



### *Handle with prayer*

#### **ANiC news**

#### **ANiC and ACNA events calendar**

Sept 8, 11am – Elnora Houston & Phil Varcoe ordained deacons, [Resurrection](#) (Brandon, MB)  
September 8, 4pm - Trevor Potter will be ordained a deacon at [Emmaus](#) (Montreal, QC)  
September 14, 6:30pm – Terry Lamb & Jon Vickery ordained deacons, [Resurrection](#) (Kelowna, BC)  
September 14, 1-6pm – CMJ Canada seminar on Yom Kippur, [St Matthias & St Luke's](#) (Vancouver)  
September 15, 4pm – Marion Karasiuk ordained deacon, [Christ The King](#) (Toronto)  
September 16-21– Anglican 1000 church planting regional conference, [Boston, MA](#)  
September 17, 1-6pm – CMJ Canada seminar, [Church of Our Lord](#) (Victoria)  
September 22, 5:30-8pm – AMMiC information dinner and fundraiser, [Good Shepherd \(Vancouver\)](#)  
October 6, 6pm – Alastair Sterne, Mike Chase & Geoff Chapman ordained deacons at [St John's Vancouver](#)  
October 6, 4pm – Aretta Hagle ordained deacon, [Christ The King](#) (Toronto)  
October 17-19 – [Anglican 4<sup>th</sup> Day Grand Ultreya](#) (Lewes, Delaware)  
October 21-26 – [GAFCon 2](#) international gathering in Nairobi, Kenya  
October 26, 9am – “*Sex and spirituality... talking about it*” seminar, New Song, Port Perry, ON  
October 31 – November 3 – ANiC Clergy Retreat in New England  
October 31- November 1 – ANiC Clergy Retreat, St Peter & St Paul's (Ottawa, ON)  
November 2, 9am – “*Sex and spirituality... talking about it*” seminar, St Peter & St Paul's, Ottawa  
November 16 – ANiC's electronic synod at 1pm eastern time (Please note revised date and time)  
March 2014 – ANiC [vision/mission trip](#) to partner with Anglican churches in Cuba  
May 20-24 - Anglican 1000 church planting regional conference, [Toronto, ON](#)  
November 5-7, 2014 – Gathering of ANiC synod at a location to be determined

#### **New parish strategic planning process piloted**

[St Matthew's](#) (Abbotsford, BC) and [St John's Richmond](#) (BC) are the guinea pigs for ANiC's new strategic ministry planning process. St Matthew's reports it is half way through the process and has crafted new [mission](#) and [values](#) statements as a result. The parish now begins work on identifying specific goals and objectives.

The strategic planning process is being developed by a working group consisting of the Revs Ken Bell, Sean Love and Mike Stewart, together with consultant Joan Deeks, a parishioner at St Matthew's. Once they complete the process, St Matthew's and St John's Richmond will serve as resource parishes for other congregations wishing to tackle strategic ministry planning.

#### **Calling all photographers**

We are looking for good quality, higher resolution photos that could be used in ANiC communication. Right now we particularly need good photos for the banner on our Facebook page – specifically photos that lend themselves to a horizontal crop. The photos should show ANiC in action – congregations, ministries, or combined congregation events. We don't promise to use everything submitted, but will happily use all that fit the above criteria.

#### **Parish and regional news**

**Southern Ontario** – Several ANiC congregations joined together in early August for an outdoor Eucharist service followed by a barbeque at Island Lake Conservation Area in Orangeville. You can see photos [on the St Hilda's website](#) and on [the Christ the Redeemer \(Toronto\) Facebook page](#).

**Toronto-area women** are invited to gather on October 5, 10am- 1pm, to hear Brenda Leroux of Living Hope Christian Church in Scarborough, ON address the topic of relationships. Cost is only \$25, including lunch; location is to be announced. You can view the flyer [here](#). For more information, please call [Living Hope Christian Church](#) at 647 342 0524.

**St Peter's Fireside (Vancouver, BC)** holds its third and final pre-launch service in downtown Vancouver on September 15. The congregation plans to begin regular services November 3.

**Vancouver-area** churches and parishioners are invited to join with Union Gospel Mission (UGM), Indian Residential School Survivor's Society, and Reconciliation Canada in a walk to demonstrate Christian love for and solidarity with survivors of Indian residential schools. This walk for reconciliation is on **Sunday, September 22** and is part of a series of events in Vancouver marking the close of the official Indian Residential School Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

In a letter sent to ANiC, UGM leaders say *"The Walk celebrates a positive new movement to build better relationships among Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians... We want to testify to Christ's healing and compassionate power by walking with them... Will you walk with us on the morning of Sunday, September 22? There are other options... if Sunday morning can't work for your congregation. We understand that it isn't an ideal time for most churches; however, it was the only time available due to City of Vancouver restrictions. If you would be willing, please print, post, share and disseminate this linked [poster](#) and [information](#) as broadly as possible. We thank you in advance for your overwhelming support."* For more information, please contact our colleague Jeffrey Baergen at [jbaergen@ugm.ca](mailto:jbaergen@ugm.ca)

**St Luke's (Pembroke, ON)** reports that it held its first Vacation Bible School this summer with 40 kids attending. A new group is studying the topic "*Defending Your Faith*". Also, for the first time, St Luke's is holding a parish camp, September 13-14, with guest speaker the Rev Paul Donison. It promises lots fun and fellowship and will culminate in three baptisms in Round Lake.

