



### *Handle with prayer*

#### **News – ANiC and AEN**

#### **Welcome**

ANiC's moderator, Bishop Donald Harvey, has officially welcomed **New Life Anglican Church** in Sturgeon Falls, ON (located near North Bay), into ANiC. This new church plant is led by the Rev Nicole Poitras, who was received by Bishop Donald Harvey earlier this year. Please remember this new congregation in prayer as they become established and reach out to their community.

Bishop Don welcomed the Rev Philip Ruch to ANiC this past week. Rev Ruch, who lives in Dundas, Ontario has been licensed to serve as an Honourary Assistant at the Church of the Epiphany, Hamilton. Bishop Masters will be present at Epiphany on Sunday, September 12 to welcome him on behalf of Bishop Harvey and all the ANiC family.

#### **Please pray for the Vancouver court appeal, September 13-16**

Please continue to uphold the ANiC Vancouver area parishes involved in the appeal of the 25 November 2009 court decision. The hearing is set for September 13-16 and encompasses both the original decision and the subsequent awarding of court costs.

The [Abbotsford News reports](#) that the parish council and trustees of St Matthew's (Abbotsford, BC) met and agreed to the Diocese of New Westminster's proposal that it hold a service in the parish hall, rather than in the sanctuary on Sundays, commencing August 29. The Diocese of New Westminster [website provides a report](#) on the service which a [commenter on the Anglican Samizdat blog](#) estimated was attended by about 30 people – six of whom were thought to have attended the church in the past.

"We have always said that we were open to negotiated settlements in respect of the church properties," said Chancellor Cheryl Chang. "This agreement to share the premises pending the outcome of the trial ensures that the ANiC St Matthew's worship and ministries are not disrupted while the case wends its way through the courts. A negotiated settlement providing some certainty to both parties is always preferable to wasting resources upon unnecessary court proceedings with uncertain outcomes."

#### **Pray for mediation meeting in Ottawa, September 10**

Please pray for the mediation process that our Ottawa parishes – St George's and St Alban's – will be engaging in on Friday, September 10 with the Diocese of Ottawa regarding their church properties and assets. Pray that a mutually agreeable solution will be found.

#### **ARDFC update**

We've now [posted a graphic](#) showing the funds raised to date toward our **Kenya malaria project**. As you can see, we have a long way to go to reach our goal of raising the money needed by the Diocese of Maseno to combat the scourge of malaria in its communities.

Also, ARDFC is now collecting donations to assist with diocesan relief efforts in **Pakistan** – a country devastated by floods. The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that millions have been driven from their homes by the flood waters which covered about 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the country at one point. Bishop Humphrey Peters (Peshawar, Pakistan) told the Newspaper that the "*floods have devastated everything in Pakistan and especially in our part of the world... In Khyber Pakhtunkwa the worst hit area is Swat. The people of Swat were first hit by militancy and now they are terrorized by the natural disaster, worst of its kind in the living memory. Thousands are still trapped in floods, as roads and bridges have been washed away.*"

Finally, on September 18-19, **Archbishop John Chew** (Southeast Asia) will be ARDFC's guest at a series of meetings held at Good Shepherd (Vancouver). If you are in the Vancouver or Vancouver Island area, consider coming to the September 18 (Saturday) session at 2:30pm followed by a celebration dinner at 5:30pm. Information on both events is on the [ARDFC website](#). Archbishop Chew was in Uganda last week attending the All Africa Bishops Conference.

### **Last chance to register for ACNA church planting workshop, Sept 9**

All clergy and lay people interested in church planting are invited to take advantage of this rare opportunity to network and learn more without having to travel outside of BC.

