

THE LION

Volume 9

August/September 2014

Issue 1

Anglican Province of America
46th Synod of the Diocese of the Eastern United States
Dan Brenneman

On July 14th thru 18th over 200 Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Deaconesses, Lay Delegates, Observers, and Guests attended the 2014 Synod of the Diocese of the Eastern United States (DEUS) at the Doubletree Hotel in Orlando. The theme of this year's Synod was "Fulfilling Christ's Mission at Home and Abroad" to which all of the Synod's development sessions and homilies were tied. St Alban's Anglican Cathedral was the host church for the 46th Synod.

During the first two days of the Synod, the Board of Examining Chaplains, the Bishop's Advisory Committee, and other Clergy related committees conducted several meetings. On Wednesday the Synod officially opened with Bishop Grundorf's "State of the Diocese" address and charge to the delegates and clergy of the Synod. You may read the Bishop's address at the web site for the Anglican Province of America.

During the Bishop's address, he welcomed a new congregation to the Diocese, St. Martin's Anglican Church in Ocala. The new addition brings the total number of congregations in the DEUS to 42 with 3,770 parishioners, 81 Bishops and Clergy, and 4 Deaconesses. After Bishop Grundorf's address, Suffragan Bishop Chad Jones presented his annual report to the Synod. The remaining portion of day 1 was dedicated to the Diocese Treasurer's Report and the annual parish pledges for 2015. St. Mark's annual pledge for 2015 is \$31,500, which is approximately 10% of our annual income. After the Synod adjourned for the day, all of the participants attended high mass at St Alban's Cathedral followed by a BBQ hosted by the members of St. Albans.

On Thursday there was a development session on parish music presented in the morning by Michael Miller from St. Albans Cathedral followed by a morning and afternoon development session presented by the Rt. Rev. Stephen Scarlett, Bishop of the ACC Diocese of the Holy Trinity (West) and Rector of St. Matthews' Church, Newport Beach, California. Bishop Scarlett's presentations were related to the theme of the conference "Fulfilling Christ's Mission at Home and Abroad". The Bishop discussed how you can grow churches by building "relationships" with potential parishioners and how he grew his own parish in California over the last 15 years. The Bishop emphasized that we need to look at our goals over a long term period (5 years, 10 years, 15 years, etc.) and not to expect major growth within our churches over a short-term period. Bishop Scarlett also emphasized that the stronger churches must look beyond their own parishes and help the smaller and start-up parishes whenever possible, similar to what St. Marks does by sending support to St. Anthony in Tennessee.

The last day of the Synod was comprised of new committee appointments, reports from various Deans and Parishes, as well as reports on the Diocese's foreign mission work. The Rev. Joel Pulga Arellano, who serves as a deacon with Bishop Belmonte from the Anglican Church of the Philippines, attended the Synod and presented an update on church activities in the Philippines. The Most Rev. Lawrence Jaya Rao, Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Church of South India and his interpreter, Pastor Swamy Das with Operation Mobilization (OM) India were unfortunately denied Visas to come to the Synod to report on the good work

being done in India. As Bishop Grundorf indicated during his opening address, it is painful to be reminded of the discrimination against Christians and Dalits in their Hindu world. The Diocese appealed for reconsideration right up to last week but to no avail. Our Vicar General of Global Partnerships, Canon David Haines, gave an update on India and Haiti.

The Synod adjourned at noon on Friday and everyone departed for their respective homes and parishes.

Music Notes

Kathleen Knott
Organist and Music Director

As the Fall season approaches, I would like to announce that choir rehearsal will resume on Wednesday, September 3rd at 6:30 p.m. Handbell rehearsals will also resume in the Fall. The date will be announced in the bulletin. We would be grateful and blessed to have more singers and ringers. Please see Kathleen if you are interested in a music ministry.

New Farming Program at The Source

Dan Brenneman

Saint Mark's local outreach partner, The Source, recently entered into a partnership with Florida Veggies & More to establish a farming program to raise nutritious vegetables for the homeless and near homeless that utilize the services at The Source. Several supporters of The Source donated the funds to purchase and install 250 hydroponic vertical towers, with a total of 1,000 growing pots, and an additional 500 ground pots to grow large leafy and root vegetables. The growing pots will enable the new program to grow and harvest approximately 6,000 plants (lettuce, spinach, collards, beets, herbs, etc.), twelve to fourteen times per year. Florida Veggies & More will furnish the land for the hydroponic growing system, as well as supply the utilities and overall management of the farming operation. As part of the program, members of The Source's clientele who qualify for the program will be able to enroll into a six week training period to learn about hydroponic and aquaponic farming, marketing and sales, and general business principals. Upon completion of the training program, each participant will receive a stipend to reward them for their effort. This new farming program will allow our outreach partner to meet the following objectives:

- 1) Provide a training program for qualified clientele to help them get back on their feet;
- 2) Provide fresh, nutritious vegetables to the kitchen at The Source for meals they prepare for the homeless and near homeless; and
- 3) Generate revenue from the sale of fresh, locally grown vegetable at the local farmers markets to pay for the program and growing expenses.

