



Handle with prayer

News – ANiC and AEN

Asian Mission in Canada Conference great success

The inaugural conference of the Asian Mission in Canada (AMiC) was a tremendous success; before the first day was over participants were already asking when the next conference would be held. AMiC is a ministry of ANiC under the leadership of Bishop Stephen Leung, rector of Good Shepherd (Vancouver). The conference held March 21-22 in Vancouver at Regent College and Good Shepherd and entitled *Discerning Contemporary Culture: Challenges & Christian Ministry in a Permissive Age* drew 170 registrants, from all over North America. The excellent line-up of speakers included the Rev Dr Brian Stiller, president of Tyndale University College and Seminary (Toronto) and the Rev Dr David Pao, associate professor of New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Deerfield, Illinois). When the DVDs are available for order, there will be a notice in the newsletter with pricing information.

Congratulations

Our hearty congratulations to Bishop Trevor Walters and Dede Johnson on their wedding on March 26 in Phoenix, Arizona. We pray God's rich blessing on their marriage and ministry.

Last chance to register for the *Plant and Grow* seminars in Ottawa & Burlington

Having completed two successful sessions in BC, *Plant and Grow* conferences continue across Canada. The sessions focus on both planting new churches and growing established churches. Don't miss this great opportunity for both pastors and laity. Register now!

Ottawa, ON (see brochure)	April 2	Contact the Rev Dan Endresen
Burlington, ON	April 6	Contact the Rev Ray David Glenn
Moncton, NB	May 28	Contact the Rev Dan Endresen
Marlborough, MA	June (TBD)	Contact the Ven Michael McKinnon
Brandon, MB	TBD	Contact Phil Varcoe

Synod 2011 plans taking shape

Planning is underway for our next synod on **November 3-4** in Victoria, BC. Immediately prior to synod, on **November 2**, there will be two very important events: Clergy Day for all ANiC clergy; as well as a full-day spiritual life conference for laity. The synod hotel will be the [downtown Marriott](#) and some of the sessions will be held in the nearby facilities of the [Church of Our Lord Reformed Episcopal Church](#) – an ACNA parish. More details will be available in several months.

Good Friday offering

Traditionally churches designate their Good Friday offering for something special. If your parish hasn't already decided where you will send your Good Friday offering, one option is to designate it for the work of Christ Church Jerusalem. Any donations for Christ Church Jerusalem can be sent via the ANiC office – with a note clearly stating your designation.

Diocese of Maseno West provides update on malaria reduction project

Posted on the Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada (ARDFC) website is the most recent project update from the Diocese of Maseno West. They are making excellent progress in implementing the malaria reduction project for which ARDFC is raising funds. You can read [the short report here](#) and [see the latest photos here](#). (Scroll down to "Phase 2".) Information on the project is [posted on the ARDFC website](#).

ANiC in the Anglican Planet

A number of interesting articles have been posted to the most recent edition of the [Anglican Planet](#) including a piece called "[Three Toronto Priests Join ANiC](#)". Sue Careless writes:

"In January three prominent Anglican priests in the Diocese of Toronto relinquished their licenses with the Anglican Church of Canada and were accepted as priests into the Anglican Network in Canada (ANiC)."

"They are the Rev. Andy Leroux, chair for the past decade of the Archbishop of Toronto's Committee on Spiritual Renewal and rector of St Ninian's in Scarborough for 14 years; the Rev. Robin Guinness, an honorary assistant at Little Trinity in downtown Toronto and former President of Barnabas Ministries; and Canon Brian McVitty, rector of Trinity Church, Barrie."

"All three priests were disturbed that the Toronto College of Bishops had permitted same-sex blessings unilaterally without taking any synodical vote first. (The bishops claimed that the majority of diocesan clergy were supportive of SSBs and argued that a vote would be divisive.) All three priests said they went with their former bishops' blessings."

