



# CCA TODAY

sharing the news of  
Christ Church Anglican

November 2009

From the Rector's Desk

## UHGGGGG!

I hate to talk about money . . . worse yet, I hate for anyone else to talk to me about my money . . . and I'm sure that most of us feel the same. A couple of years ago, one of the mainline charity groups pushed the idea that each of us should give our "Fair Share" to that particular charity; I found the idea of "My Fair Share" totally obnoxious . . . after all, that was money that I had earned and "My Share" was exactly zero!

With that having been said, I would like to take a moment to talk to you about your money . . . and mine. If we are members of an organization and desire to see that organization continue, we probably will feel a need to help support it; but I have to tell you that the church is different! The issue is the Tithe; we claim to be Christians, to hold the Bible to be the ultimate authority of our lives, but then we (many of us) simply ignore the issue of tithing.

Years ago, I came to tithing kicking and screaming; I had heard all the garbage about tithing leading to financial and personal security. I was told that financial trouble would disappear and God would provide, if only I would trust. But I knew better, I knew that all that Biblical stuff about tithing . . . you know, "Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back." (Lk 6.38) I knew that this tithing thing was simply a thinly disguised effort to separate me from my money!

On the other hand, I did claim to have faith . . . and it seemed illogical to claim faith, without trusting . . . so I went into it gradually, like I would a cold swimming pool. Eventually, I got there and I will tell you from my own personal experience, tithing is everything that it is 'cracked up to be'.

There is a lot of satisfaction in trusting . . . try it, I think that you'll like it!

—Gil

*God's Work in Progress*

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8:00 am, 10:00 am  
9:00 am Sunday School &  
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## BLESSED ARRIVAL

Stella Marisol Gustafson was born to Katherine and Adam Gustafson on October 13, 2009 at 10:13 am in Kailua, Hawaii. She weighed 7 lbs, 1 oz, and was 20 inches long. All are doing beautifully.



## VATICAN MOVE RECOGNIZES REALITY OF ANGLICAN DIVIDE

HERNDON, Va. (October 20, 2009) – Bishop Martyn Minns, Missionary Bishop of the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA), issued the following response to the newly approved church provision, announced today by the Vatican, that allows Anglicans to join the Catholic Church.

“The Vatican is opening a door for Anglicans who sense a call to be part of the Church of Rome to join that body and still maintain Anglican traditions. This move by the Catholic Church recognizes the reality of the divide within the Anglican Communion and affirms the decision to create a new North American province that embraces biblical truth. While we welcome the positive response from the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury regarding the Vatican’s provision, we urge Lambeth Palace to move swiftly to fully endorse the

efforts of the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans and the Anglican Church in North America to keep the Anglican family together,” said Bishop Minns.

“Rome is reminding Anglicans that our historic, orthodox faith is more important than culture and more important than geography. CANA itself bears witness to the fact that God’s church is made up of believers across the globe. The centrality of Jesus Christ and the authority of Scripture are the unwavering bonds that have drawn CANA churches and others within the Anglican Church in North America together. Our continued prayer is for Anglicans across the world to be able to stay faithful to orthodox beliefs,” Minns concluded.

## NEARLY 40 CONGREGATIONS JOIN THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

*Posted October 23, 2009 on the ACNA website*

In just three months, the Anglican Church in North America has welcomed 39 new congregations. When the Anglican Church in North America officially launched in late June, it included 703 churches in the United States and Canada. Today, there are 742 congregations affiliated with the Anglican Church.

“We have an ambitious goal of planting 1,000 new churches in the next five years. It is very encouraging to see how much progress has already been made,” said Archbishop Robert Duncan.

Some congregations have joined the Anglican Church in North America with a well-defined identity and history. Christ the King Anglican Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico, represents the leadership and a large majority of the people of an Episcopal Church parish. The congregation, which walked away from property and endowments valued at more than \$2 million, has been in the words of its rector, the Rev. Roger Weber, “overwhelmed by God’s provision.”

