away, but here I am."

Born in Buenos Aires in 1936, the new pope is the son of Italian immigrants from Turin and has four brothers and sisters. As a young man he trained to be a chemist but in 1958 he entered the Society of Jesus. After studies in Argentina and Germany he taught literature, psychology and philosophy in Buenos Aires. From 1973 to 1979 he served as the Jesuit provincial in Argentina, then in 1980 became the rector of the seminary from which he had graduated.

During the reign of the military junta in Argentina in the 1970s Fr. Bergoglio fought against the political radicalization of the clergy and required Jesuits to work as parish priests and chaplains rather than become involved in "base communities" and political activism.

In 1992 he was named auxiliary bishop of Buenos Aires and succeeded Cardinal Antonio Quarracino as Archbishop in 1998. John Paul II made Bergoglio a cardinal in 2001. In 2005 the Italian press reported that he ran second to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger in that the papal election.

An ally of the *Comunione e Liberazione* movement founded by Italian Fr. Luigi Giussani, Bergoglio has been identified with the *ciellini* — church conservatives — in opposition to his Jesuit confrere in Milan, Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini.

The new pope Bergoglio has held to the church's traditional teachings on issues of sexual morality, staunchly opposing abortion, same-sex marriage, and contraception. Argentina's President, Cristina Fernández de Kirchner publicly rebuked him in 2010 after he said that gay adoption was a form of discrimination against children.

However the Argentine Archbishop has been an outspoken advocate for the poor. Upon his appointment as archbishop he took up residence in a small flat sharing it with a retired bishop, rather than live in the Archbishop's Palace.

"We live in the most unequal part of the world, which has grown the most yet reduced misery the least," Bergoglio said during a gathering of Latin American bishops in 2007. "The unjust distribution of goods persists, creating a situation of social sin that cries out to Heaven and limits the possibilities of a fuller life for so many of our brothers."

In his statement, Archbishop Welby said:

"Pope Francis is well known as a compassionate pastor of real stature who has served the poor in Latin America, and whose simplicity and holiness of life is remarkable. He is an evangelist, sharing the love of Christ which he himself knows. His choice of the name Francis suggests that he wants to call us all back to the transformation that St Francis knew and brought to the whole of Europe, fired by contemplation and closeness to God. "As I begin tomorrow a prayer pilgrimage toward my own inauguration as Archbishop in Canterbury next Thursday, Pope Francis will be much in my own prayers, as he will be throughout the coming months and years." The presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, Katharine Jeffers Schori, was less effusive. "The Episcopal Church will pray for the new Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis I, and for the possibility of constructive dialogue and cooperation between our Churches."





10th Annual Easter Sunrise Service

St. Francis of Assisi Outdoor Chapel at ECCO

Sunday, March 31, 2013 at 6:30 a.m.

Breakfast follows service - \$11 per person

Reservations required for breakfast No reservations required for Easter Sunrise Service

Opera at Oakhurst

April 11-15, 2013

If you still mean to sign up for this annual event, now running 18 years, please call Kristen to check availability.

This year we will be exploring the romantic voice of the opera with Professor Simon Williams. For more information call 559-683-8162.

Spring Clergy Retreat April 29- May 1, 2013

The retreat will be led by Bishop Eric Menees

Retreat begins with registration at 4 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. on Monday and ends after Breakfast on Wednesday.

Per person pricing for 2 nights, 5 meals if registered before April 22nd:

Double & Quad \$89 Day Use \$66

Private rooms are available on a case by case basis at the rate of \$132

Any registrations received after April 22nd will pay full price.

Mothers Day High Tea

May 12, 2013 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Treat Mom to a fun filled day at ECCO, where we will be serving three courses of tasty goodies and delicious tea!

Course One: Savories Assorted Fingertip Sandwiches including; Egg Salad, Cucumber, Tuna and Chicken Salad

Asparagus Puffs, Mini Quiche, Sausage Rolls

Course Two: Scones & Breads Warm Fresh Baked Scones with Homemade Jam and Devonshire Cream Blueberry Muffins and Banana Nut Bread

Course Three: Sweets & Desserts Fresh Seasonal Fruit, a variety of Fresh Baked Sweets and Handmade Chocolate Truffles

Your choice of Fresh Brewed Hot Tea, Coffee, Iced Tea and lemonade

\$15 per person Reserve a table of 8 for the price of 7 Raffle Items

--Reservations Required--

All listed ECCO programs have an online registration option found at www.ecco Yosemite.org. You may also call 559-683-8162. We hope to see you soon!