Other articles of interest on the *Anglican Planet* website articles include:

- [Vancouver ANiC churches to appeal to Supreme Court](#)
- [Peaceful settlement in Ottawa](#)
- [New Bishop for the Diocese of Ontario](#)
- [RIP: Robert Darwin Crouse \(1930-2011\)](#)

In addition, the hard copy of the *Planet* contains an interview with the Rev Andy Leroux, who is now rector of one of ANiC's newest churches, Living Hope Christian Church (Scarborough, ON). Andy explains why he relinquished his Anglican Church of Canada licence and moved to ANiC: *"It was difficult to think of leaving my parishioners. I have been at St Ninian's for over 13 years and I cared for them deeply. I knew however, if I truly was their 'shepherd in Christ' I had to stand for the authority of the Scriptures. I had to show them by example that obedience to God's Word is the most important value in life."*

In talking about his new ANiC church, Andy says, *"We have had three services so far which were wonderful! There was such a sense of freedom and joy. We could feel God's pleasure! Many of my old parishioners have come to the new church which has made my leaving easier. There is a great sense of anticipation about God's plans for our future. We know that He provides and blesses and uses those who trust and obey Him."*

St David's the Faithful (Winnipeg, MB) featured on the front page

St David's, ANiC's one-year-old project overseen by the Venerable Paul Crossland, was on the front page of [Winnipeg's Christian Week newspaper](#). The article featured lay leaders Daryl Duke and Wes Schroepfer who expressed confidence that the project would grow into a biblically minded parish. The article also mentioned that ANiC is *"committed to the Anglican Communion and is working to ensure that orthodox Canadian Anglicans will always be able to be a part of it."*

Parish News

The Open Gate (Victoria, BC) – The Rev Sharon Hayton is retiring as rector of [the Open Gate Church](#). Open Gate parishioners held a dinner party on March 25 to celebrate Sharon's ministry and wish her well in her retirement. [See photos](#). Sharon continues to serve on [the ANiC Council](#).

Swan River Fellowship, Swan River, MB – Members of the [ANiC project in Swan River](#) had the privilege of attending an International Leaders School of Ministry in Winnipeg earlier this month. They report that this one-week course *"trains leaders in the tools of revival, particularly focusing on our relationship with God. Through the gifted and anointed ministry of the leaders, we were refreshed at the springs of living water."*

Manitoba congregations – Redeemer (Dauphin), Resurrection (Brandon), St Bede's (Kinosota), St David's (Winnipeg) and Swan River Fellowship (Swan River) – held a joint worship service in Dauphin on March 6 with Bishop Don Harvey. [See photos.](#)

Calendar of upcoming events – for your interest and prayer support

March 29-31 – ANiC's 2011 [clergy retreat](#) near Abbotsford, BC

April 2 – Ottawa, ON [church planting workshop](#)

April 6 – Burlington, ON [church planting workshop](#)

April 7 – Calgary, AB – AEC's "Transformational discipleship in the 21st Century" conference

April 9, 10am-noon – Barrie, ON – Quiet morning for clergy and spouses at [Celebration Church](#)

April 9, 2pm – Barrie, ON – [Official launch of Celebration Church](#)

April 12-14 – [Gospel Coalition conference](#), Chicago, Illinois

April 17 – Church of the Epiphany & St Peter by the Park (Hamilton) – [Palm Sunday family event](#)

May 28 – Moncton, NB [church planting workshop](#)

June (TBD) – Marlborough, MA [church planting workshop](#)

June 6-20 – Asian Mission [short-term mission trip](#) to Thailand and the Karan refugee camps

June 30 – July 14 – Asian Mission [short-term mission trip](#) to China, working with disabled orphans

Nov 2 – Clergy Day as well as spiritual life conference for laity – both in Victoria, BC

Nov 3-4 – [ANiC synod](#), Victoria, BC

On the front lines: Profiles of ANiC church plants and projects

As is becoming our custom, we continue to get to know the plants and projects of ANiC by tracking stories of their journeys. For this edition, we hear from the Ottawa Valley.

