



Handle with prayer

ANiC news

ANiC and ACNA events calendar

March 3, 3pm – Dave Kemp will be ordained a deacon at [Eternal Hope \(Carleton Place, ON\)](#)

March 4-6 – ACNA's 2013 [Anglican 1000](#) church planting summit in Wheaton, IL

March 9 – [Liveword Women's Conference](#) at [Christ's Church Oceanside](#), Nanoose Bay, BC

March 11-13 – [2013 ANiC Clergy Retreat](#) with Canon Phil Ashley at Cedar Springs, Washington

March 13-15 – [Leadership Training Institute, Part 2](#) at Cedar Springs, Washington

April 12-13 - Men's seminar offered at [Blackburn Hamlet Community Church \(Ottawa, ON\)](#)

April 17-19/20 – [ANiC regional assemblies](#) in both Vancouver and Burlington

May 13-15 – ACNA clergy women's retreat in Woodbridge, Virginia

October 21-27 – GAFCon 2 [planned](#) for Nairobi, Kenya

ANiC regional assemblies, April 17-19/20

Online registration for the three regional assemblies is now open! [On the ANiC website](#) you'll find newly posted links to online registration as well as agendas for all three assemblies. In addition, we've provided information on speakers, locations, accommodation and (very affordable) costs.

The [eastern assembly](#) meets at Crossroads Centre in Burlington, ON, from April 17-19. Following clergy day, which ends at 3pm on April 17 (Wednesday), the assembly opens with Eucharist at 7pm. The **Primate of the Southern Cone, the most Reverend Hector (Tito) Zavala**, is the featured guest speaker. He will share what's happening in the Southern Cone and also, as one of the GAFCon primates, report on developments in the GAFCon movement. Five workshops will be offered on various aspects of personal spiritual growth and congregational ministry – all focused on equipping for gospel proclamation. Delegates will have opportunity to share about developments in their own congregations' ministry. And the four Bible teaching times will focus on the proclamation of Jesus in Old Testament passages.

Liturgical calendars

Canon Tom Carman has kindly created three - yes three - 2013 Liturgical calendars. One following the BCP tradition, one is in line with the BAS, and the third synced to Common Worship (Church of England). These are particularly helpful for clergy and altar guilds, but are great for all of us who follow the church year. The calendars can be downloaded (in pdf format), along with an introductory letter, from [the ANiC website](#).

Time to build

ANiC's *Time to Build* campaign – which is designed to place ANiC on a better financial footing as it responds to the demands of rapid growth – is full steam ahead, reports Archdeacon Ron Corcoran. He has presented to two churches on Vancouver Island and is scheduled to speak at:

- St Peters and St Paul's (Ottawa, ON) – March 9
- St Luke's (Pembroke, ON) – March 10
- Grace Anglican (Calgary, AB) – April 6 & 7

Archdeacon Ron is available to visit parishes across the country. To set up a visit, please work through your Archdeacon.

Bishops request prayer

ANiC's leadership will be meeting in the Toronto area this week and covet your prayer support. The House of Bishops meets Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning; the bishops and

archdeacons meet Wednesday and Thursday morning; and the ANiC council, ANiC's highest governing body between synods, meets on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday.

Clergy retreat & leadership training

The agenda for ANiC's annual clergy retreat – which will be held March 11-13 at Cedar Springs, just across the US border from Abbotsford, BC – is now [posted on the ANiC website](#). The guest speaker is Canon Phil Ashley and the topic is Leadership. Please register ASAP.

Immediately following the retreat Part 2 of Canon Ashley's clergy leadership training program will be offered in the same location (March 13-15). For information and to register, please [see the ANiC website](#).

Writing about this clergy leadership training in the latest [American Anglican Council](#) newsletter (received by email), Canon Phil Ashley says:

“For those of you who may not know about our Clergy Leadership Training Institute, the CLTI is for the development of clergy beyond seminary in the four "C's" of leadership: Character, Competency (ministry life skills), Compounding Results (multiplying leaders) and Church Conflict... Our goal is to equip clergy leaders with healthy boundaries - spiritual, emotional and professional - and effective skills to lead growing and healthy Anglican churches in North America. We do this through three gatherings over an 18-24 month period, with speakers who have proven and fruitful ministries in the four "C's" of leadership. We provide one-on-one coaching/spiritual direction for each participant during our gatherings, and on-site intercessors are available for prayer ministry. You can see the testimonies of this first CLTI group [here](#)...