Time: September 9 (Thursday), 10am-4pm  
 Location: Delta Town & Country Inn (Terrace Room), 6005 Highway #17, Delta, BC  
 Registration: Pre-register by contacting Bishop Ron Ferris by August 31  
[bishopronferris@ymail.com](mailto:bishopronferris@ymail.com) or 778-278-6525.  
 Workshop leader: Canon Ron McCrary, from Anglican 1000, ACNA's visionary church planting initiative  
 More information: [www.anglicannetwork.ca/event\\_090910.htm](http://www.anglicannetwork.ca/event_090910.htm)

### **Associate priest wanted for largest Chinese congregation in Canada**

[Anglican Network Church of the Good Shepherd](#) (Vancouver, BC) is eagerly seeking an associate priest to work with Bishop Stephen Leung. It would be helpful if the individual was conversant in Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese). Both a job description and a parish profile are posted [on the ANiC website](#). Please remember this need in prayer. Also, please pray for other ANiC congregations seeking pastoral leadership, including [Emmaus \(Montreal\)](#).

### **Parish, church plant and ministry news**

**Toronto Centre Project (Toronto, ON)** is rejoicing at God's provision of [Blythwood Baptist Church](#), 80 Blythwood Road, Toronto as the new venue for their Sunday evening services starting September 26, 6:30pm. All are welcome! See the ANiC website [for more information](#).

**Mill Bay, BC** – The Rev Andrew Hewlett (associate pastor at The Open Gate, Victoria) is shepherding a small group in this Vancouver Island community north-west of Victoria. The group plans to apply to ANiC as an official project in the near future. If you know of anyone in the Cobble Hill – Shawnigan Lake – Mill Bay area, please let them know about this forming congregation.

**St Stephen the Martyr (St John's, NL)** launched its first ever [Alpha for youth](#) on August 27 with a fun launch party. The youth Alpha will run each Sunday evening at 6pm beginning September 12 – and include a meal together. The church also offers an adult Alpha this fall beginning September 9.

**St Matthew's (Abbotsford, BC)** has an attractive, inviting, easy-to-use, [new website](#). Check it out!

If your parish has news that would be of interest to others in ANiC, please [email Marilyn](#) or call 1-866-351-2642 extension 4020.

### **Calendar of upcoming events – for your interest and prayer support**

Sept 9, 10am-4pm – [Church planting workshop](#), Delta, BC  
 Sept 10 – Ottawa parishes in a mediation meeting with the Diocese of Ottawa  
 Sept 13-16 – BC Court of Appeal hearing in Vancouver  
 Sept 17-19 – St Luke's, Spiritual renewal seminar with Bishop Malcolm & Ven Paul Crossland  
 Sept 18 – St George's Ottawa, *Day of Prayer* in preparation for ANiC synod (with Garth Hunt)  
 Sept 18-19 – Archbishop Chew visits Vancouver on behalf of the ARDFC  
 September 23 - 26 - Clergy retreat in New England  
 Sept 24-26 – St Timothy's (Montreal), *Pursuing Intimacy with God* led by the Rev Garth Hunt  
 Sept 25 – [ACA conference](#) at St Brides, Clarkson, ON entitle "*The plans I have for you*"  
 Sept 29 – Holy Trinity, Marlborough, MA - Ordinations to the priesthood  
 Oct 16 – Billy Graham Association [Cross the Street conference](#), Burlington, ON  
 Nov 3 – Clergy day, Ottawa, ON

Nov 4-6 – ANiC synod with featured speaker Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, Ottawa, ON  
 Jan 25-27 – ACNA 2011 church planting summit in Plano, TX with speaker Tim Keller  
 March 29-31 – ANiC's 2011 pastors' retreat near Abbotsford, BC

### **News shorts – Anglican Church in North America (ACNA)**

#### **The Table featured**

A non-traditional church plant in Victoria, BC, known as The Table, was [featured on Virtue Online](#). The Table – which is a cooperative venture involving the ANiC, a Victoria Reformed Episcopal Church, The Church of Our Lord, and the Anglican Coalition in Canada – is said to have grown in one year “...from five people meeting for coffee to a network of over 100 people, most of whom are in their twenties.” The church planters, the Revs Josh Wilton and Andy Withrow, have found that the best way to get to know the community is to follow “*Jesus' example of eating with people*”. They also say that more than a “*third of those coming regularly [to the dinner/discussions] are not Christians*”. [The Table](#) will launch officially this September. Please pray for this congregation.