When the people of Christ the King made their decision to step out of the conflicts in the Episcopal Church over basic Christian beliefs, they did not know where they would meet for worship. Within a period of weeks, God provided an 18,000 square foot church building with enough seating for their average Sunday attendance of 300 and complete with office equipment “all for an incredibly reasonable price,” said Weber.

Weber added that Christ the King has also spiritually benefited from their decision to leave the conflicts of The Episcopal Church behind. “Being free of it is like being one-thousand pounds lighter. There is just a joyous, grateful

spirit, amazement about what God has done and a real looking forward to great things,” he explained.

A number of the new congregations are recent church plants, like St. Barnabas in Covington, Kentucky. According to Fr. Christopher Peterson, who leads St. Barnabas, the young church held its first worship service on June 7. Just a few months into their life, St. Barnabas has already benefited greatly from its relationship with other Anglican Church in North America congregations in Kentucky, said Peterson. He and other members of the launch team have also been amazed by the way God has sent people to St. Barnabas. “It is not like we have found a lot of people, but that people have found us. It is astounding,” said Peterson.

More information about St. Barnabas is available online at <http://www.kentuckyanglican.com>

Calling together new congregations is a key goal for The Anglican Church in North America. “We are convinced that the Good News of Jesus Christ and the transforming power of His love offer life-change wherever they are preached. Vibrant, multiplying local congregations are both the primary tool to fulfill that important evangelical task and the natural result of our friends and neighbors responding to the Gospel,” said Archbishop Duncan.

Formed in June of 2009, the Anglican Church in North America unites 742 Anglican congregations into a single Anglican Province. The church’s mission is to reach North America with the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ.

# LOOK BEYOND YOURSELVES

By Marion Clark

Look beyond yourselves, your learning, your own knowledge of the Word, your individual application of the Word, all of which is important and necessary, some of the time, but not all of the time. For this week, step back, outside the bible, and view its content from a critical, literary eye. Think in generalities. Ask yourself why? Why is there an Old Testament? Spend time contemplating why, indeed, did God have all that written down. What was he showing us? Paint with a broad brush, and don't get into the nitty-gritty of it all. Get concepts, look for Him. Apply all you see and think to a larger scale, a wider canvass—a global approach. In fact, try to picture yourself a modern day Jew, no religious background, other than to know, via osmosis, that YOU ARE a chosen one, what ever that means, and you are going to try to read the bible from beginning to end. What would your reaction be to this book? Would you be offended, put off? What was God's original intent?

As Christians, how should the broad picture of the URGENCY OF THE HOUR, SHOWN TO US IN THE PARABLES, AFFECT US, OUR DAILY ROUTINE, OUR RELATIONSHIPS? These may sound over-simplified, but they are, rather, questions to be pondered, not answered directly. THE SHREWD MANAGER recognizes his imminent danger. Do we see the crisis that threatens our unsaved loved ones, and the world around us? It is incomparably more terrible. Jesus didn't excuse this manager's actions, but used the negative example to jerk us awake... HEY, WHERE IS YOUR LOVE? GET THAT MESSAGE OUT, AMBASSADORS. STOP EXAMINING YOUR BELLY BUTTONS, I'VE GIVEN YOU A MESSAGE OF LIFE. I LIVE, AND MY LIFE IS AVAILABLE TO YOU AND TO YOUR LOVED ONES, NOW AND IN THE ETERNAL KINGDOM TO COME, DON'T MISS OUT ON IT.