This fall E100 small groups, as well as men's, women's, youth and kid's activities all get back into full swing. October will see a simplified Alpha Program. And on October 5, St Luke's holds its big Fall Dinner.

St Luke's now has a cemetery which will open officially on October 6 at a service with Bishop Don Harvey.

**Holy Trinity Filipino (Edmonton, AB)** is celebrating its 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary as an ANiC church plant on **September 14** (Saturday) at 1:30pm. Bishop Stephen Leung will officiate and preach and all members of the ANiC family – especially in Alberta – are invited to join the celebration. For contact information, see the [church webpage](#).

**Grace Anglican (Calgary, AB)** is celebrating the arrival and ministry of their new rector, the Rev Rob Stringer, on Sunday, September 8 at 1pm. Bishop Trevor Walters will also welcome Rob+ into ANiC. A party will follow the service.

Be sure to email your parish news to [Marilyn Jacobson](#).

### **Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) news**

#### **Anglican 1000 church planting conference comes to Boston**

Registration is now open for Boston Anglican 1000 regional conference, September 16-21. For information and to register, see [the Anglican 1000 website](#). Additional regional conferences are planned for locations in the southern US, followed by one in Chicago next March, and then the final conference in Toronto in May. These low-cost regional events are designed to equip those in existing church ministries as well as church planters. The [Anglican 1000 website](#) states:

*The Anglican 1000 Regional Events will be comprised of two sections of content: "Foundations" and "Specific Tracks".*

*Foundations will comprise the first two days of the Event and will feature training on the core elements of a healthy, multiplying Anglican church such as Vision Clarity, Corporate Worship Gatherings, Spiritual Formation / Transformation, Leadership Development, Missional Effectiveness and Contextualization, The Health of the Leader, Relational Intentionality, Prayer, Stewardship and Episcopal Care. The information presented in Foundations will form the basis of the specific tracks that will be offered in the following days.*

*The Specific Tracks are specialized equipping opportunities designed to meet the needs of the leader in their particular season of ministry. Tracks will include Church Planter Assessment and Training, Coaches Training, Pioneering Church Planting Training, Church Renewal Training, College Ministry Training and Youth Ministry Training.*

### **ACNA bishop writes President Obama to urge care for Christian minorities in Syria**

Bishop Julian Dobbs has written [an open letter](#) to the President of the United States urging him "...to consider the consequences for the Christian minorities across [Syria] of any military action initiated by the United States and her allies..." Citing the devastating results of western military intervention for the Christian communities in Iraq and Libya, Bishop Dobbs warns that world leaders must not "...ignore the unintended consequences of their actions on the Christian minority... [who] will also be at greater risk than other minorities in the aftermath of a US strike on their country; this is because Christian minorities are perceived as allies of the West due to their Christian faith and are therefore the traditional scapegoats on which Muslim extremists vent their wrath against the West."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby [spoke](#) in the English House of Lords urging western powers to not intervene in Syria for many reasons, but not least because of the consequences to the Syrian Christian minority. He said that any intervention must prevent further use of chemical weapons and increase the likelihood of peace to the region. The British Parliament [later defeated](#) the government's motion to intervene militarily in Syria.

Earlier, [speaking to the Telegraph](#), Archbishop Justin Welby, who has experience in conflict mediation in Africa and the Middle East, warned of "unforeseeable ramifications across the whole Arab and Muslim world". He added "I am deeply, deeply aware of the enormous complexity and inter-linkedness of everything that happens there." Christians he has spoken with across the region, he said, have "...a sense that this a terribly, terribly dangerous time".

Lord Carey, a former Archbishop of Canterbury, also [clearly warned](#) of the potential consequences of military intervention in Syria, suggesting it could ignite a war engulfing the entire Middle East.

### **ARDF-US helps devastated New Mexico community**

The Anglican Relief and Development Fund is partnering with the Diocese of the Southwest and a local ACNA parish [to offer emergency relief](#) to low income families in Columbus New Mexico whose houses were destroyed by a severe storm on July 23. Funds raised through ARDF will be used to rebuild these homes and offer hope where there is now despair.