#### **First Anglican 4<sup>th</sup> Day Ultreya is a rousing success**

ACNA members from the US and two Canadian provinces gathering in Texas for the first Anglican 4<sup>th</sup> Day (A4D) Ultreya. (The word Ultreya means “*onward and upward*”.) According to the A4D newsletter, Archbishop Bob Duncan addressed the group, emphasizing the importance of the 4<sup>th</sup> Day movement in ACNA to help develop leaders and meet the goal of planting 1000 new ACNA churches in the first five years of our province's existence. A4D is the ACNA version of Cursillo.

#### **Concern over new ACNA bishop ill founded**

Bishop Bill Atwood, chairman the ACNA's Episcopal Task Force, called the criticism of a bishop recently received by ACNA, superficial. The criticism of Bishop Derek Jones who was formerly with the Communion of Evangelical Episcopal Churches (CEEC) focused on the validity of his apostolic succession. Bishop Atwood said that ACNA requires that bishops demonstrate a “*significant standard concerning Christian testimony, character and manner of life, Biblical qualification, evidence of call, and demonstration of apostolic fruit for any candidate that is considered by the College of Bishops*.” Upon investigating the case, the [Church of England Newspaper found](#) the consecration of Bishop Jones to be valid.

#### **Update of litigation involving ACNA US churches**

**Fort Worth** – The Episcopal Church (TEC) [is amending and refiling](#) its lawsuit against the ACNA Diocese of Fort Worth after a judge ruled that TEC's attorneys could not represent a TEC entity purporting to be the Diocese of Fort Worth. In essence, the judge had ruled that the ACNA diocese was the real Diocese of Fort Worth.

**San Joaquin** – TEC continues to launch lawsuits against individual churches – and individual parishioners – in ACNA's Diocese of San Joaquin. The [news story in the Central Valley Business Times](#) quotes Canon Phil Ashe (American Anglican Council) saying, “*This policy of litigious terrorism finds no justification in the corporate and non-profit law of California, and is intentionally designed to inflict emotional and monetary distress on individuals who have simply exercised their conscience*”. TEC's case against the ACNA Bishop of San Joaquin, Bishop John-David Schofield and the ACNA diocese, is scheduled to be heard in the Court of Appeal beginning September 8.

### **News shorts – Canada**

#### **Igloo cathedral rises again**

St Jude's Cathedral in Iqaluit on Baffin Island, NWT is being rebuilt after it was destroyed by an arsonist in 2005. The [National Post reports](#) that this unusual, igloo-shaped church building serves the 4000 Anglicans in Iqaluit and is the cathedral of the Diocese of the Arctic led by Bishop Andrew Atagotaaluk. Geographically, the Arctic is the largest diocese in the Anglican Church of Canada, covering 4-million square kilometres in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Nunavik (in northern Quebec). Over \$2 million is still needed to finish the interior of the church.

## Upcoming conferences and opportunities

- [Reaching out to the Muslim Community](#) – An Evangelical Fellowship of Canada conference to be held in Calgary, November 11-14.
- [Hinge](#) – An Evangelical Fellowship of Canada conference regarding the changing church & mission landscape to be held in Toronto, November 16-18
- [Relationships that Work](#) – Women’s conference, People’s Church, Toronto, October 22-23.
- [Equipping Evangelist](#) is an Evangelical Fellowship of Canada ministry partnership.

## Dioceses of Montreal and Quebec explore possible merger

[The Diocese of Saskatchewan website](#) reports that two Anglican Church of Canada dioceses are exploring a possible merger. The Dioceses of Montreal and Quebec are said to be in a two-year “discernment process”.

## News shorts – United States

### Lutheran congregations leave over Biblical authority and cultural accommodation

The [National Post reports](#) that, hundreds of congregations have held votes on leaving the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) – a US denomination numbering more than 4-million. Mirroring the crisis in North American Anglicanism, many other congregations are refusing to send funds to the national church and “*Bishops in Africa have condemned the actions taken by their North American counterparts*”. The last week of August, departing Lutherans were meeting in Ohio to reconfigure “*North American Lutheranism*”, forming the North American Lutheran Church.