THE SAD THING IS of course, that people choose to disregard what they do hear; after all, it means they must take action. All of these parables require a response, a reaction. ACEDIA—better known as slothfulness, has another facet—apathy, or indifference, spiritual torpor, the dictionary says. Wow! Good for Webster. You see, it's more than just laziness. God's enemy is at work, making some persons think they are awake, when, if truth be known, they are fast asleep. THEY'RE WALKING AND TALKING. Torpor was a word I learned when studying plant science. A plant could look healthy one day, and the very next, be dead as a doornail. Someone or something was getting in the way of nutrition, or water. Torpor/torpid means inertia; lethargic, a state of suspended physical powers and activities; Dormant. A dormant tree doesn't know it's dormant. It keeps manufacturing sugar, etc., but just enough to stay alive. THIS OF COURSE COULD BE A CHRISTIAN AS WELL AS A NON-CHRISTIAN. MANY CHRISTIANS THINK THEY ARE MOVIN' ON WITH God, WHEN THEY ARE DULL, AND LAZY, AND INTO DOING THEIR OWN THING. IF YOU'RE BORN-AGAIN, BUT finding it difficult to accomplish those things the Lord has called YOU to do, then you had better discover how to fight the enemy.

Kingdom parables=call 4 action, repentance, which comes with its own reward, salvation, and that is GOOD NEWS. In Matt. 13:44-46, the hidden treasure, and pearl of great price, the emphasis being \_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_ (joy of discovery). The kingdom over takes one and is sought by the other. In joy, they liquidate their holdings 4 the treasure and the pearl. They were willing to sell all for the kingdom; no spiritual torpor here.

THE KINGDOM IS NOT THE TREASURE, NOT THE PEARL. THE KINGDOM IS God's GIFT. THE DISCOVERY OF KINGDOM BRINGS UNUTTERABLE JOY. YOU WILL NOTICE NOW, SAME MOTIF IS THROUGH OUT 3 PARABLES OF LOST THINGS IN Luke 15.

If one reads the whole chapter without getting personally involved, (ha-ha) you will see that there is a larger picture to be seen. It reminds me of the woman who, with abandon-ment, hilariously threw in her last, only coin. She knew to whom she gave, and that 'little in the hands of God' would be more and more. We should be kicking up our heels with JOY at being received; at being invited. We should be willing to be spent/'joy' at having a chance to make a difference in this world/ at the fact that Jesus wants to share the work of the kingdom with us. To know the Savior's complete forgiveness, and restoration of fellowship, a relationship with our creator, and not share it with those less fortunate is an oxymoron, defies explanation. To think we could have this pearl of great price and not share the joy with our friends and relatives belies the truth, the knowledge of what awaits us in the coming kingdom, if indeed we have a relationship at all. One surely wonders when enthusiasm wanes. Where is our first love? If you are not walking in joy—that does not mean a sick looking grin on your face/neither does it mean that we cannot cry; INDEED should cry at others misfortune, not hit them with scripture band aids.

So what is the larger picture, Marion?

Jesus was prophetic when he said in Mark (etc.) 4, that we were given insight into the parables, and that some would not choose to come in even though they heard. Jesus will be justified in taking in sinners. The Pharisees refused to see that he was a prophet, He wouldn't be doing all this hob-knobbing with sinners, if he were, so they reasoned. Yet the call goes out to those who are burdened, those who are searching for a pearl, and to some who search for the treasure hidden in the field, Jesus comes without a drum-roll, without any searching, and envelopes you with all that he is, and all that he has for you. All you need to do is suck it up, use it, lean into him, like a sail in the wind.

All the equipment listed in Eph.6:10 begins with Be strong in the Lord and in the power of HIS might, putting on the armor of God. Bishop Bena spoke of this when here. It seemed a first grade talk, so many of us know this, but do we know it? Do we walk out bravely? Do we see Jesus as our righteousness, and ironically, the peace that comes from the gospel readies one for war against evil? See Eph.2/14.,15+17...

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN

by John Guida

Our post-service coffee hour is always a jovial event...but on October 18<sup>th</sup> there was something extra special to celebrate. A chorus of Happy Birthday was sung as we gathered around a cake that said "Happy Anniversary." At first I thought someone had goofed when decorating the cake. But the more I thought about it the more I realized that both were right.