### **The Falls Church (ACNA) announces appeal to Supreme Court**

The [Christian Post reports](#), "The Falls Church Anglican stated earlier this week their intention to file an appeal over whether they or the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia controls the historic Falls Church property..." They said, "We are advised that the facts of our case are strong and that we are uniquely placed at this time – and perhaps for many years to come – to raise these issues to the U.S. Supreme Court."

### **Report from Caminemos Juntos! (Let's walk together)**

Canon Jack Lumanog offers [an account](#) of the recent gathering of ACNA's Spanish members. Currently there are 60 Hispanic congregations within ACNA – including the 18 in Cuba with which ANiC congregations have [the opportunity partner](#).

### **Conference focused on Thomas Cranmer planned**

The Anglican Diocese of the Carolinas will host a two-day conference, October 15-16, on Thomas Cranmer, led by the Rev Dr Ashley Null. Registration information is [here](#). You can gain insight into Dr Null and his scholarly study of Cranmer [on the Anglican Church League website](#).

### **ACNA diocese partners in ministry with African American Pentecostal churches**

A ministry partnership has formed between a network of 12 Los Angeles area African American Pentecostal churches. More details are on the [ACNA website](#).

### **ACNA Diocese of Fort Worth gets good news from the courts**

Bishop Jack Iker and his ACNA diocese won two court decisions which overturned lower court rulings, sending the cases back to the trial court with instructions to use “neutral principles of law” in retrying the cases – rather than merely deferring to an ecclesiastical hierarchy (ie the Episcopal Church). Alan Haley offers [a full analysis](#) of both decisions. See also Bishop Iker’s [pastoral letter](#) response.

### **Anglican Communion**

#### **Archbishop asks for prayer for GAFCon 2 in Kenya, October 21-26**

In [a letter](#), Chairman of the Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans and host of the upcoming Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCon) Archbishop Eliud Wabukala requests our prayer support. He says:

*“To conclude, let me ask you to do two things as members of our global fellowship. Firstly, please be in earnest prayer for GAFCON 2013 and use the prayer bulletins which are posted weekly on the [GAFCON website](#). Many are working very hard, but we need the Lord’s overruling hand of blessing and protection, knowing that without his presence and mercy we can achieve nothing of lasting value. Secondly, please prayerfully consider your financial support. We have a number of brothers and sisters who would love to be with us from parts of the world where there is persecution and hardship and we do not want them to be excluded for lack of funding.”*

Another African Primate, Archbishop Stanley Ntagali of Uganda, explains in [a statement](#) why he believes GAFCon 2 is necessary and his hope that this conference will result in revival throughout the Anglican Communion. Against a backdrop of growing heresy in the Communion, he says:

*“... ten years later, the crisis has deepened. It is worse, and shows no signs of improving...”*

*“The first GAFCON was very significant because it created a global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans led by a Primates Council and it also called for the creation of a new Bible-believing Anglican Province in North America. That new Anglican Province has now been created and is thriving. It is called the Anglican Church in North America.*

*“This second GAFCON conference is also very important at this time in the life of our church. We are holding it in Nairobi this time because it is closer to the majority of the Christians who make up GAFCON...”*

*“GAFCON is to the Anglican Communion as the East African Revival was to the church in Uganda. At first it was small revival fellowships meeting outside the church structures and church services. But, as the revival spread, it became mainstream in the Church. Now, most of the Church of Uganda is led by clergy and Bishops shaped by the East African Revival.*

*“In the same way, we are going to GAFCON 2 in Nairobi to see that the Biblical faith of GAFCON spreads like revival throughout the whole Anglican Communion, so that global Anglicanism is brought back to its Biblical and evangelistic faith.*

*“So, I am calling on all Christians to get involved in three ways:*

- First, we need you to pray! ...*
- Secondly, we need your financial support ...*

- *Finally, we need you to ask your Bishop and GAFCON delegates to report back to you after the conference. Ask them to tell you what they are doing to keep the Anglican Church on track.*

Commenting on Archbishop Ntagali's statement, Canon Phil Ashley, in his short [weekly Anglican Perspectives video](#), says GAFCon is not a passing fad; it has "come of age". A new generation of Anglican leaders has taken up the torch and is determined to "reinvigorate the Anglican Communion with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

A [Washington Post article](#) indicates that the Archbishop of Canterbury is fully aware of and does not oppose the GAFCon 2 meeting.

Specific prayer requests be found on the [GAFCon website](#).