This program is structured to be self-sustaining thru the sale of part of the harvested vegetables to the general public. Please visit The Source and Florida Veggies & More at the Vero Beach Farmers Market at the beach every Saturday from 8:00a to 12:00n.

Women's Bible Study

Linda Philpott

The Wednesday Women's Bible study will resume on Wednesday, October 1st at 10 am in the parish hall. We will be commencing a study on the book of Luke. This study is written in two parts, but the first part is

being broken into two sessions. The first session will run from October 1st to November 5th. The second session will begin on January 14th and end on February 18th. The final session will be from March 4th through April 15th. The cost for the first part - which is sessions 1 and 2 - is \$26.00. The class has tentative plans for upcoming studies for the fall of 2015 and the spring of 2016. In the fall of 2015, the class will study the book of Jude. In 2016, the class will have a study of Romans. For further information, please contact, Linda Philpott, thepotts04@yahoo.com.

Anglican Church Women

Donna Burton

The new officers for ACW are as follows: Linda Philpott- President, Bobbie Winger- Vice President, Donna Burton-Recording secretary, Ann Dozetos/Carol Strong-Treasurers, Sheila Ward-Chaplain. Peggy Scott will continue to be our Program Manager.

Many thanks to all the women that helped with the Knight reception and the Wards surprise anniversary. Without all of you we could not have pulled it together. Thanks again!

There are a few upcoming events that are in the works for the coming months. November 13th, Thursday from 11:30 - 1:30, St. Mark's is to be the site for the Samaritan Center Soup Bowl event. Next year 2015 in February there will be an attic sale to raise funds for the Stations of the Cross. The last event will be a BBQ potluck along with the dedication of St. Mark's Church. There will be more details on these events as we get closer to finalize dates and times. Also announcements of guest speakers will be listed at beginning of each month.

Lay Pastoral Care

Lay Pastoral Team

This group has read the book; Can the Pastor do it Alone? by Melvin Steinbron. This book, as well as the related video, was used to guide their discussion, education, and discovery. We ask that you continue to pray for God's blessing on this ministry and for the planning and timing of its commissioning. In addition, we thank you in advance for your willingness to welcome these folks as an extension of the core ministry of St. Mark's.

PART TIME HELP WANTED

Michelle Cook

Most of St. Mark's parishioners noticed in the Sunday Bulletin and last issue of *The Lion*, that Father Ward requested help with some of the ministries at St. Mark's Church. I have been the Altar Guild Directress for St. Mark's Anglican Church since 2007 and had only few parishioners contact me or Father Ward for information on giving of their time to minister to this very important ministry.

The Church is growing and it needs your help. We have some seasonal help that allows most of the Altar Guild some respite during the winter months. We have several ladies that attend the 10:00am service who are always available for cleaning up after that service. But it is in the summer that our Guild can be much tasked, especially after the 8:00am service. We generally have only two people to change over the Altar after the 8:00am service and sometimes it is performed by one person. Sometimes these ladies are on vacation, away with their families, or they may be sick, but someone needs to be there for each service.

The Altar Guild is a very simple ministry, but very important. Tasks include dressing the altar, filling the candles and torches with oil, replacing the spent votives in the narthex, tending to the pews making sure there

are offertory and flower envelopes, putting the flowers on the altar, and sweeping off the entrance to the church. The church is generally set on Saturday's for the Sunday services. If this is performed by two ladies, the work can be accomplished within an hour and a half or less. Change-over after 8:00am takes about ten minutes. The change-over involves correctly rinsing out the chalice, filling the cruets with wine and water, putting out additional hosts, and checking the pews.

Please do not become overwhelmed by these tasks. They are very important and once you do them, it becomes very comfortable and rewarding. It requires only a few hours a month. I will be available to show you how to do this. Will you please search your hearts and pray for direction to see if you could be called to this ministry?

Confirmation...for the Confirmed

Keith Vittitoe

If you regularly attend, then you may have learned as I did that you need to start the "kneeling process" when one of the servers moves a book on its stand from left to right after communion. If you're not sure what book that is or if that move is left to right or really north to south - then definitely don't miss the upcoming Confirmation class. As Father Mike noted in the last issue, it's not just for those seeking confirmation, but also for those who would like a refresher on our tradition. As he has done in the past, Father Mike will hold this class during the adult Sunday School hour (9:00 a.m.).

As a reminder, the material used for this class will be new to us. Special thanks to Bishop Stephen Scarlett for permission to use his inquirer's class/Confirmation manual. If you would like to get a head start, you can download the manual at <http://www.stmatthewsnewport.com/resources/inquirers-class>. More information will follow.

Church Construction

Construction continues on the new walkway between the church and the parish hall. There is now a roof and things have progressed to the point where the final product can be imagined. As a reminder, the architect's plans are in the parish hall, just under the picture board. Please feel free to take a look.

Upcoming Holy Days

Please note:

All holy day services are suspended until our construction/renovation project is complete.

St. Mark's Anglican Church

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