It was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Christ Church Anglican parish. It was also the 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday of the Christ Church Anglican congregation.

I can't believe how far we've come in just two years. We are stronger in our faith and happier than ever. Near the end of the Episcopal era I looked for any excuse not to attend Sunday services. Now I not only look forward to Sunday services but I get upset when something prevents me from attending.

In two short years we've started a new parish, joined CANA, joined ACNA, and have been truly blessed by God. We've made many new friends from Nigeria, from CANA and from ACNA. We've grown closer together as a family and we're stronger than ever in our faith.

I can't wait to see what God blesses us with in the coming years! HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY!!



## ACNA RESPONDS TO VATICAN ANNOUNCEMENT

*The Most Rev. Robert Wm. Duncan Archbishop  
and Primate, Anglican Church in North America*

We rejoice that the Holy See has opened this doorway, which represents another step in the growing cooperation and relationship between our Churches. This significant decision represents a recognition of the integrity of the Anglican tradition within the broader Christian church.

While we believe that this provision will not be utilized by the great majority of the Anglican Church in North America's bishops, priests, dioceses and congregations, we will surely bless those who are drawn to participate in this momentous offer.

We concurrently thank God for the partnership that orthodox Anglicans have long enjoyed with the Roman Catholic Church, and are profoundly grateful for the many acts of kindness shown on local, diocesan and national levels, as they have stood with us in our time of trial.

While our historic differences over church governance, dogmas regarding the Blessed Virgin Mary and the nature of Holy Orders continue to be points of prayerful dialogue, we look forward to an ever deepening partnership with the Catholic Church throughout the world. We pledge our earnest prayers for all those touched by this initiative, as we look forward to the publication of the Apostolic Constitution detailing today's announcement.

## "LORD, HELP ME TO SEE..."

by Doreen St. Germaine

We, who have physical eyesight, can be blinded to God's direction and message to us. This past week was fraught with deadlines and stress. A supervisor was coming in to assist the two teachers that I work with and myself in coming up with a plan to coordinate our tasks and lessons. I've always been extra sensitive and vulnerable in these meetings.

I've come to realize that the devil has a field day when I show my doubts, fears, and insecurities. Then I have to ask myself, "Have you prayed?" Yes" is the answer, BUT have I listened for, and applied God's answer? Aaah, now there's the problem. When I get my focus off myself and my problems and look, I can find answers from discerning friends, a certain scripture, a song and a sermon. Once again, Moses' sermon, as well as today's anthem, "Lord, Here Am I" touched my heart. I've not relied on the Holy Spirit's grace, direction, and strength. I've had challenges that I've turned into "chores" because of my lack of faith and my negative attitude. I needed the reminder that we all need from time to time; to walk in faith relying on His strength and guidance, NOT our own. My prayer (for all of us), inspired by Sunday's sermon, is this:

### Lord, help me to see...

YOUR Guidance	NOT	MY Way
YOUR Plan	NOT	MY Stubbornness
YOUR Faithfulness	NOT	MY Doubt
YOUR Victory	NOT	MY Defeat
YOUR Solution	NOT	MY Problem
YOUR Peace	NOT	MY Turmoil
YOU	NOT	me

### In my weakness, You are strong.

He must become greater; I must become less. John 3:30

# FIRST ANNUAL SYNOD OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE NORTHEAST

by Vickie Manfredi

Four church members from Christ Church Anglican attended the inaugural meeting of the Anglican churches of the Northeast District. The meeting was held Oct. 11-12 at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center in Greenwich, NY. Bishop David Bena and his wife Mary Ellen hosted the event in gracious style and comfort.