“You can find out more about our CLTI [here](#)...

“On March 11-13 I will be at the Cedar Springs, WA Retreat Center to do the first session of our CLTI on "The Character of the Leader" for clergy in the Anglican Network in Canada (ANiC). After a short break, the clergy from the Diocese of Cascadia will join those ANiC clergy who wish to stay for our second session of CLTI on "The Competency of the Leader," March 13-15. Our main speakers will be Bishops Trevor Walters of ANiC and Kevin Allen of Cascadia. And I will be there to assist and speak on how leaders can maintain healthy boundaries, especially during church conflict.”

Clergy count = 163

In the last issue of the newsletter, we overstated the number of ANiC ordained clergy; the number given included lay pastors working in ANiC congregations. ANiC registrar Canon Tom Carman tells us the correct number of ordained clergy is 163.

Ottawa-area men's seminar

"*Rise Up O Men of God*", a "don't miss" event for men, is coming to **Blackburn Hamlet Community Church (Ottawa, ON)** on the weekend of April 12-13. The Rev Garth Hunt leads this men's seminar designed to encourage and equip men to be all that God intends them to be. It is open to all men in the Ottawa region – and beyond. See the [church website](#) for times and address. Register by [emailing the church](#).

If you would like Garth+ to bring this seminar to your community, please [see the ANiC website](#) for contact information.

ANiC monk celebrates 90th birthday

Bishop Don will be in Ottawa March 2 to help observe the 90th birthday of [Father Frere Kennedy](#), a monk – the only monk in ANiC – who is also honorary assistant at St Peter and St Paul's. Bishop Don will preside at a special celebration of the Holy Eucharist to offer thanks for Father Frere's long ministry, followed by small luncheon in his honour. Fr Frere's ministry focuses on spiritual direction, counseling and intercession.

Parish news

[Saint Matthew's \(Abbotsford, BC\)](#) invites all those within driving distance to join them as they [Journey to the Cross](#). Held four consecutive Wednesday evenings – February 27 to March 20 – this series explores the meaning of the Cross of Christ for our lives, our communities and our world.

[St Matthias and St Luke's \(Vancouver, BC\)](#) is hosting a Passover Seder Supper in association with Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Maundy Thursday, March 28 at 6pm in the parish hall, 320 East 15 Avenue, Vancouver. All fellow Christians are invited to join the congregations in experiencing the Passover Seder. The event will help participants understand the Lord's Supper in the context of the Passover Seder. If interested, please register **before March 21, 2013** by emailing info@smslchurch.ca or calling 604-876-4320. Seating is limited. Participation is by donation. Please note that the full Seder Supper will last at least a couple of hours.

[All Saint's \(Rutland, VT\)](#) officially received parish status in ANiC on Sunday and Father Dwight McPherson was installed as rector. Bishop Don Harvey also confirmed six candidates.

Please email parish news to [Marilyn](#) or call 1-866-351-2642 ext 4020.

Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) news

ACNA Primate joins other evangelical leaders in US Immigration Reform statement

The ACNA website reports that Archbishop Bob Duncan recently joined two dozen other heads of evangelical denominations in signing the [Evangelical Statement of Principles for Immigration Reform](#). Matthew Soerens, author of [Welcoming the Stranger](#) and a member of ACNA's Church of the Resurrection (Wheaton, IL), helped frame the statement which offers Christian principles to guide the formation of new United States immigration policy.