Eternal Hope Anglican Church, Carleton Place

David Kemp, lay minister of Eternal Hope, recently wrote: "*We are happy to announce that [Eternal Hope Anglican Church](#) in Carleton Place, Ontario is now entering our fourth year as an Anglican Network in Canada church.*"

Eternal Hope held its first meeting on 29 November 2007 – just one week after ANiC became an ecclesial organization – with Bishop Malcolm Harding and Archdeacon Desiree Stedman attending. The congregation began Sunday worship services the following Palm Sunday, 15 March 2008, in the local library, calling themselves the Lanark Christian Fellowship. Two years ago, they moved to a Seventh Day Adventist church. Dave says, "*We have been blessed with growth from our outreach to non-Anglican families and individuals in our area, now averaging 23 people per Sunday.*"

Happy Anniversary Eternal Hope! We pray that God will bless your faithful ministry in Carleton Place with much fruit.

Eternal Hope meets for worship and praise at 117 Victoria Street (at Emily Street), Carleton Place, every Sunday at 10am. Bible study is held every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm. All are welcome!

News – Anglican Church in North America (ACNA)

Surprising video from Archbishop Duncan's trip to Israel

A video from Archbishop Bob Duncan's recent trip to Israel with 80 other pilgrims contains a highly symbolic surprise. He had been emphasizing the need for Scripture memorization. To demonstrate, one of the pilgrims gave a dramatic recitation of Mark 10:46-52 – which was videoed. To see the surprise, read Archbishop Bob's short letter and watch the video [on the ACNA website](#).

Effective Parish Website training offered

The American Anglican Council is offering a free online training session to help parishes develop and maintain effective parish websites. The next session is Thursday, April 14 at 3pm Eastern time. If you're interested, register soon as space is limited. For more information and to register for this special encore presentation, go to www.aacwebinar.com.

Sure Foundation parish training program opportunity

The [American Anglican Council](#) (AAC) has developed training for parish leaders based on a needs survey of ACNA parishes. They identified several priority needs among congregations - including the need to develop a strategic growth plan, goals and applications for evangelism, discipleship, community outreach, church planting and global mission. Working together with [Acts 29 Ministries](#), the AAC has developed the [Sure Foundation project](#). Currently, as a pilot project, nine congregations and 80 clergy and lay leaders from the ACNA Diocese of the South are participating.

Now the program is being made more widely available through a [four day program](#) at Nashotah House Seminary (Nashotah, WI) that will take place on June 26-30. Clergy and parish leadership teams are welcome to participate and learn how to grow your church. Registration deadline is **May 31**. For more information, see www.americananglican.org/surefoundation.

Canadian flag flies proudly

Outside the ACNA head office in Ambridge, Pennsylvania, the Canadian flag flies proudly beside the US flag and the ACNA flag. See the [photo](#).

ACNA's US military chaplains may come under increased pressure

[USA Today reports](#) that "*The Army has started training chaplains on the repeal of the ban on openly gay military members, saying those who are unable to follow the forthcoming policy can seek a voluntary departure.*" A January news release from ACNA stated that, of it's more than 100 clergy serving as chaplains around the world, nearly 60 per cent serve US governmental agencies including the military. See the ACNA's [Deanery for the Chaplaincy](#) for background information.

ACNA Diocese of San Joaquin looks for new bishop

The [Fresno Bee reports](#) that the Diocese of San Joaquin has announced four nominees to replace Bishop John-David Schofield who is retiring in October. The new bishop will be elected on May 14 in a special convention.

More ACNA news

North County Times – March 25 2011 – [Christ Church begins anew – again – in own space](#)

News -- Canada

ACoC incorporates Earth Day into Good Friday liturgies

Since Earth Day coincides with Good Friday this year the Anglican Church of Canada (ACoC) has decided it is a good opportunity to mix modern environmental themes into the ancient Good Friday worship service. The [news release states](#): "The Greening Anglican Spaces task group has developed special liturgical material for Anglicans to incorporate themes from [Earth Day] into [Good Friday]." The chair of the task group, the Rev Kenneth Gray of Victoria, BC, says these Good Friday / Earth Day materials were inspired by John 3:16 ("God so loved the world..."). He says, "*The reason why we think Good Friday is a good day to talk about this is because essentially we are crucifying the earth and I think the imagery there is quite dynamic.*"

ACoC Primate attends TEC House of Bishops meetings

The [Episcopal News Service tells us](#) that Archbishop Fred Hiltz is attending the Episcopal Church (TEC) House of Bishops meeting in North Carolina from March 25-30. He is one of three foreign primates in attendance; the others are Archbishop Henri Isingoma of the Congo, and Archbishop Paul Kim of South Korea.

Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI to consider same-sex blessings motions

The [AEC blog notes](#) that the Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI will address four motions related to the blessing of same-sex couples at its May Synod, including the following motion: "*Moved, that this Synod request the Bishop as chief liturgical officer of the Diocese to provide for a liturgy for blessing covenanted or committed unions outside of marriage.*" This motion, as AEC blogger David points out, allows for the blessing of a wide and undefined range of relationships.

Bishop Ingham declares that all “tried and true” religions lead to God

The Anglican Samizdat has posted [a short video clip](#) from an interview with Bishop Michael Ingham (New Westminster) in which he states his belief that all the great religions of the world “*lead us to God, however you might name God.*”

Should the Anglican Church of Canada change its name?

A [guest editorial in the Anglican Journal](#) suggests that the Anglican Church of Canada (ACoC) change its name to the Episcopal Church of Canada. “*By this change we declare our church’s autonomy with its own form of governance and our readiness to respond wherever the Holy Spirit may lead us.*”

Diocese plans to plant a “vibrant new community” in St Alban’s building

The [AEC blog points out an article](#) in the Diocese of Ottawa’s April newspaper. The article tells us that, once the ANiC parish of St Alban’s leaves its building and changes its name to Church of the Messiah, the diocese will plant a “...*vibrant new community with a membership drive aimed at former parishioners who were alienated by the direction taken in the years leading up to the ANiC regime...*” The parishioners and leadership of St Alban’s agreed to leave their building in a negotiated settlement with the diocese which involved financial compensation for the ANiC parish. From [media reports](#), the expected primary use of the church building will be as a drop-in centre.

The [Anglican Samizdat highlights a similar move](#) by the diocese of Niagara which is turning the former church building of ANiC’s St Peter by the Park into a community centre.

Freedom of religion under attack

Evangelical Fellowship of Canada Legal Counsel Faye Sonier [spoke on 100 Huntley Street](#) about the recent Saskatchewan Court of Appeal decision which restricts the right of individuals to act according to their religious beliefs in the public sphere. The court found that marriage commissioners in Saskatchewan do not have the right to decline to perform marriages that are contrary to their religious beliefs – even if they are willing to refer these couples to other marriage commissioners who will perform the ceremony. The decision sets a new precedent for people of any faith in the public sector, giving same-sex desires precedence over freedom of conscience and religion. One marriage commissioner responded to the decision by saying “*I have no objection to gays getting married. My only objection is forcing me into doing it.*” He concluded, “*I’m not going to resign. They’ll have to fire me.*”

Meanwhile in New Brunswick a florist has been harassed and vilified after graciously and respectfully declining to supply the bouquets for the wedding to two women. The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada’s Don Hutchinson [has provided](#) a side of the story ignored by the secular media.

Combating poverty and homelessness

If you have a heart for justice issues, the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada’s [StreetLevel Roundtable on Poverty and Homelessness](#) invites Christians engaged in social justice ministry to connect with Roundtable members as they travel across Canada during 2011. The Roundtable gathers those who are interested in engaging in social justice issues, providing opportunities for support, celebrate and collaboration. Email [Dion Oxford](#), Roundtable chair, to connect.

News – United States

TEC Presiding Bishop finally corrects Wikipedia bio

According to [Virtue Online](#), recent changes have been made to [175 participants](#) Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Shori’s Wikipedia biography, removing suspect credentials. Previously, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church (TEC) had listed among her qualifications for office, positions in institutions that had neither formal accreditation nor independent existence. (For background see a 2006 [World Net Daily article](#).)