### Integrity USA plans expansion

The organization “*dedicated to the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the Episcopal Church*” is planning to expand its current network of local chapters from 57 to 109 – a chapter in each TEC diocese. The organization is also planning a new push to disseminate information and put down roots in parishes. Integrity’s newly hired executive director [told Episcopal Life Online](#), “We will really focus on integrating our organization from the smallest parish anywhere in the country to General Convention.” Integrity will also focus on “creating welcoming environments in individual churches, and marriage equality and ensuring appropriate implementation of General Convention 2009 decisions concerning same-gender blessing and equal access to positions of authority.”

### Other US news

Huffington Post – August 18 2010 – [Charles Bennison, embattles Episcopal bishop, vows to stay...](#)  
Philadelphia Inquirer – August 22 2010 – [Sins of omission](#)

## News shorts – International

### All Africa Bishops Conference

The [All Africa Bishops Conference](#) in Uganda concluded on the weekend with the release of a [conference statement](#), as well as a [communiqué](#) from the Primates present. In the communiqué, the Primates expressed concern about both the recent actions in the Episcopal Church (US), Canada and the United Kingdom – as well as the reluctance of the Instruments of Communion to follow through on the recommendations of the Windsor Report and the 2007 Primates Meeting. They committed to meeting more regularly as Global South Primates, to focusing on sound theological education, and to working with orthodox Anglicans around the world – including the Communion Partners (in the US) and the ACNA.

In the [conference statement](#), the Bishops of Africa recognized the enormous task ahead for the Church in Africa and committed to addressing many of the spiritual, social and economic ills of the continent. They affirmed the Biblical standard of heterosexual marriage; said the Covenant needed to be improved; agreed to enhance lay participation in the church; committed to a renewed engagement in global mission, to defend “*the human and constitutional rights of [persecuted] Christians and churches*”, to focus on the biblical upbringing of children and youth, to develop new theological curricula, and to foster hope and healing in their communities through prayer and home

fellowships. Much of the statement addressed pressing health and social issues, as well as urgent needs in specific African countries. The [Anglican Communion News Service provides](#) a good summary of the social, political and development issues in the statement

ACNA Primate Bob Duncan – who was pictured [serving the Eucharist](#) with Archbishop Rowan Williams and [seated together](#) among a group of African primates and bishops – seemed disappointed in the conference. In a [Virtue Online interview](#), he characterized the conference as “*dominated by Millennium Development Goals and social issues where the gospel of Jesus is not the driving force*”. He said, “*The agenda, apart from worship and Bible studies, was far more dominantly social than spiritual. Nevertheless and as always, the Lord did great things for many who shared in the conference and He is able to work all things together for good.*” Speaking of ACNA, he said, “*The only future for ACNA, as the only future for Anglicanism, is the kind of confessional Anglicanism as represented in the Jerusalem Declaration.*” He added that his being included among the GAFCon Primates “*reveals something of the trajectory we are on*”.

In his unflinching opening address, Archbishop Ian Ernest (Indian Ocean and Chairman of the Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa) [told the 396 bishops](#) that the Communion structures were broken and increasingly irrelevant to African Churches. He added that the Covenant remains “*our best hope for a stable and united future for the Communion*”, but it would require changes to both give the Primates their rightful role and to establish mutual accountability. He said, “*I believe that we need a Covenant that will recognise the role of the Primates and empower them to fulfil their proper function as those entrusted with the oversight of faith and order in the Communion. This Covenant should bind our Provinces into an accountable union. Accountability also demands that membership of the Covenant be co-terminus with membership of the Communion.*”