The ACNA article notes that *"... there are 11.5 million undocumented immigrants in the United States... Most live in the shadows and have no recourse or path to change their legal status or pursue citizenship."* *"There are currently 50 Hispanic congregations within the Anglican Church in North America. Many of our brothers and sisters in these congregations are undocumented and face a multitude of challenges."*

The statement calls for a new policy which:

- Respects the God-given dignity of every person
- Protects the unity of the immediate family
- Respects the rule of law
- Guarantees secure national borders
- Ensures fairness to taxpayers
- Establishes a path toward legal status and/or citizenship for those who qualify and who wish to become permanent residents

Other news in brief

Canada

- The bishop of Anglican Church of Canada Diocese of British Columbia has announced his resignation effective August 31. The [Anglican Journal notes](#) that a retired Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Andrew Hutchison, will serve as administrator of the diocese in the interim until an election is held for a successor diocesan bishop.
- The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that *"[The Anglican Church of] Canada's Diocese of Moosonee will be dissolved upon the retirement of its current bishop, the Rt Rev Thomas Corston, and its churches formed into a mission area of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario..."*
- The Canadian government has appointed its first ambassador of religious freedom. Andrew Bennett will focus on promoting freedom of religion, belief and conscience around the world and ensure that this value is reflected in Canadian foreign policy. In making the appointment, Prime Minister Stephen Harper noted that the post was inspired by the assassination in 2011

of Shahbaz Bhatti, Pakistan's minister of minorities who was targeted because of his Christian faith which inspired him to passionately defend religious minorities in his country.

Listing some of the most notorious countries of persecution, Mr Harper is [quoted in the National Post](#) saying, *"The list, appallingly, goes on. In the face of these injustices and atrocities, Canada will not be silent. Indeed, Canada has not been silent... But we are compelled to do more by the sheer number and gravity of the offences against this fundamental right around the world and the assault it implies on democracy itself. The cause is just. The need is urgent. And our responsibility is clear."*

In a [Cardus interview](#), Janet Epp Buckingham provides more perspective.

- Jonathan Kay writing in the [National Post supports](#) Trinity Western University (Langley, BC) in its bid to establish a law school despite the opposition of law school deans from other universities. While not adhering to TWU's statement of faith himself, Kay defends Christians' right to hold to Biblically based belief. He states, *"While acceptance of gay rights has become a welcome feature of Canadian political life, our courts have made it clear that religious institutions are free to hew to their traditional views on sexuality, and to embed them in on-campus behaviour codes... Accepting true "diversity" of belief in the Canadian marketplace of ideas must mean accepting those views that are politically unfashionable... Canada already has almost two-dozen non-Christian, left-leaning law schools whose curriculum and faculty comport well with Mr. Flanagan's [dean of Queen's Law School and a vocal opponent of TWU's bid] views. The world will not stop spinning on its axis if the country gains a new school that happens to be animated by English Canada's founding Christian creed."*
- Don Hutchinson of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada [comments](#) on the media furor over Government of Canada funding of the humanitarian work undertaken by Crossroads Christian Communication to provide sanitation and clean water to an impoverished region of Uganda. Referring to a headline which screamed, [Canada funds anti-gay group's work in homophobic Uganda](#), he writes, *"The story seeks to draw an insidious and non-existent link between an evangelical Christian ministry providing necessities of life – clean water, latrines and hygiene awareness – for the impoverished in Uganda (and several other countries), CIDA funding (spread over multiple years) and Ugandan government policy against homosexuality... Crossroads Relief and Development has an impressive track record of development and relief in a number of countries, providing aid for a number of constituencies, regardless of race, faith or sexual orientation. The CIDA funding identified is a small part of their multi-country development budget, spread over multiple years and completely unrelated to Ugandan government policy."*

United States

- A [recent article](#) in the *Washington Post* discusses the merits of the court cases in both South Carolina and Texas involving dioceses that have left the Episcopal Church.
- [Anglican Ink reports](#) that the Episcopal Church has named a twelve-person task force to study marriage and *"try to find a theological rationale for the church's recent change in doctrine on gay marriage."*

England

- One of Archbishop Justin Welby's [first acts](#) in assuming the see of Canterbury was to appoint Canon David Porter as part-time director for reconciliation on the Archbishop's personal staff at Lambeth Palace. Canon Porter has vast experience from working behind the scenes to bring an end to the conflict in Northern Ireland.

The Rev Matt Kennedy, a [StandFirm in Faith blogger](#), fears that this signals a continuation of Archbishop Rowan Williams-initiated endless 'indaba' discussions of irreconcilable, core gospel- differences.