Consultation held on liturgies of blessing for gay and lesbian couples

The [Episcopal Café reports](#) that – thanks to funding from the Arcus Foundation – a consultation was held recently on the liturgy being developed by the Episcopal Church (TEC) for same-sex couples. [LifeSiteNews reports](#) that the Arcus Foundation, funded by Jon Stryker, a billionaire intent on promoting the homosexual agenda, funds “*various groups that promote acceptance of homosexuality under the guise of representing concerned members of the Judaeo-Christian community*”. Arcus has shelled out a reported \$6.5 million since 2007 to various “Christian” front groups waging war against established Church teaching on moral issues.

Diocese of Springfield installs new bishop

One of the few remaining theologically “conservative” dioceses in the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Springfield, [has consecrated](#) its new bishop, the Right Rev Dan Martins. Liberals in TEC were unsuccessful in their campaign to derail his election by encouraging other dioceses to withhold consent.

More US news

Church of England Newspaper – March 7 2011 – [Episcopal priest banned from practicing Islam](#)
 Anglican Curmudgeon – March 19 2011 – [Texas Court... makes a mockery of “Neutral Principles”](#)
 Canton Repository (Ohio) – March 27 2011 – [Malone alum to start Anglican church in Stark](#)

News – International

Communion contemplates theological basis of advocating for persecuted Christians

The Anglican Consultative Council Standing Committee has been meeting this past week. While little of note has been reported from the meeting, we [do learn](#) that, when asked by a member to consider how the Communion could better support and advocate for persecuted “*Christian minorities*”, members agreed “...*to encourage the holding of a discussion of the theological principles underpinning human dignity at ACC-15...*” ACC-15 is the next meeting of the full Anglican Consultative Council in 2012 in Auckland, New Zealand.

The ACC Standing Committee [also heard](#) that the recently created Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy is holding a conference in Nairobi, Kenya, April 11-16, co-hosted by the Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa (CAPA).

Proposed Anglican Covenant continues to cool

The Wakefield diocese in England is the first diocese in Britain to [vote against](#) adoption of the Anglican Covenant – the document endorsed by the Archbishop of Canterbury intended to help hold together the fractured global Communion. So far, Mexico, Myanmar, and the West Indies have approved the Covenant. No provinces have explicitly voted to reject it.

Nigerian Bishop John Akao, [writing in the Church Times](#) discusses the covenant, saying, “*The present covenant, to the African Anglicans, is crafted to persuade orthodox Anglicans to accept and commit to fellowshiping with revisionist groups who have perpetrated aberrations but who unrepentantly defy various moves and resolutions to bring them back on course.*” Bishop Akao then lists seven reasons African Anglicans are not embracing the covenant in its present form. In conclusion, he says, “*As long as there is no cohesion, the idea of a covenant will remain impracticable.*”

Chronicling the demise of the *Instruments of Unity* in the Communion

VirtueOnline has [posted an article](#) written by the resident theologian of a TEC church in Maryland that recounts the demise of the “*instruments of communion*” and with them conciliarism in Anglicanism. The article concludes: “*If, then, there is to be a revival of Anglican conciliarism, it will have to come not from the Instruments in their now compromised state but instead out of churches of the Global South, together with their Western allies. These churches have laid a basis for it already in Gafcon, their conference in Jerusalem in June 2008. There the Spirit was clearly at work, producing conciliarly the extraordinary Jerusalem Declaration.*”

From around the Communion and the world

Japan – In the wake of the recent 9.0 earthquake and devastating tsunamis in Northeastern Japan, the Anglican Communion News Service [posted a letter](#) from The Rt Rev'd John Hiromichi Kato requesting prayer. Included are stories of hope and encouragement. The bishop himself is directing rehabilitation and collecting information in the diocese. He said *“the eventual challenge is to rebuild our diocese. With God’s blessing I pray that we will accomplish this task.”* The [Christian Post reports](#) that a number of Anglican parishioners are still missing.