African Primates held closed-door meetings with Archbishop of Canterbury. [CNN reports](#) that “*Bishops... told Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams in closed-door sessions... that there should be no more diplomacy on homosexuality, an issue that has split the Anglican communion...*” Archbishop Henry Luke Orombi (Uganda) told journalists afterward that “*the Archbishop of Canterbury... spoke what was on his mind and we also spoke. We impressed it on him that he had totally gone in a different direction and he has to sort it out,*”

The [Guardian reports](#) that Archbishop Henry Orombi (Uganda), the host for the conference, “*...urged hundreds of African bishops to shake off their fears, shame and superficial dependency and re-evangelise the "ailing" churches of the west*”. He added that African Anglicans should be free to go to Europe and North America to revive the “*Mother Church desperate for the gospel*”.

[New Vision](#), which bills itself as Uganda’s leading website, reported, “*Anglican bishops attending the All Africa Bishops Conference in Entebbe have reiterated their firm stand against homosexuality... As most clergy stood to clap at speeches critical of homosexuality, Archbishop Williams and two aides, who sat in the front row, were the only ones who remained seated.*”

[Episcopal Life Online reports](#) that two of the twelve provinces represented at the conference issued a statement disassociating from the majority conference statement. The representatives of Central Africa and Southern Africa said they were not yet prepared to break with the Episcopal Church nor did they recognize ACNA.

The Rwandan House of Bishops made a statement calling for a new Communion and saying the proposed Covenant is inadequate. They called for a renewed Anglican identity founded on the Jerusalem Statement issued by Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCon) in 2008 which affirmed the authority of Scripture, and upheld Anglican Formularies. [Virtue Online reports](#) that the letter said the erosion of faith in the western church has negatively affected the witness of Anglicans in Africa. The letter calls for the Global South to form a new Communion structure based on a council of church leaders.

[AnglicanTV](#) and [VirtueOnline](#) have provided coverage of the conference, including the text of a number of Archbishop’s addresses.

## TEC retains influence in Global South through funding

[Episcopal Life Online reveals](#) that there was considerable Episcopal Church (TEC) presence at the just-concluded [All Africa Bishops Conference](#) in Uganda, which was partially funded by TEC. TEC's partnership officer, the Rev Canon Petero Sabune attended for the purpose of conveying to the bishops that, in the Episcopal Church of the US, *"those in prison are being visited, the hungry are fed and the homeless have homes. Jesus is proclaimed as Lord and Savior in small rural churches and in large urban cathedrals. The Episcopal Church is low church evangelical and high church Anglo-catholic."* In addition, *"Episcopal Relief & Development is represented by six staff members, who are attending the gathering as observers and to connect with partners in Anglican dioceses and provinces throughout Africa.... [Trinity Church, Wall Street](#), which through its grants program supports projects throughout Africa, also will be represented at the gathering. Representatives also are expected from the Anglican Communion Office, Lambeth Palace, United Nations bodies and the African Union."*

However, near the end of the conference, Archbishop Ian Ernest, Chairman of the Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa (CAPA) which organized the conference, issued a written apology for embarrassing the host church, the Church of Uganda, by accepting a \$25,000 grant for the conference from TEC. The emailed statement from the Church of Uganda states that *"In 2003, the Church of Uganda broke communion with the Episcopal Church (TEC) over their unbiblical theology and immoral actions that violated historic and Biblical Anglicanism and tore the fabric of the Communion at its deepest level. At the same time, the Church of Uganda resolved to not receive any funds from TEC."*

## The Covenant

The [statement issued](#) at the end of the All Africa Bishops Conference noted: *"Whereas we accept the rationale for an Anglican Covenant, we realise the need for further improvement of the Covenant in order to be an effective tool for unity and mutual accountability."*

Similarly, the Anglican Communion Institute, long-time proponents of the Covenant [recognize the flaws](#) in the current (and supposedly final) draft. They are now urging Provinces and Churches adopting the Covenant to append a statement of clarification which would make the adoption subject to the body responsible for overseeing the Covenant consisting, initially at least, of the Primate or designate of each Church adopting the Covenant.

