



CCA TODAY

sharing the news of
Christ Church Anglican

March 2010

CANA WELCOMES GENERAL SYNOD AFFIRMATION OF ACNA

HERNDON, Va. (February 10, 2010) – The Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA) welcomed the news that the General Synod affirmed the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA)'s desire to “remain with the Anglican family” today. CANA is a founding member of ACNA.

“This is a significant step forward for the ACNA and for all orthodox Anglicans in the U.S. We are grateful to the General Synod for recognizing the home that has been created for those Anglicans who wish to remain a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Both ACNA and CANA have provided that home at a crucial time in the life of the church. Today’s affirmation from the General Synod is a welcome response to that need,” said CANA Missionary Bishop Martyn Minns.

The Convocation of Anglicans in North America (<http://www.canaconvocation.org/>) is an association of orthodox Anglican congregations in North America that is a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, a community of 77 million people. CANA was originally established in 2005 to provide a means by which Anglicans living in the USA who were alienated by the actions and decisions of The Episcopal Church could continue to live out their faith without compromising their core convictions. Created as a missionary initiative of the Church of Nigeria, about a dozen of the congregations are primarily expatriate Nigerians. CANA is a founding member of the Anglican Church in North America, an Anglican province that includes about 700 congregations.

MEN’S EMERGENCY SHELTER SIGN-UP

by Michelle Viesselman & Nancy Perez

We invite you to join us on **Sunday, March 28th** in preparing and/or serving at the Men’s Emergency Shelter. Keep an eye out for the sign-up sheets located at the CCA entrance or bulletin board.

Please consider donating one of the following non-perishable items that are needed each month (drop off at any Sunday service):

Napkins, Paper/plastic cups, Dessert-sized paper plate, Non-carbonated beverages

Thank you so much to all of our volunteers & contributors!

God's Work in Progress

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We meet at:
DC Moore Elementary School
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Services:
Sunday
8:00 am, 10:00 am
9:00 am Sunday School &
Adult Christian Education

Rector
Reverend Gilbert Wilkes
Assistant Rector
Reverend Moses Aderibole

Email newsletter info/comments to:
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A PRAYER FOR TRAVELERS

submitted by Jerry Spadacenta

O God, our heavenly Father,
whose glory fills the whole creation,
and whose presence we find wherever
we go: Preserve **Margaret** and
Vicki who are traveling to Nigeria;
surround them with your loving care;
protect them from every danger; and
bring them in safety to their journey’s
end; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

I copied this from a SC blog; I think that it would be good for all of us to take it to heart.
—Gil

Dear Friends in Christ,

If you have never lived in snow country where the roads are salted because of snow and ice, you may not know how salt can corrode the fenders and undergirding of your car. I remember seeing, one morning as I drove to work, an oncoming car lose its rear wheels and chassis. The trunk of the car hit the asphalt with sparks and scraping, while the rear axle and wheels went rolling off the road and into a vacant field. Since no one was hurt, I couldn't help snickering to myself at the jocular scene, when I was suddenly arrested by the sobering thought: "Mark, when was the last time you examined the frame of your car?" Most of us, before we go on a cross-country trip, will check the oil, tires, brakes, and fill the gas tank. Yet surprisingly enough, many of us on the great journey of the Christian life, traveling over rough roads, in bad weather, icy passes and lonely barren deserts, demonstrate an all too lackadaisical attitude to the equipment of our spiritual lives.

Lent is a good season to do what Evelyn Underhill calls spiritual stocktaking. In the disciplines of the Christian life this is called "Self-Examination." It is the first discipline mentioned in the Ash Wednesday invitation to a Holy Lent. The Prayer Book reads: "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word." (BCP, p. 265)

Although Self-Examination, or "the examination of conscience" as it used to be called, is a long honored discipline of the Christian life, too often the average Christian not only doesn't know how to do it, he doesn't even know what it is. This of course is not his fault; it is the fault of us who are pastors and teachers in the Church. Ironically, 12 Step groups like A.A. and N.A. make important use of this discipline. The Fourth Step of A.A. reads: "Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves." The Fifth Step follows up: "Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs." Sixth Step: "Were entirely ready to have God remove these defects of character."