In a more recent [Church of England Newspaper article](#), Japan’s Archbishop Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu explains that the infrastructure is not able to accommodate volunteers right now, *“However, once the extent of the damage is known to the churches and homes of the people of the Tohoku and Kita Kanto dioceses, there will be a need for volunteers to help rebuild.”*

[Wikipedia](#) currently records that the March 11 earthquake and tsunami caused *“11,004 deaths, 2,778 injured, and 17,339 people missing across eighteen prefectures, as well as over 125,000 buildings damaged or destroyed.”* Japan’s government said the cost of the disaster could reach \$309 billion, *“making it the world’s most expensive natural disaster on record.”*

If you wish to help, you can [donate online](#) or send a cheque to ARDFC, Box 1013, Burlington, ON, L7R 4L8. Please clearly designate your donation for Japan relief work. US donors can donate through the US-based [ARDF](#).

Less than 2 per cent of Japan’s population is Christian. Please pray for the country and for the Japanese church, especially for the region that was hardest hit by the tsunami.

Israel – A British MP recently [spoke out against](#) the BBC’s biased coverage of Israel – specifically in regard to recent terrorist attacks in the West Bank and Jerusalem, including the [Fogel family massacre](#) two weeks ago.

A Jerusalem bus bombing on March 23rd [wounded](#) 39 people and killed one – Mary Jane Gardner, a 59-year-old Wycliffe Bible translator and student at Hebrew University. An email from a resident in Israel says, *“(Mary) recently completed translation of the New Testament into the Ife language in Togo... (H)er sudden death is a devastating loss to all... (It) reminds us of the spiritual battle we face... “Israel is experiencing a serious upgrade in missile attacks, hitting further into the interior, as far as Beersheva, and Ashdod. The declining infrastructure in Egypt, due to the recent flight of President Hosni Mubarak, has set in motion a loose border, with many weapons crossing into Hamas in Gaza.”* Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Britain – The [Catholic Herald reports](#) that *“The Pope has honoured three former Anglican bishops, the first members of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, with the title of monsignor.”* However, Church of England Bishop Jonathan Gledhill (Lichfield) [told his diocese](#) that while some members of the diocese were expected to take up the pope’s offer, *“the Pope’s ordinariate won’t undermine 40 years of ecumenical friendship.”*

The [Daily Mail reports](#) that the Manchester Cathedral is to host a New Age festival featuring *“tarot card readers, crystal healers, dream interpretation, and a fire-breathing vicar... But the move is certain to anger traditionalists, who feel the Church has already strayed too far from tradition”*. The article quotes the Bishop of Manchester, the Rt Rev Nigel McCulloch, saying *“he wanted to celebrate ‘all forms of spirituality’.”*

Malaysia – The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that Bibles translated into the Malay-language must be stamped with an inscription reading, *“for the use of Christians only. By order of the Home Minister.”* Each Bible must be numbered and registered with the government.

North Africa – Bishop Mouneer Anis, Primate of Jerusalem and the Middle East, [told the Church of England Newspaper](#) that, as of mid-March, *“The Anglican flag remains flying in Tripoli”* with the assistant rector of Christ the King Church still serving the Libyan church. The Rev Hamdy Doud, like many other African Anglicans, has not been able to evacuate. The report continues: *“St*

George's Anglican Church in Tunis had sent a team to assist... in providing aid for refugees" at the border with Tunisia. Bishop Anis said they were "cooking for up to 10,000 people at the border, which includes brothers from our Arabic-speaking congregation. Please pray for them."

Africa – Canon Chris Sugden [writes in the Church of England Newspaper](#) of challenges facing the African Church, especially the cultural imperialism practiced by western governments and churches imposing liberal western morality on these traditional societies. Specifically he mentions the “*charm offensive*” evident in the recent meeting in Tanzania involving Anglican Church of Canada bishops, including Bishop Michael Ingham, and an Indaba Consultation in Ghana. He adds, “*There are many others travelling to Africa at the moment seeking to persuade African Church leaders that the march of western enlightenment in the arena of human rights is both obvious and inevitable.*” He says moral and human rights issues “*...are critical issues with which the church in Africa is engaging and to which it needs to find its own voice.*”

Southern Africa – The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans (FCA) in South Africa has called on the Synod of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa “*to clarify their ambiguous statements on human sexuality.*” The House of Bishops wrote: “*It is difficult to give blanket guidelines [on same-sex blessings] because the position is starkly at variance in the legal systems of the seven countries where we work.*” While civil unions are legal in South Africa, they are illegal in the six other nations in the province. FCA called on the bishops to “*guard the faith*” because “*sexuality is the touchstone in this Anglican fragmentation*”.

