

I doubt there is anyone who is not aware of the growing economic crisis which involves not only the United States but the entire world. We have watched the leaders of our country and those around the world attempting to halt this fiscal bleeding, but, truth be told, it seems to be increasingly clear that no one really has any answers.

Is it possible to discover anything similar in the past? I offer this possibility:

The Old Testament relates a time when an enslaved people were freed from their bondage by God eventually reaching the heights of their wealth and power under King David and King Solomon, men who were sometimes far from perfect, but who always acknowledged God.

Following these two monarchs, Israel would find itself divided, conquered and exiled, under successive rulers who turned away from God and his standards. To this date, it has never regained its former glory. The nation chosen by God to reveal him to the world had fallen far short of the mark.

I cannot help but notice a parallel in the decline of the prosperity of our own nation, one in which the reality of God was never a question at the time of its origin. Now we find increasing moves to place God outside of our schools, courtrooms, and, incredibly, even its churches.

I'm not sure what's worse - those which are active players in these trends or the apathy of the majority of the populace that allows those forces to succeed.

In Europe, we see the same story, evidence being with the proposed but as yet unratified European Constitution failing to acknowledge the role of Christianity in the formation of Western Civilization.

And don't be fooled, what we are seeing on the surface is merely symptomatic of a far greater spiritual battle occurring as this very moment.

So it seems very likely to me that an overall moral bankruptcy has preceded and is even now abetting the economic one.

Yet throughout history, there has always been a "remnant" which recognized the truth that God was the source of all that is true, all that is worthwhile. God has always provided for them despite the conditions of the societies around them.

As someone who joined Christ Church Anglican last year, I have seen a remarkable group of people - a remnant, if you will - who not only recognized the error of TEC's theology but had the courage to make the tough choice to start over again. As such, I believe God will always provide for us, too - in ways we can only begin to imagine.

Unlike the banks, stock markets, investment gurus, Jesus is reliable in a way nothing or no one else can ever be. If we keep our eyes on him, I am certain he will keep his eyes on us. Not only today but in that day we will behold him face to face.

This is something we CAN count on!



# CCA TODAY

sharing the news of  
Christ Church Anglican

November 2008

## From the Rector's Desk

### Right, Wrong, or In Between?

It was Thursday evening, I had invited Pam to go to the Rib House for . . . you guessed it, ribs. We left the house at about 5:30 pm and arrived at the stop sign at the intersection of Reynham Road and Townsend Avenue. There was a lot of traffic on Townsend and we waited at the stop sign for a break in the lines of cars; when a break came, I pulled out and all of a sudden, there was a car right in front of me . . . we hit him or he hit us . . . it doesn't really matter. When it was over, the other car was on its roof and the three young men were crawling out of the windows. Fortunately, no one was injured, but both cars were pretty well out of commission.

Our son in law, a lawyer, maintains that had the issue gone to court, he could have won for us . . . because the other driver was speeding, the law might find me blameless for pulling out into traffic. All of this begs the question, are there absolutes . . . or is everything subjective . . . are right and wrong absolutes, or are they determined solely by the context in which the event occurs?

As a human being, I can rejoice in the fact that the law may forgive my transgression because of the transgressions of another . . . but as a Christian, I am held to a different set of standards. It matters not what the other person does or does not do . . . what matters is what I do, or in this case, did!

The fact is that I pulled away from a stop sign too quickly . . . it doesn't matter that the other car was speeding, or otherwise at fault. The fact is simply that I must be more careful!

There are absolutes . . . most issues are simply black or white.

Think about it

— Gil

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DC Moore Elementary School  
82 Elliot Street  
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Services:  
Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am  
Sunday School &  
Adult Christian Education:  
Sunday 9:00 am

Rector  
Reverend Gilbert Wilkes  
Assistant Rector  
Reverend Moses Aderibole

2008 VESTRY MEMBERS  
Frank Davis, senior warden  
John Vulte, junior warden  
Diane Bogdan, treasurer  
Nancy Perez, secretary  
Jennifer Bates  
Dick Carr  
George Cunningham  
Steve Fisher  
John Guida  
Annie Lau  
Torrey Morse  
Rich Shalvoy  
Kirk Trofatter

## MINISTRY UPDATES

What can YOU do to help?

### MUSIC/CHOIR

Bet Frost, *choir director*

Cynthia Bos, *organist/piano*

New choir members are always welcome—with a special request for bases.

### ADVERTISING/COMMUNICATIONS

Annie Lau and John Guida

Help spread the word about CCA! We need someone to contact the local newspaper about our events, etc.

### WORSHIP

Jeanne and Joe Perrone

Additional participants for the ushers' position would be greatly appreciated.



Contact Jennifer Bates if you are interested in purchasing Stop & Shop gift cards. Proceeds will benefit CCA. Thank you for your support!!!

## SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Interested in participating in a summer mission trip either overseas or in the U.S.? Email Adam Gustafson (adgustafson@gmail.com or 203-298-8623) and include the dates you're available and whether you're willing to travel internationally and/or within the U.S.