[VirtueOnline reports](#) that many GAFCON primates may decline to attend Archbishop Justin Welby's enthronement in March if US Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori is invited – and, [according to the US Episcopal Church website](#), she has received an invitation and will be attending. The speculation is that this may be the motivation behind the appointment of a director of reconciliation. This, however, fails to recognize that the divide in the Anglican Communion is not merely a broken relationship, but a principled stand in opposition to heresy. Without repentance and a turning from the false teaching, the theological tear in the Communion is irreconcilable.

Julian Mann [adds](#) *“The GAFCON leaders will be doing a great service to orthodox Anglicans in the liberal-dominated Western provinces by continuing to refuse to attend primatial meetings if Mrs Jefferts Schori is present. The theological stand GAFCON is taking is hugely helpful in making crystal clear that lines of biblical conviction have been crossed and that indaba with false teachers cannot be given spiritual legitimacy... It is worth remembering amidst the ancient lustre of a Canterbury enthronement where the future of vital Christianity lies. The UK, for example, is becoming so anti-Christian that it could get to the point that British Christians end up seeking asylum in GAFCON countries due to the impossibility of earning a living in their own country, let alone preaching the gospel.”*

- [Anglican Mainstream reports](#) that another Anglican minister in England has been ordained in the Anglican Church of Kenya under the auspices of the Chair of GAFCON and Primate of Kenya, Archbishop Eliud Wabukala.
- Britain's Baroness Warsi, a practicing Muslim, *says that “people who do God, do good... [V]ery often faith is the basis for good deeds. It influences, it inspires, it impels at every turn.”* [The Telegraph notes that](#) new research “lays bare the scale of Britain's growing dependence on religious groups to meet social needs in the midst of recession. Churches alone are providing almost 100 million hours of unpaid volunteer work on social projects a year, up by more than a third in two years, while donations for such work are up by a fifth, it found.” The Baroness' comments echo Archbishop Justin Welby's call for churches to seize the opportunity by stepping in to meet community needs the state can no longer meet.

Portugal – (Received by email) All Saint's Anglican Church in Algarve, Portugal is seeking an experienced pastor and Bible teacher to oversee two congregations. The pastor would be a “house for duty priest”. Applicants are expected to be in agreement with the Jerusalem Declaration and Statement. Information is on the [Anglican Mainstream website](#).

Egypt – [Christian Today reports](#) continued attacks on church buildings in Egypt. In the face of the growing hostility to Christians, [Patheos reports](#) that leaders of five different Christian streams in Egypt have begun meeting as the United Council of Egyptian Churches. The article goes on to quote Brian Stiller, global ambassador for the World Evangelical Alliance, saying, *“The Arab Spring has become a Christian Winter... Egypt faces an exodus of its Christian population similar to those that have already been seen in other Middle Eastern states in the grips of Islamist governments. This will be tragic for Egypt.”*

Ethiopia – The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that *“The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) has broken with the Church of Sweden, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and all “churches who have openly accepted same-sex marriage.””*

Kenya – In an [earlier report](#), Bishop Bill Atwood gave an inspiring account of the roll of the current Primate in stemming the violence following the 2007 elections in Kenya. In the [February 12 American Anglican Council newsletter](#), he reports on his time in Kenya working with the Primate to prepare the country for a peaceful election in the coming weeks. Bishop Atwood reports the full content of a powerful letter written by the Primate to the politicians, people and church of Kenya calling for repentance, forgiveness, fasting and prayer.

Tanzania – [Anglican Ink reports](#) that the Anglican Church of Tanzania has elected Bishop Jacobo Chimeledya as its new Primate, to be installed in May. The current Primate, Archbishop Valentino Mokiwa was unsuccessful in his re-election bid.