These steps are part of the process of self-examination and repentance. As St. Paul counsels in 2 Corinthians 13:5, "Examine yourselves...." There are two fundamental sources of help for practicing self-examination. The first and most important help, which seems almost superfluous to mention, is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit indwells us as believers. The Holy Spirit knows us thoroughly and searches the deep things of our lives. (Read for instance such passages as Psalm 139, John 7:37-39, John 14:16-26, Romans 8:26-27). To invite Him to search your heart is an invitation not merely to compile a list of sins to be gotten through; it is an opportunity for growth, learning, discovery, making new connections, receiving insight and to seek His help in putting things in order. The second help for self-examination is a written list to be worked through with self-honesty. Some people use the Seven Deadly Sins-- (Pride, Envy/Jealousy, Anger, Sloth/Melancholy, Greed, Gluttony and Lust), others, the Ten Commandments, or the Litany of Penitence in the Ash Wednesday Liturgy (BCP, p. 267). One possibility that is often forgotten is to use not those lists that accentuate the negative dimensions of our lives but to ask the question about the place and pursuit of virtue. After all we have spent, as a culture and Church, far too much time with the clarification of values and given too little attention to the cultivation of virtue. So to take the Beatitudes, or the Fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:19-26, or even Seven Saving Virtues (Justice, Courage/Fortitude, Prudence/Wisdom, Temperance, Faith, Hope and Love) as the focus, after scrutinizing our sins of omission, can be a profitable exercise indeed. Such written forms might nudge us into areas we might be unconsciously avoiding and yet towards that which God would have us go.

Self-Examination of course is not a one-time thing; something done merely before the Ash Wednesday Liturgy. You might want to do it periodically during Lent. Find a quiet place where you'll be alone and uninterrupted. Put aside the cell phone and computer. Allow twenty to thirty minutes. Bring along a pencil and paper. Once there ask God's Spirit to help you in your search. It may lead you to repentance, which is of course not only the result of grace but the key which unlocks the wondrous treasures of grace.

With joyful embrace of the Lenten disciplines,

I remain faithfully yours,

-- (The Rt. Rev.) Mark Lawrence Is Bishop of South Carolina

A LOVE LETTER FROM JESUS

How are you? I just had to send you this letter to tell you how much I love you and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were going along your daily life. I saw you walking and talking with your friends, your family and even a few strangers. I waited all day hoping that you would walk and... talk with me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day, and a cool breeze to rest you.

I continued to wait, but you never came. O yes, it hurt me, but I still love you because I am also your friend. I saw you fall asleep last night, and I longed to touch your brow, so I spilled moonlight upon your pillow and your face.... Again I waited and waited, hoping we could talk. I have so many gifts for you such as ~ Salvation, Peace, Joy, Gentleness, Kindness, Love, Compassion...

You awakened late this morning and rushed off for the day. My tears were in the rain. Today you looked so sad; so alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand. My friends let me down and hurt me many times, but I love you. I try to tell you in the quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves and trees, and breathe it in the color of the flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams, and give the birds love songs to sing.

I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need you could ever have. You know you and I will spend eternity together in heaven. I know how hard it is on earth. I really know because I was there, so I want to help you ~ My Father wants to help you, too. It is your decision.... I have chosen you, and because of this I will wait as long as it takes so we may talk.... but don't take too long, because I love you.

Your Friend, Jesus

NOTES

Please continue to pray for the healing of Myrtle Cunningham, Anthony Bates, Bobbie Buckley, Frank Stoddard, Sheryl Raffile, Karl Swanson, Jennifer Shaffner, Dan O'Conner, Carlos Sanchez, Diane Spadacenta, Debbie Morgan, Nicholas Onofrio, Beverly Rega, Jane Sammarco, and Karlin Miller. (Names on this list will be removed after one month unless there is a request to renew them.)

We support Fair Haven Parents Ministry as one of our outreach efforts. Please bring in food donations for FHPM; the offering taken at coffee hour also goes to FHPM.

Stop & Shop gift cards available every Sunday after 8 and 10 a.m. services.

The Sunday school children are collecting pennies to be given to a charity of their choice. If anyone has any extra pennies, please feel free to throw them in their jug.

Please bring in pictures of your children and/or grandchildren to be displayed as part of the Mustard Seed Project. We will be praying for them as we pray for the healing of this land.

Small Groups/Bible Studies:

- Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 At Church between Services: “Book Of Prophet Daniel”
- Sunday, following the 10:00 a.m. service: Additional Prayer in the music room
- Tuesday, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m., at 47 Prospect Rd [the Heermans]: “Intercessory Prayer”
- Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., at the Hagaman Memorial Library: “How To Read the Bible for All It's Worth”
- Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., at 672 Townsend Ave., NH: “Lenten study of Christian Morality”

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Chloe Petrosino.....	1
John Guida, Sr.....	4
Karen Goddard.....	6
Bill Morann.....	12
Barbara F. Cunningham.....	14
Andrew Jude Torre.....	18
Barbara (BJ) Petrosino.....	19
Anthony Bates.....	24
Doris Wood.....	27

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Daylight Saving Time Begins.....	14
Vestry Meeting.....	16
St. Patrick's Day.....	17
First Day of Spring.....	20
Palm Sunday.....	28
Passover.....	30

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary?

Please contact John Guida at john.guida13@gmail.com to be added to our list.