The [American Anglican Council has posted](#) the Rev Dr Stephen Noll's paper, *"Communion Governance: A Revised Anglican Covenant"*. Dr Noll recommends the Covenant be revised to:

- Strengthen the historic and normative role of the Anglican Formularies
- Explicitly affirms God's standard of marriage and abstinence (Lambeth 1:10, 1998) as binding on all members of the Communion
- Constitutes the Anglican Communion under the Covenant
- Restores the Primates to their proper oversight of Communion faith and order
- Binds the Communion into an accountable union
- Makes a Council comprised of the Primates the body entrusted with administering Communion discipline under the Covenant

## News in brief from around the world and around the Communion

**Russia** – [Christianity.ca reports](#) that the governments in Russia and the Ukraine have decided to supply Bibles to all elementary and secondary school children. This has been the fruit of 15 years of work by a Vernon, BC-based couple, Dr Olga and Fred Lutsenko, who have been working with these governments to establish a Bible-based curriculum in the schools. *"In February 2009 Russia's president Dmitry Medvedev noted publicly that biblical moral education should be required in all Russian schools."* Dr Olga, a former high-ranking official in the Russian Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, was asked, after the fall of Communism, to lead a team researching the best ideological system for providing good moral training for Russian's 30 million children. *"Her team concluded that the Bible not only represented a return to the faith of their ancestors, but was*

*also the best tool for building moral and ethical character. Her research also led her to personal faith in Christ.”*

When Dr Olga immigrated to Canada in 1995, she founded the [Canadian Kindness Society](#) a charitable organization that is “*the only government-sanctioned organization mandated to provide moral biblical education to Russian and Ukrainian schools.*” However their ability to supply these materials is limited by funding. Fred Lutsenko says, “*The doors to Russia are now wide open. We must take advantage of the opportunity and place as many Bibles in people’s hands as we can. We must train as many educators as possible, so that if doors close, teachers can carry on for decades doing what they have been trained to do.*”

**India** – [Compass Direct News reports](#) that many Christians, particularly women and girls, who were targeted two years ago in the wide-spread violence in tribal state of Orissa, have subsequently been sold into slavery. A team working to thwart human trafficking recently rescued a 16-year old Christian girl who was one of at least 60 kidnapped and sold into slavery in other parts of India following the Orissa violence and subsequent displacement of Christians. The police have refused to assist in the rescue efforts.

**England** – The [Telegraph reports](#) that one in ten church buildings in the Diocese of Manchester could be for sale because they have become a financial burden to the dwindling congregations.

High profile Church of England former vicar and homosexual activist, the Rev Colin Coward, has announced he plans to “marry” a male Nigerian model 40 years his junior. [The Daily Mail reports](#) that “Mr Coward and his African partner are due to hold a civil partnership later this year, followed by a service at the vicar’s church, St John the Baptist church in Devizes, Wiltshire.”

**Sudan** – The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that Church leaders in Sudan are calling on “*the Islamist government... to honour its pledge to hold a referendum on independence for South Sudan on Jan 9 2011.*” In an open letter, five bishops warned that delays or renegeing on the promise could throw the country back into a bloodbath. The bishops are pleading for prayer and for foreign diplomatic pressure to end bureaucratic delays and ensure a fair referendum.

Addressing the All Africa Bishops Conference, Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul Yak (Sudan) [echoed this call and explained the background](#): “*Christianity has been under pressure in Sudan, and in the past 20 years there have been attempts to legally suppress it following the compulsory introduction of Sharia Law in 1983. This reduced many millions of Christians to second class citizens in their home country. The Government of Sudan declared jihad against Sudanese Christians, and between 1983 and 2005, around 2.5 million people died, millions were maimed, and over 4 million more were displaced to camps—some of whom have not been permitted to return until this day.*”

**Pakistan** – [Compass Direct News is reporting](#) that the Taliban kidnapped and killed three foreign Christian aid workers who were in Pakistan to help flood victims. The names of the victims and the agency they were with have been withheld and the military is attempting to suppress the news in order to not cause panic among other relief workers. In March, Islamic militants attacked a World Vision office killing six and wounding seven. Compass Direct News also reports that Christians are being discriminated against in the refugee camps, with some camps turning away Christians seeking refuge. A local Christian reports, “*There are reports that the Christians are not given tents, clean water and food. In most of the camps the Christians have totally been ignored.*”

**South Africa** – The second annual Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans conference in South Africa [is slated](#) for Port Elizabeth, October 27-29. Speakers will include the Archbishop Eliud Wabukala of Kenya and a member of the GAFCon Primates Council,.