China – [Fox News reports](#) that “*Christians and human rights advocates are alarmed over an aggressive crackdown on house churches in China, where the faithful are forced to call their gatherings “patriotic” assemblies or sent to prison where they can face torture, according to a new report. Cases of the government persecuting Christians rose 42 percent last year, amid a three-phase plan by Beijing to eradicate the home-based churches, according to China Aid, a Texas-based human rights group.*”

Soul food

Resources

- **Praying for persecuted Christians around the world** – The [Middle East Forum reports](#) that “As usual, the month of Christmas saw an uptick in Christian persecution under Islam, in a variety of forms, from insults to murders.” It lists incidents of attacks on churches from Denmark to Indonesia; imprisonment and murder in Algeria to Pakistan; abductions, rape and forced marriage of Christians girls to Muslim men. The report concludes, “...*whatever the anecdote of persecution, it typically fits under a specific theme, including hatred for churches and other Christian symbols; apostasy and blasphemy laws; sexual abuse of Christian women; forced conversions to Islam; theft and plunder in lieu of jizya (tribute); overall expectations for Christians to behave like cowed “dhimmis” (barely tolerated citizens); and simple violence and murder. Oftentimes it is a combination thereof.*” The frequency and geographic range of this persecution, the author concludes, shows “...*that such persecution is not “random,” but systematic and interrelated—that it is rooted in a worldview inspired by Sharia.*”
- **Abortion** – A newly released book – *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made* by Dr Megan Best – is [being hailed](#) as the “*must read*” book on reproductive ethics and abortion. Dr D A Carson says in his review, ““*At last—a single volume examining beginning-of-life issues that is equally competent in biology, theology, philosophy, and pastoral care.*”
- **Heresy creep** – Pastor Kevin DeYoung, [writing on The Gospel Coalition blog](#), summarizes the standard process for “*how denominations come to tolerate, accept, and then endorse homosexuality*”. Regrettably, his own denomination, the Reformed Church in America, seems to be embarking upon this well-trodden path.
- **Mere Anglicanism** – If you didn’t make it to South Carolina for the recent Mere Anglicanism conference you can still feast on its spiritual buffet. Videos of sessions with Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishop Paul Barnett, Eric Metaxas, Dr Allen Ross, the Rev David Wenham and the Rev Peter Walker – and others – are [posted on the AnglicanTV website](#).
- **Apologetics conference** – The annual [Apologetics Canada conference](#) will be in Abbotsford, BC, March 1-2. Top-notch speakers include Dr William Lane Craig, Dr Andy Bannister, Dr John Patrick and J Warner Wallace. Well worth your time!
- **Evangelicals in danger** – [VirtueOnline points us](#) to an excellent article by Carl Tueman of Westminster Theological Seminary discussing the danger to our churches and faith by focusing exclusively on God’s love to the exclusion of His other attributes, including justice and wrath, and by our “*pick-n-mix Bible where consumer, not Creator, is king*”. He urges us to “*give the whole Bible its proper place in our lives, thinking and worship*”. *As a remedy, he recommends returning to the Psalms for worship/singing and not neglect the Old Testament as we strive to “understand each passage, each verse, within the theological and narrative structure of the canon as a whole”.*
- In the latest [Anglican Unscripted weekly news video](#), commentators Kevin Kallsen and George Conger discuss the problem with “*ashes to go*” without true repentance, the lack of

information about the proposed GAFCon 2 conference in Nairobi later this year, the resignation of Pope Benedict, and Archbishop Justin Welby's first actions upon assuming the office of Archbishop of Canterbury. They give Archbishop Welby 10 out of 10 for his refusal to be controlled by his staff.

Just for laughs

A tour bus arrived at Runnymede, England. The guide asked the tourists to gather around and then announced, "You are standing on the very spot where the barons forced King John to sign the Magna Carta."

A man in the group asked, "When did that happen?"

"1215," the guide answered.

The tourist looked at his watch, "Rats!" he said, "Missed it by half an hour."

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Addressing cell phones in church

Clergy, are you frustrated by cell phones going off during services? Enjoy one church's tongue-in-cheek solution to that problem – an announcement video [posted to YouTube](#).

Thought

If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough.

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And now a word from our sponsor

Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?

If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you.

Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you, when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me.

Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way, and have their fill of their own devices.

For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but whoever listens to me will dwell secure and will be at ease, without dread of disaster."

Proverbs 1:20-33 (ESV)