Zambia – The [Anglican Communion News Service reports](#) that the Church of the Province of Central Africa has installed its sixth Primate, Archbishop Albert Chama.

Nigeria – The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that tragedy was narrowly averted recently in Jos when “*...bombs destined for two packed churches exploded prematurely, killing the would-be assassins.*” One bomb headed for the Evangelical Church Winning All detonated prematurely killing the two motorcyclists carrying it. A second bomb, also carried by two motorcyclists, failed to detonate at the Mountain of Fire and Miracles Church.

The Archbishop of Jos, Dr Benjamin Kwashi is quoted saying, “*No one is willing to accept that the Christian church is under attack. It is difficult for people to understand that Jos could be overrun. The government has been negligent, and the world will not help.*” While Archbishop Kwashi is urging Christians not to seek revenge, he says, “*People have had enough of this. It's been going on for 30 years... But you know, the only real answer is prayer. I trust God to defend us. I have been threatened with death personally three times. In all three times, the Lord has rescued me.*”

Pakistan – [Compass Direct News reports](#) that, “*Two Christians were gunned down and two other are in serious condition with bullet wounds after Muslim youths attacked them outside a church building in Hyderabad last night...*”

Other international media reports

Church of England Newspaper – March 18 2011 – [Brazil to have protestant majority in 10 years...](#)
Telegraph (London) – March 28 2011 – [Zimbabwe's Anglicans forced to worship in pubs](#)

Soul food

Of interest

Dealing with life's wounds – A lovely [first person account in Christianity.ca](#) relates how one woman, with God's help, chose to turn the hurts that left holes in her life into something beautiful.

Apple bows to homosexual lobby again – Chuck Colson and the organizers of [the Manhattan Declaration](#) – which articulates a traditional stand on moral issues – have issued a bulletin regarding censorship of traditional views. They write: “*Last fall, Apple banned the Manhattan Declaration from iTunes store after protests by gay-rights groups. Now, similar protests have claimed another victim: the app created by Exodus International, a great Christian ministry that helps people who want to leave the homosexual lifestyle to do so. Gay-rights groups will target*

every Christian app that dares to dissent from their views on issues of sexuality and marriage... Make no mistake about it; the gay lobby is not just trying to win their argument in the public square. They are trying to marginalize, intimidate, and ultimately silence anyone who dares to oppose their viewpoint." [Exodus International debunks](#) the myths leading to the banishment of their iPhone app.

Talking about the homosexual agenda – The [Christian Post profiles a new book](#), *A Queer Thing Happened to America: And What a Long Strange Trip It's Been*. The author says the book was intended to start a dialogue on the "homosexual civil rights movement and the change it brought to American society". However, no one seems to want to talk. The book's author, Michael L Brown, has found that, like the secular media, "gay rights activists... don't want to have public discussions about homosexuality". He says, "It's as if those who came out of the closet fighting for what they said was equality and tolerance want to put us in the closet who take respectful difference."

The article describes Brown's book as "... a compilation of essays describing how homosexuals have moved from being the oppressed minority to being everywhere: in the news, on television and movies, and out on Capitol Hill. The stories in each chapter show how the market place of ideas surrounding the topic of homosexuality has been constricted to one narrowed, take-it-or-leave-it view."