### **Other international news**

Church of England Newspaper – August 20 2010 – [Australian church court bans diaconal presidency at the Eucharist](#)

Church of England Newspaper – August 27 2010 – [ACC not bound by UK or EU equalities laws...](#)

Anglican Communion Institute – August 20 2010 – [The new ACC articles: Procedural issues](#)  
 Church of England Newspaper – August 18 2010 – [Kenya adopts new constitution over...protests](#)

## Soul food

### Do you need encouragement?

John Maxwell (Giant Impact), who writes prolifically on leadership, has posted several articles on the theme of encouragement:

- [Who needs encouragement?](#) discusses strategies for encouraging ourselves.
- [Acting against discouragement](#) discusses positive responses to discouragement
- [Encouraging lessons from America's top educators](#)
- [The 5 W's of an encouraging leader](#) Maxwell says, *"Wherever you work, people are longing to be strengthened and refreshed by encouraging words. As a leader, you are in prime position to give others the boost they need to be their best. Here are five behaviors that will equip you as an encourager where you work."*

### Reaching out to our communities through prayer

The [Living Church highlights](#) the ministry of a New York parish which sets up a prayer table near the sidewalk in front of the church building. Parishioners manning the table offer to pray for pedestrians passing by. While some keep walking, many stop long enough to receive prayer.

### How shall they come without an invitation?

*Back to Church Sunday's* [US spokesman says](#) that a US research study done by LifeWay Research found *"...that 63 percent are willing to receive information about a local congregation or faith community from a family member, and 56 percent are willing to receive such information from a friend or neighbor"*. It also found that personal invitations are the best way to encourage non-church-goers to visit a church. **September 12** is designated [Back to Church Sunday](#)

### Worth reading/viewing

- [Sydney Anglican recommends](#) Hilary Mantel's award-winning *Wolf Hall*, a 650 page novel chronicling the tumultuous and pivotal period in which the Anglican Church was birthed and the printing press made Scripture readily available for the first time.
- [Writing in the National Post](#), Charles Lewis profiles Peter Hitchens, the Christian brother of rabid atheist Christopher Hitchens. In his book *Rage Against God*, Peter Hitchens responds to his brother's book *God is Not Great*. Lewis writes, *"Mr. Hitchens sees Christianity as not just a set of religious beliefs but as essential to shaping western culture — from law to music to architecture — as well as the essential bulwark against tyranny. So the danger with his brother and the cadre of "new atheists" is that they not only deny the link between religion and culture "but argue for its repudiation" — much as atheist communist revolutionaries argued repeatedly in the 20th century."*
- Written from a Roman Catholic viewpoint, [George Weigel examines](#) the Anglican Church's "tradition of compromise" and finds it to be a fatal flaw rather than a virtue. In a piece dealing with the "death of that once-promising [Anglican – Roman Catholic] dialogue", he concludes: *"The sad truth of the matter is that the "tradition of compromise" is what is destroying the Anglican Communion. For that "tradition" has come to mean that the apostolic tradition of the Church—the essential constitution bequeathed to the Church by Christ, which can be discerned in the Scriptures and which was articulated in the creeds—has ceased to have any normative claim within Anglicanism."*

### Resources

- A [video recommended](#) by the Diocese of Sydney helps parents navigate the digital world and protect their children from the dangers that lurk online. The video, *God's Technology*, is by Dr David Murray, a professor of Old Testament and Practical Theology at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary. *"After laying the foundation of four biblical principles, [Dr Murray]*