During the opening session each of the ten parishes gave a brief presentation and introduction so we could become acquainted with each other. The largest parish introduced was Bishop Seabury, Groton, CT., the smallest, Good Shepherd, Harrisburg, PA with 6 attending members. Our Senior Warden, Steve Fisher spoke for Christ Church Anglican and elaborated on our focus of mission and outreach. This gathering was followed by dinner, bible study and an open discussion of synod concerns.

It was during this discussion that parishes brought their issues forward. Bishop Bena, assisted by his Chancellor, Raymond Dague, offered answers that were complete with explanation defining terms frequently used including ADN, CANA, ACNA, CON, AC and others as well as diagrams depicting how these groups fit together and relate to each other. He also answered financial questions about what organization supports the other. The bottom line to the discussion was that we are dual members in CANA and ACNA and CANA supports both. Bishop Bena helped us get comfortable with what we know and with what we don't know ... yet!

Our second day focused on the constitution and ratifying it. Our constitution is actually one we adapted to our needs from the one ratified by the District of Virginia, the first official district in the U.S. Unlike theirs, however, ours omits any reference to T.E.C., the goal to be looking forward and not back. Our constitution receives The Book of Common Prayer (1662) and affirms the 39 Articles of Faith as expressing our fundamental principles of Anglican belief. Are you cheering yet?

You've heard the old saying not to volunteer for anything! In our case it was don't ask a question or state that something seems to be missing. That is how I became the coordinator of

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## 90 CONGREGATIONS AND GROWING

HERNDON, Va. (October 16, 2009) – The Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA) announced that 13 congregations from six different states plus one in Canada have joined the orthodox Anglican organization.

The new congregations include CANA's first church in Canada, Redeemer Anglican Church in Regina, SK. New CANA congregations in the US include as follows: Christ Anglican Church, Marietta, Ga.; Anglican Mission of Southern Maryland, California, Md.; Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Bowie, Md.; Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Hobbs, NM; St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Roswell, NM; Anglican Community Church, Batavia, NY; Restoration Anglican Church, Arlington, Va.; Holy Cross Anglican Church, Richmond, Va.; Anglican Church of the Valley, Staunton, Va.; Winchester Anglican Church, Winchester, Va.; and New Hope Anglican Church, Lacey, WA. Also added is a satellite congregation in Manassas, Va., being fostered by Church of the Word (Gainesville, Va.).

"We are excited to welcome these new congregations from across North America into the CANA fellowship, a body of orthodox Anglican Christians committed to upholding the Word of God. We as an Anglican body are seeing orthodox Christianity thrive in the U.S. and around the world and are pleased to play a pivotal role in bringing orthodox congregations together. CANA

provides an authentic connection to the worldwide Anglican Communion, and our churches offer vintage liturgical worship which is what many Christians are seeking. Each of these new congregations will grow as they prayerfully exercise the ministry of Jesus Christ which is all about radical inclusion, profound transformation, and inspired service," said CANA Missionary Bishop Martyn Minns.

The Rev. John Pietschman, rector of Holy Cross Anglican Church in Richmond, Va. states that "the birth of the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA) was a God-send to Anglicans who have been confronted with the abandonment of the Christian faith once handed down to the saints. Contending for the Christian faith is embedded in upholding the Bible as the authoritative Word of God, and not in following revisionist church leaders who conject that biblical Christianity is archaic and mean-spirited.

"CANA is 'Christ-centered, mission driven, outwardly focused, and committed to evangelism, discipleship and church planting.' We at Holy Cross Anglican Church, Richmond, Virginia are proud to be Anglicans within CANA and our passion is to reach and serve the least, the last, and the lost," continued the Rev. John Pietschman.

With the addition of these congregations, CANA now includes 90 congregations across the U.S.

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### AN EVENING FOR HYMN

*by John Guida*

On Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup>, six of us from CCA went to "An Evening with Hymn" put on by the Holy Trinity Praise Team. It was an evening of Praise and Worship in which Fr. Don welcomed us and then we all sang songs of Praise and Worship. In between sets of hymns Fr. Don said a few words about his favorite songs and how much God loves us. This was followed by more singing and then David Robinson gave a commentary on the God he knows who is bigger than alcohol, bigger than tobacco, bigger than suicide, bigger than . . . . It was a very moving testimony to what God accomplished in his life. Then more singing and finally the closing by Fr. Don.