### PRAYER CHAIN

Debbie Morgan has organized a Prayer Chain. If you know of anyone who is in need of prayer, hospitalized, or shut in and would like visitors, please notify her to help spread the word. You can contact Debbie at 203-467-0237 or email debangel@comcast.net.

### SEASON OF GIVING

We continue to support the Fair Haven Parents Ministry. Please remember to bring in your non parishable food donations that will be used for Thanksgiving meals.

### BOOKS, BOOKS & MORE BOOKS

John Guida is clearing out his bookshelves and offering to give them away to any fellow readers. They are all fiction—mostly thrillers or mysteries. Authors include David Baldacci, Lee Child, Catherine Coulter, Nelson DeMille, Jonathan Kellerman and James Patterson. If anyone is interested, let John know and he'll supply you with the list of titles. You can see him in church or email john.guida13@gmail.com.

## VESTRY MEMBERS NEEDED

Five vestry members have completed their three year (at least) term. This means they need to be replaced by five new members. At press time only one person has volunteered to fill the role.

This is our church and our vestry. We are a new church and we need to break the habit of the same people doing all the work. So, please, think about it, pray about it, and throw your hat in the ring! See any current vestry member or Father Gil and tell them you want to be on the vestry.

## GET TO KNOW MARTINS ATANDA *by Father Moses*

Apostle Martins Atanda is the Missions Director of *Zion: World Prayer & Missions* - a Prayer and Missions Organization based in Sokoto, the Islamic Headquarters in Nigeria.

The Organization takes prayers – (prayer walk, prayer crusade, prophetic prayers and prayer tours) to unreached places and strategic places in Nigeria, French speaking African countries and European countries like Holland, Belgium, France, Italy and Germany.

*Zion: World Prayer & Missions* is involved in taking the Gospel to unreached areas in the Islamic Northwest of Nigeria covering Sokoto, Kebbi, Zamfara, Niger state and some parts of Niger republic. The organization also embarks on Community development projects like establishing sewing and knitting institutes, water wells, rural primary schools, rural health centers, and is about to start a secondary school. The mission includes 'TEE' (Theological Education by Extension), a program organized for leadership training to support rural Christian leaders who likes to become tent-making missionaries or for full time missionaries.

Father Martins has been married to his wife Sade for fifteen years. She is an Attorney, with a private practice in Sokoto State, Nigeria. They are blessed with a daughter (Zethar age 13) and two sons (Simchah age 6 and Natsach age 3).

Father Martins attended Immanuel College of Theology Ibadan and Christian Education, Oyo State, Nigeria from 1985 to 1988 and graduated with diplomas in Religious Studies and Theology. He later completed a bachelor's degree in Religious Studies at University of Ibadan in 1990. He was ordered a deacon at the cathedral church in Kaduna - Nigeria by Bishop William Jones Jr. of Missouri Episcopal

Diocese from the U.S. in June 1989; and was ordained a Priest in December 1989 by the Bishop of Kaduna, the Rt. Reverend T.E. Ogbonyomi (a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the Nigerian Army).

Reverend Martins served in several capacities in Kaduna and Sokoto Anglican dioceses before he left Church of Nigeria Anglican Communion in 1995 to start a mission ministry. Previous roles included youth chaplain, coordinator of TEE and Residential Canon of the Cathedral in Sokoto in 1994.

*Zion: World Prayer & Missions* organization is locally funded till date and fully registered with the Federal Government of Nigeria. The organization belongs to CRUDAN (Christian Rural and Urban Development Association in Nigeria) and also in partnership with Christian Broadcasting Network-CBN Nigeria. "CBN continues to support and help fulfill some of our Community Development projects like provision of water wells, medical missions, establishment of tailoring and knitting centers and some of our educational activities like the literacy Centers," Father Martins confirmed.

Currently on sabbatical at Overseas Ministries Study Center in New Haven, Father Martins will return to Nigeria after his research programs. During his stay we hope to see him often and we thank him for his assistance in Father Gil's absence.

To reach Father Martins Atanda:  
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P O Box 1600, Sokoto, Nigeria.  
+2348036168124  
zionworldmissions@yahoo.com

### Birthdays

Shelby D'Andrea	11/14
Kathy Guida	11/17
Sherry D'Andrea	11/21
Annie Lau	11/21
Bill Morgan	11/24
Jerry Spadacenta	11/26

### Notes

- Bishop David Bena will visit CCA on Feb. 1, 2009
- Please pray for the healing of Myrtle Cunningham, Anthony Bates, Jill St. Germaine and Edith Ferrailo
- Provide evidence of Baptism ASAP—Remember that without it you cannot vote in parish elections
- Add your birthdays & anniversaries to the list located in the rear of the church or email alau@murthalaw.com
- Remember this is your newsletter—voice your opinion, write your stories, feedback is encouraged

### Anniversaries

Frank & Jeanette Davis	11/06/76
Karen & Michael Dattilo	11/15/69
Jerry & Diane Spadacenta	11/21/64