“The Well” (South) Youth Retreat/Conference May 3-5 ...

Youth retreat for 7-12th grades

The Well

@ St. Mark's Anglican Church, Shafter
May 3-5 2013

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Where do you draw your water?

*“whoever drinks of the water that I will
give him will never be thirsty again.”
John 4:14*

Sponsored by the
Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin

For any questions or more information contact:
Fr. Paul Gibbons @ 559-732-4821
gibbonsv@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/spvisalia

... is headed up by Fr. Paul & April Gibbons and ably served by Kevin & Cody Ganger, Christina Raines, Nicholas Raines, Corey & Natalie McLaughlin. The vision that Bishop Menees laid out for the team is to reinvigorate youth ministry in the parish by providing youth leadership training that will provide a life changing encounter with Jesus Christ, equip young leaders for service in their parishes and provide a spark for new youth ministry across the diocese.

The four pillars of this ministry will be focused around four “retreats/conferences” - The Well (South & North) are weekends for youth grades 7-12 and will be held in the Spring and Fall alternating between the South and North ends of the diocese. Summer will see the reconfiguration of Camp H2O and the winter will see the forming of a new gathering for College & Young Adults.

The first gathering will be The Well South on May 3-5 at St. Mark's, Shafter. This will be an exciting and refreshing weekend around the theme “Where do you draw your water?” based on the Gospel of John and Jesus' encounter with the Woman at the Well. **SO SAVE THE DATE AND ENCOURAGE YOUR YOUTH TO ATTEND.** Questions? We have answers - email Fr. Paul Gibbons at GibbonsV@gmail.com.

Francis I a friend to Argentine Anglicans

Bishop Gregory Venables offers praise for the new pope
ARTICLE | MARCH 13, 2013 - 8:09PM | BY GEORGE CONGER



The Bishop of Argentina and former primate of the Iglesia Anglicana del Cono Sur (Anglican Church of the Southern Cone), the Most Rev. Greg Venables, has applauded the election of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio saying the Argentine Archbishop is a devout Christian and friend to Anglicans, who has stood in solidarity with the poor against government corruption and social engineering.

In a note released after the election of the new Pope, Francis I, on March 13 Bishop Venables wrote:

“Many are asking me what Jorge Bergoglio is really like. He is much more of a Christian, Christ centered and Spirit filled, than a mere churchman. He believes the Bible as it is written. I have been with him on many occasions and he always makes me sit next to him and invariably makes me take part and often do what he as Cardinal should have done. He is consistently humble and wise, outstandingly gifted yet a common man. He is no fool and speaks out very quietly yet clearly when necessary. He called me to have breakfast with him one morning and told me very clearly that the Ordinariate was quite unnecessary and that the church needs us as Anglicans. I consider this to be an inspired appointment not because he is a close and personal friend but because of who he is In Christ. Pray for him.”



In 2010 Bishop Venables joined forces with Cardinal Bergoglio to fight a government bill authorizing same-sex marriage. Cardinal Bergoglio denounced the move saying “this is no mere legislative bill. It is a move by the father of lies to confuse and deceive the children of God.” President Cristina Fernández responded by saying the cardinal’s statement was “really reminiscent of the times of the Inquisition,” and argued that the proposed law “recognizes a pre-existent reality” and “the rights of minorities.”

The night before the vote, Catholic and Evangelical leaders organized a march upon the Congress building in Buenos Aires. Over 60,000 protesters waived orange flags and held aloft placards denouncing the bill while a statement released by march organizers declared, “we won’t vote for politicians who vote for the marriage of homosexuals.”

On 30 June 2010 church leaders testified before the Senate’s legal committee against the proposed law. Bishop Venables urged legislators to reject the government’s bill. Expanding the definition of marriage to include same-sex couples would shake and divide the nation, he said.

“If you take the Old and New Testaments” it is plain that “God foresaw marriage as being for a man and a woman.” The Biblical text “leaves no possibility of marriage as anything else,” the bishop said, for marriage is the “sign of the union of Christ and his Church.”