Afterwards we mingled with our brothers and sisters from Holy Trinity Anglican Church. All in all it was a great time of praise, fellowship, and worship. I look forward to the next time and hope that more members from Christ Church Anglican will join us.

### FIRST ANNUAL SYNOD

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intercession for the district appointed by the bishop. Steve kindly volunteered Torrey Morse as our council delegate as the bishop smiled! We both are happy to serve the Northeast Council and are glad to be able to travel together to New York State. Other appointments were made. Rev. Ron Gauss, Bishop Seabury, Groton is appointed Vicar General Duties. Raymond Dague, Holy Trinity, Syracuse, NY has been appointed Chancellor and his wife Pat assumes position of Secretary of the Synod. Other council delegates volunteered their names to the bishop as he requested.

Following the line by line examination of this proposed constitution we had Holy Eucharist and then lunch. Two parishes had to depart the conference prior to the actual voting and we were one. We left our "YES" vote with Bishop Bena. What a wonderful district we are, loving people, committed to the work of Christ, to each other and to growing together. More is to follow and we are to follow where the Spirit leads us by grace and with thanksgiving!

The final ratified Constitution of the Anglican District of the Northeast will be given to you when it is completed. Congratulations!

## 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, Helen and Matthew Maselli, Amanda Brault and Anthony Maloney. (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 and Shop gift cards available every Sunday after 8 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services.
- The Outreach Committee will be selling jewelry and homemade handbags from Nigeria on Sunday November 15th. Proceeds from the sale will be used to fund the medical mission in Nigeria.
- 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.
- We will be serving a meal at the Emergency Men’s Shelter on November 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Thank you to all of our volunteers.
- Small Groups/Bible Studies:  
Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 At Church between Services: “Paul’s letter to the Romans”  
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 Its Worth”  
Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., at 672 Townsend Ave., NH: “The Gospel of John”

## MEN’S EMERGENCY SHELTER SIGN-UP

*by Michelle Viesselman & Nancy Perez*

Please stop by the front table and sign up to join us on **Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** at the shelter. This will be CCA’s sixth time preparing and serving dinner to the nearly 75 men in need.

Here is the menu for November:

Baked Ziti  
Minestrone Soup  
Meatballs  
Garden Salad  
Italian Bread (donated by Apicella’s Bakery)

The following nonperishable items are needed each month and can be brought to church on any Sunday:

Napkins  
Paper/plastic cups  
Italian salad dressing  
Paper/plastic bowls  
Non-carbonated beverages

Other helpful items needed each month:

Fresh fruit (uncut)  
Desserts  
Butter

Consider adding one of these items to your shopping list each month—use your Stop & Shop gift certificates and you’ll benefit CCA, too! : )

***Thank you so much to all of our committed volunteers!***

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Shelby D’Andrea .....	14
Cecilia Bates .....	16
Kathy Guida .....	17
Annie Lau.....	21
Sherry D’Andrea.....	21
Billy Morgan .....	24
Jerry Spadacenta .....	26
Pam Cestaro .....	28

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Frank & Jeanette Davis.....	11-06-1976
Michael & Karen Dattilo .....	11-15-1969
Jerry & Diane Spadacenta.....	11-21-1964

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All Saints Day .....	November 1
Outreach Meeting .....	November 9
Veterans Day .....	November 11
Outreach Committee Jewelry Sale.....	November 15
proceeds go to Fr. Martins’ Medical Team	
October’s sale netted \$185.00	
Vestry Meeting .....	November 17
Thanksgiving Day .....	November 26
CCA Serves at the Men’s Shelter .....	November 29