*makes the case for disciplined discernment in our use of technology. He then presents a practical seven-step training program to develop disciplined discernment in our children, and he concludes by showing how to apply these seven steps to Facebook use."*

- Writing for the Gospel Coalition, Pastor Kevin DeYoung has posted a very good three-part series entitled "The Ministry of Rebuke". See [part 1](#), [part 2](#) and [part 3](#). The series covers: Why we rebuke; When to rebuke; How to rebuke; and How to receive rebuke.
- Toronto-based author and blogger Tim Challies [highly recommends](#) two books for pastors: *The Trellis and the Vine*, by Collin Marshall and Tony Payne, and *the Archer and the Arrow*, by Phillip Jensen and Paul Grimmond. Dean Phillip Jensen is from the Diocese of Sydney, Australia.

### **Just for laughs – How NOT to treat your pastor**

A pastor places his order at the pet store: "I need at least 50 mice, 2000 ants and as many of those little silverfish as you can get."

The clerk replies, "We can probably do that, but it might take some time. Mind if I ask why you are placing such an unusual order?"

The pastor replies, "I've accepted a call to another church and the church council here told me to leave the parsonage the way I found it."

During the last Sunday service that the visiting pastor was to spend at the church he served for some months, his hat was passed around for a goodwill offering.

When it returned to the pastor, it was empty. The pastor didn't flinch. He raised the hat to Heaven and said, "I thank You, Lord, that I got my hat back from this congregation."

[www.mikeysFunnies.com](http://www.mikeysFunnies.com)

### **Thoughts on perseverance and encouragement**

The road to success is always under construction. ([www.mikeysFunnies.com](http://www.mikeysFunnies.com))

"In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit."  
~ Albert Schweitzer

"Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Correction does much, but encouragement does more." ~ Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"There are high spots in all of our lives and most of them have come about through encouragement from someone else. I don't care how great, how famous or successful a man or woman may be, each hungers for applause." ~ George Matthew Adams

[Giant Impact – Leadership Wired newsletter \(John Maxwell\)](#)

### **Please pray...**

For New **Life Anglican Church (Sturgeon Falls, ON)**, as this new congregation becomes established. Also for **The Table (Victoria, BC)** as it launches September 12.

For our **bishops and clergy** and their families – especially those battling illness. For renewed passion and energy for the ministry this Fall.

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

For the planning and preparations for **ANiC's 2010 synod** in Ottawa, November 4-6.

For **Archbishop John Chew** as he ministers in Vancouver on behalf of ARDFC, Sept 18-19

For funding of the **ARDFC's [malaria prevention project in Kenya](#)**.

For the various legal challenges faced by ANiC parishes.

- For the **Vancouver-area parishes** appealing the earlier court decision, including the costs awarded against the parish trustees, as well as for the parish's legal counsel Geoff Cowper & Stanley Martin as they prepare for the appeal on Sept 13-16. Particularly pray for St Matthew's Abbotsford as they share facilities with the Diocese of New Westminster on Sundays pending the outcome of the appeal process.
- For the September 10 mediation meeting involving **St George's & St Alban's (Ottawa)** and their former Anglican Church of Canada diocese.
- For **St Aidan's (Windsor)** as litigation is about to move forward, increasing 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 dioceses** pursuing eviction of and legal damages against ANiC congregations and wardens.
- That we would seek to **glorify God** by our conduct in all court proceedings.
- For much needed donations **to the legal cases and disputes** involving ANiC congregations:

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 **Christians in Pakistan and India** who are severely oppressed, especially those struggling to survive the devastation brought by the floods.

For the necessary steps to be taken in **the Sudan** to ensure a fair and peaceful referendum in January.

For repentance and revival in **our nation** – as well as a hunger for God and a thirst for His Word.

### **And now a word from our sponsor**

*Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle... And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath... He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel... "I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid... All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid...*

*And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth." But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him. Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God." And David said, "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you!"...*

*And the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods... Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand... that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand."*

1 Samuel 17 (ESV)