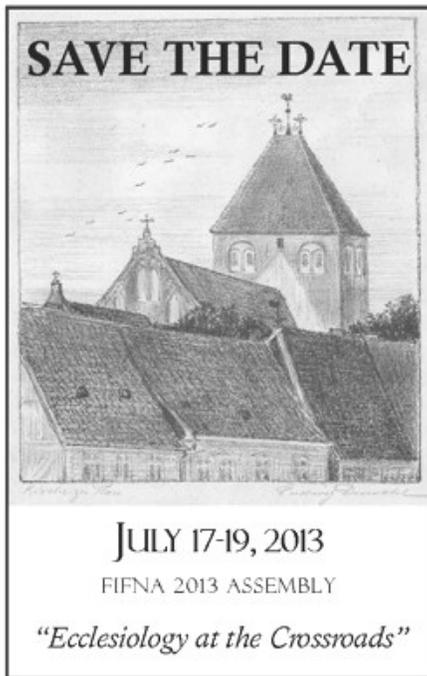
“I can only bless what God blesses” (Yo sólo puedo bendecir lo que Dios bendice), Bishop Venables told the Senate, urging them to take heed to the views of the “86 per cent of the country that is Christian”, adding that the government had been wrong not to consult with the people before it began its political push for gay marriage.

Political analysts in Argentina note the battle over gay marriage has little to do with the intrinsic issues, but is part of a wider political battle between President Fernández and her husband, former President Nestor Kirchner, against the Catholic Church.

The Catholic Church has been sharply critical of the government’s failures to address corruption and poverty. The split with the church was evident when President Fernández broke a long-held presidential tradition by missing the Te Deum Mass for Argentina’s 2010 Independence Day. Argentina’s constitution designates Roman Catholicism as the country’s official religion.

“Kirchner’s epic vision of politics and his need to turn every issue into a mortal combat have driven him to seek the defeat of [Cardinal] Bergoglio and the church,” said Joaquin Morales Sola, a columnist at the conservative La Nacion newspaper.

“Kirchner doesn’t care about the gay community,” said opposition leader Elisa Carrio of the Coalicion Cívica party. “Kirchner is using the gay-marriage issue to take on Bergoglio,” she said.



Assembly 2013 -It's time to Register!

FIFNA ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

July 17-19, 2013

Where: National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL (St. Louis area -Lambert Airport)

Theme: ECCLESIOLOGY AT THE CROSSROADS

Speaker: Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, President of OXTRAD (Oxford Centre for Training, Research, Advocacy and Dialogue) and 106th Bishop of Roch-

ester (UK)

Registration form: (See following page)

Registration fee: \$300 per person or \$500 for two sharing a room (*Includes registration, room for two nights and meals*)



History of St. Paul's, Visalia (Cont. from page 2)

the debt, as an example to their children and future generations. In twelve months the church was debt-free. Bishop Sanford had the satisfaction of consecrating the property. The Vestry then asked that he use the repaid funds to aid some other mission in need of assistance.

At the annual meeting of 1921, the Treasurer reported that St. Paul's Mission had been self-supporting for 1920. The Vicar then suggested that a request be sent to the Bishop asking that St. Paul's be accorded Parish status. On December 6, 1921, the Bishop responded favorably to their request. Griesser resigned in 1923. The Vestry then called the Rev. Dr. Philip Grouchy (sic) Snow of Troy, N.Y., to be the next Rector. Although he made many house calls (119 in three months), finances became a matter of grave concern once again. In debate, reducing the Rector's salary was suggested as a means to economize. Dr. Snow objected, and requested that other means should be investigated. The Vestry agreed to allow him to seek other methods to secure funds "as long as the dignity of the Church was not involved in the hunt." What means he found is not reported. By the end of 1928 he had retired to Long Beach. St. Paul's was returned to Mission status.



(...to be continued)

ECCLESIOLOGY AT THE CROSSROADS

FIFNA'S 2013 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Cost: \$300 per person or \$500/two sharing a room
(Includes registration, room for two nights and meals)

Total Enclosed:\$ _____ Single room/ I'm sharing a room with: _____

Payment method: Check # _____ Credit card: MC/VISA/DISC /I've paid online at fifna.org

CC # _____ Expires: _____
(Not needed if paid online)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Home Parish: _____ Jurisdiction _____
(ACNA, MDAS, TEC, etc.)

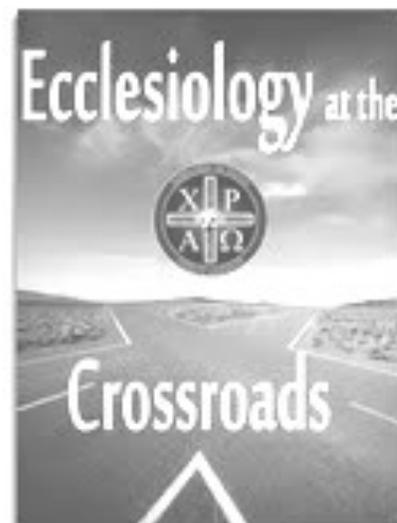
Any special needs (physical or dietary)? _____