Abortion and baby girls – [First Things reports](#) that, "The widespread use of sonogram technology—coupled with liberal abortion laws—has made it easier than ever for women to identify the sex of their child so that those without a Y chromosome can be killed before they're even born. In a speech before the United Nations, demographer Nicholas Eberstadt revealed the details of this frightening trend:

"Over the past five years the American public has received regular updates on what we have come to call "the global war on terror". A no-less significant global war—a war, indeed, against nature, civilization, and in fact humanity itself has also been underway in recent years. This latter war, however, has attracted much less attention and comment, despite its immense consequence. This world-wide struggle might be called 'The Global War Against Baby Girls'."

"...Recent analysis by the Canadian Medical Association Journal confirms that in large parts of China and India, there will be a 10 to 20 percent excess of young men because of sex selection—and that this imbalance will have societal repercussions....

"The West constantly frets about the alarming levels of global CO2 emissions. But we should be even more concerned about the imbalance in the level of global testosterone. As we will soon realize, changes in our global climate are a minor threat compared to the havoc that will result from the changes in global demographics."

Resources

Discipleship course – [VirtueOnline draws our attention](#) to a course in discipleship developed by the former president of Trinity School of Ministry, the Rev Dr Peter Moore. *A Step Further – the Journey in Discipleship* can be [ordered online](#).

Gnostic heresy exposed in Anglicanism – [David Virtue provides a helpful review](#) of the book, *The Episcopal Church: The Way of Balaam: False Teachers and the re-appearance of ancient Gnostic beliefs*, by Dave Doveton, canon theologian in the Anglican Diocese of Mauritius. In the review, Virtue chronicles many of the manifestations of Gnosticism in western Anglican Churches.

Just for fun – Election humour

Three friends -- a surgeon, an engineer and a politician -- were discussing which profession was the oldest.

The surgeon said: "Eve was created from Adam's rib - a surgical procedure. My profession must be the oldest!"

The engineer replied: "Before Adam and Eve, order was created out of chaos. That was an engineering job! My profession is the oldest."

Then the politician said, "Yes, but who do you suppose created the chaos?"

www.MikeysFunnies.com

Please pray...

For the **Clergy Retreat** this week.

For our **bishops and clergy** and their families

For **ANiC projects, church plants and parishes**, and for their proclamation of the Good News to those in their communities who desperately need new life in Christ

For the **four Vancouver-area ANiC parishes** and their legal counsel as they await the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada on their application for leave to appeal

For other ongoing legal challenges faced by ANiC parishes, including the ongoing litigation involving **St Aidan's (Windsor)** and the ANiC parishes that were formerly in the **Diocese of Niagara** – and their mounting expenses

For all the **congregations** involved in court proceedings and disputes. Pray for a continued focus on, and blessing upon, their ministry in the midst of this turmoil. Pray for peace for the **wardens and trustees** who are on the front lines and bear the burden of risk and responsibility

For the **leaders and parishioners of the ACoC dioceses** pursuing eviction of and legal costs against ANiC congregations and wardens

For donations to the **ANiC legal defense fund** which supports parishes in disputes with their former dioceses

For the implementation by the Diocese of Maseno West (Kenya) of the [malaria prevention project](#), sponsored by the **ARDFC**. May God use it to bless Kenyans and bring many to Christ

For the people of **Japan** and **Christchurch, NZ**. May they turn to God and find comfort and hope

For **persecuted Christians**, especially in Egypt, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia, India and other Muslim and Hindu lands

For countries in **Africa and the Middle East** where radical Muslims are seeking to leverage the political instability to gain control

For a speeding resolution to outstanding issues in **the Sudan** and a peaceful division of the country

For **repentance and revival** in our hearts and in our nation and for a hunger for God and His Word

For Canada as we enter an **election campaign**. May God's will be done.

For all those in positions of leadership and influence in the **Anglican Communion**, that they would seek to honour and obey God above all else

For the **GAFCON and Global South Primates** of the Anglican Communion as they plan for meetings of orthodox Anglican leaders

And now a word from our sponsor

"Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,' calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.

"Listen to me, you stubborn of heart, you who are far from righteousness: I bring near my righteousness; it is not far off, and my salvation will not delay; I will put salvation in Zion, for Israel my glory."

Isaiah 46:8-13 ESV