Please accept my donation toward registration scholarships: _____

P.O. Box 210248
Bedford, TX 76095-7248
Email: Julia.Smead@fifna.org
Questions? Call 800-225-3661

Please mail or scan/email this form and payment to:

Forward in Faith, North America
P.O. Box 210248
Bedford, TX 76095-7248
Email: Julia.Smead@fifna.org
Questions? Call 800-225-3661



Anglican 1000: The 1, 2, 3 Challenge

Our Archbishop, Robert Duncan, in response to a vision given to him by our Lord, challenged us in the ACNA to plant 1000 in 5 years. In the past three years, many have responded, and amazingly, over 220 new works have come to life! But how to hit the 1000 mark??? Each 1 congregation in the ACNA is now being challenged to plant a new work in the next 2 years using one of 3 models (to learn more: <http://anglican1000.org/123-challenge>). Bishop Eric also called the clergy at the Mass of Chrism to accept the 1, 2, 3 challenge and begin praying about it.

Before we look at the steps that are already being taken to move forward, let's reflect for a moment on timing. With lawsuits hanging over our heads and some of our brothers and sisters preparing to leave their properties, our great temptation will be to circle the wagons rather than move outward. Yet we must always counter our logic with God's Word. In the Gospels we clearly see our Lord Jesus calling us outward to bring the offer of new life to the nations, which includes instructing believers in the pattern of Christ's life (Matt. 28:18-20). To focus solely then on the discipleship of those who are already members (i.e. circling the wagons), while necessary and understandable, would be to neglect Christ's call to "go out", as His ambassadors, to share the good news with those who are dying spiritually to hear it.



Bishop Eric and SJ delegation at AIK Summit

We all know that God's timing, though not always in line with what appears logical to us, is what really matters. In Romans, Paul reflects on the reality that unless a person hears the good news of Jesus from someone sent out to share it, he/she will remain stuck in bad news (Rom. 10:14-15). Could it be that God is providing us with a tremendous opportunity to partner in His mission in a new way now? Perhaps we are being sent out, not only to relocate in some cases, but to creatively find ways to share the gospel in our communities and invite people to become followers of Jesus? I strongly believe this is the case and why the 1, 2, 3 challenge needs our steady and fervent prayers.

Let's return to what our diocese is specifically doing now to move forward with the challenge. The Bishop has appointed Christina Raines as a diocesan intern who will be focusing on starting a new work at Fresno State. Bishop Eric and Fr. Antonio have begun a partnership with the Instituto San Pablo out of Chicago for equipping Hispanic lay leaders to minister and begin new works. The Bishop has also appointed me as the diocese's Church Planting Coordinator. My role will be to assist the Bishop in trying to provide resources and training to equip and encourage planting in the diocese, and I will need your help and prayers. Many of you have gifts, passion, and vital experience we need to move forward. Please contact me if you would like to help out.

In Christ, Fr. Mark Hall

ANGLICAN 4TH DAY NEWS

2013 Meeting Schedule – all meetings the 3rd Saturday of each month, except Dec.

April 20th – St. Luke’s, Merced

May 18th – St. Jude’s, Tehachapi

June 15th – St. Mary’s, Fresno

July 20th – St. Paul’s, Bakersfield

August 17th – St. Jude’s, Tehachapi

September 21st – St. Michael’s, Ridgecrest

October 19th – St. Mary’s, Fresno

November 16th – St. Luke’s, Merced

(All Meetings: Secretariat at 10 AM; Lunch at 11:30; Ultreya at 1 PM)



Please be in prayer for our Movement. We desire to offer this wonderful discipleship tool to all who will come!!

In Christ,

Christine Miller, 4th Day Lay Director
(4thdaylvr@gmail.com)

Betrayal: Simon Says to Judas

“Before the rooster crows twice, you will disown me three times.” (Mark 14:72)

“Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8)

The prowling lion leapt on me too, brother,
from behind the courtyard shadows. Deep within,
they stripped him bare with rips and jeers.
Light from a charcoal fire unmasked me:

“With him,” she said. “With that *Nazarene*.”

The echo of their taunts and the fist falls
reached my ears—“Prophecy! *Prophecy!*”—
and the heavy blows I’d have rather born.
For me, these sharp stabs from a girl’s tongue:

“One of *them*.” “*He* is one of *them*.”

The lion’s claws have teeth, dear brother—
I know you know my meaning. I kissed him
too, with every word I said I’d never say.
I denied him to his death, dear Judas.

“One of them.” They said again. “A *Galilean*.”

Brother, I called down curses like rain
and they clattered in the courtyard
like silver coins. I swore up and down
I knew him not—they hated me all the same.

The rooster woke and said his piece
just as they led him away, my words
still ringing like the death knell’s toll.
I fled the courtyard weeping.

Judas. Brother. What I want you to see
is that the lion also devoured me.

-by Sarah Crowley Chestnut
St. Andrew’s, Mariposa



Easter, A.D. 2013

Beloved in the Lord,

The Psalmist declares:

*The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.*

[Psalm 118:14]

As I write this letter to you it is Wednesday in Holy Week. I am travelling to Juba in South Sudan to spend the Great Three Days (The Sacred Triduum) with Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul, his clergy and his people. I am to be away from all the things that are familiar, except that the Church is one throughout the world, and the old, old story does not change (yet changes everything).

Flying today I could see the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays (Kent Island, Cape Henlopen, Cape May), places associated with boyhood and early ministry. Hours later there were Cape Trafalgar and Gibraltar and the North Coast of Africa, places I had never been but about which my historical studies and interests caused me to reflect over lots of years and lots of learning.

Easters have been spent mostly with the Church communities I have known well and with those who are family (blood, marriage and church) whether in New Jersey or Connecticut or New York or North Carolina or Delaware or Western Pennsylvania. One Easter, Nara and I spent at Canterbury, which was to be surrounded by things we knew (the cloud of witnesses, the music, the architecture) and those we did not know (the worshippers we were present with.) I know that this Easter in South Sudan will be all at once different and the same.

The seventeenth century poet and pastor George Herbert left us with two poems he entitled "Easter." The second of the poems ends:

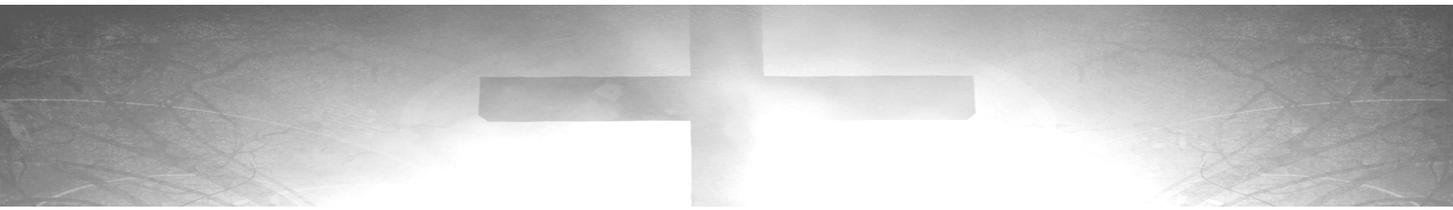
*Can there be any day but this, Though many suns to shine endeavor?
We count three hundred, but we miss:
There is but one, and the one ever.*

This Easter I am looking back. Like Lady Julian of Norwich in the 14th century, I am asking, "What does it all mean?" Whether in Juba or in Pittsburgh - and wherever you find yourself - what I testify is that the Gospel is my strength and my song, and that Jesus has become my salvation. Easter is the day that lights and gives meaning to all the others, wherever I - we - spend it and with whomever I - we - spend it. The tomb is empty. The world, the flesh and the devil are defeated. Jesus is alive. In Him, the alien becomes familiar, loss becomes gain, sorrow becomes joy, and death becomes life. This Easter I am also looking around and looking ahead.

May the Father's love, the Son's victory and the Holy Spirit's power overwhelm you, penetrate you and those surrounding you, as they continue to do in me, with the Easter perspective that changes and transforms everything.

Faithfully in Christ,

Archbishop and Primate
Anglican Church in North America



Transitions

Congratulations are due to Fr. Wesley Clare. Fr. Wes is a chaplain in the Air National Guard assigned to the 144th Fighter Squadron based in Fresno. Fr. Clare has been named Chief of Chaplains for California and approved for a promotion to full Colonel. Fr. Wes will continue to serve as Rector at St. Jude's while serving as Chief of Chaplains.

We welcome Christina Raines as our new Diocesan Intern who will be assisting Bishop Menees and Tania Pacheco in the Bishop's Office!

Bishop Menees has named Fr. Mark Hall as our first Diocesan Church Plant Coordinator. Fr. Mark will be available as a resource and coach for new church plants.

Link to Bishop's Note series--

The ***Bishop's Note*** is a pastoral message published weekly by Bishop Eric Menees. To subscribe, send an email message with your email to erin@vegasanglican.org.



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Please send these to uncleted3@aol.com

Thank you!