### **Archbishop of Canterbury analyzes the problems in the Communion – badly**

Canon Phil Ashley [examines](#) a recent sermon by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in which the Archbishop attempted an analysis of the division in the Communion. Canon Ashley finds the Archbishop's analysis deeply flawed and poorly informed – merely a lack of tolerance rather than a dispute over core belief

*Canon Ashley says, "How sad that the Archbishop has chosen to caricature such faithful Anglicans in this way. He came to office with the expectation that his deep experience in reconciliation would bring people together... The Archbishop's failure to fairly represent either side of the "precipice" makes one wonder the extent to which he has carefully listened to all sides... What the Communion needs on all sides is forgiveness and cleansing that go to the root of our sins. And this will require public confession and public repentance. So far, the Archbishop of Canterbury has reserved the call to confession and repentance for pernicious payday lenders and homophobics. Based on his analysis of the problems within the Anglican Communion, how far will confession and repentance go in the Archbishop of Canterbury's agenda?"*

### **Rewriting liturgy to introduce pantheism**

Writing on the Institute of Religion and Democracy's blog, [Brian Miller notes](#) that a new order of service prepared by the Anglican Environmental Network, an official branch of the Anglican Communion, rewrites the Lord's Prayer and an ancient Christian hymn. He critiques the pantheistic tendency of many in the environmentalist movement, saying that care of the environment is inherent in the Christian call for stewardship.

### **International news in brief**

#### **Canada**

- The Government of Canada [announced](#) it will fund efforts to promote religious freedom, human rights and conflict mediation in Nigeria, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, South Caucasus and Indonesia. The \$1.2 million in funding is an initiative of the office of Andrew Bennett, Canada's ambassador for religious freedom.
- The provincial government of Quebec plans to ban the wearing of all religion symbols by public servants in the workplace. The proposed "Charter of Quebec Values" legislation elevates secularism to a core Quebec value. [LifeSiteNews states](#), "The Charter is the latest move against the public expression of religious belief by a province that has become increasingly hostile to religious believers... While parts of the proposed charter are reported to apply to the private sector, it is not yet clear what parts do apply and to what extent."
- The Anglican Communion Alliance (formerly known as the Anglican Essentials Federation) has issued a letter to the Anglican Journal ([published on page 5](#)) protesting proposed changes to the Anglican Church of Canada's marriage canon to accommodate same-sex marriages. The letter draws "...attention to the shift in emphasis from "blessings" to "marriage" that occurred incrementally without discussion and is now before us." It adds that the ACA endorses an amendment put forward by Bishop Stephen Andrews (Algoma) to

the resolution to change the marriage canon and “...we look forward to participating in the “broad consultation” process that determines if a theological rationale exists for gay and lesbian marriage.”

- A Niagara Falls Anglican Church of Canada church has attracted controversy with its billboard announcing “Jesus had two Dads and he turned out just fine.” See the [Christian Post article](#).
- Retired Anglican Church of Canada bishop Michael Ingham was interviewed on CBC radio’s *The Current*. You can listen [on the CBC website](#) to the 27-minute interview in which Bishop Ingham provides his perspective on the tumultuous years of his tenure.

### United States

- The [Christian Post reports](#) the US Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop the Most Rev Katharine Jefferts Schori, in remarks delivered at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America’s (ELCA) Churchwide Assembly in Pittsburgh, said “Some have judged our smaller numbers as faithlessness but it may actually be the Spirit’s way of pruning for greater fruitfulness.”
- Six bishops from the US Episcopal Church met with the Archbishop of Canterbury recently to discuss “a range of issues concerning the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church.” In their [news release](#), these “Communion Partner bishops”, who see themselves as theologically conservative, state that their role is to “...navigate this narrow path between two dangerous extremes as we pursue the mission of the Church ‘to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ’”.
- Alan Haley [reports](#) that a US Federal Court, in an unprecedented decision, is allowing a legal suit to proceed against a US pastor for allegedly influencing sentiment in Uganda against homosexuality. He writes, “This decision, of course, is not the final word in Pastor Lively’s case; it finds only that the plaintiff has stated a claim under international and Massachusetts law, so that its case may proceed to the discovery stage. But it serves as a harbinger of the activist agenda that gradually is using our judicial system (which is all too eager, in many cases, to be so used) to achieve the laws and rights it is unable to enact through the ballot box.”

**Egypt** – Multiple reports from Egypt detail attacks by Muslim Brotherhood supporters on Christians and church buildings throughout Egypt. The [Christian Post reports](#) “As Egypt’s Islamists blame Christians for the ouster of Mohammed Morsi, anti-Christian violence has reached epidemic levels, with an estimated 82 churches across Egypt attacked and heavily damaged by pro-Morsi supporters in a mere 48 hours.”

*Anglican Ink* provides [a full report](#) on the chaos and violence directed at the Christians. Dr Mouneer Anis, the Anglican Primate in Egypt reports that “... the overwhelming majority of Egyptians support the army against the Muslim Brotherhood...” He went on to say the western media accounts were one-sided and failed to give the full story. Dr Anis asks us to pray “...that the situation will calm down, for wisdom and tact for the police and the army, for the safety of all churches and congregations, and that all in Egypt would be safe.”

A number of Anglican buildings have been destroyed. In one attack, [Anglican News reports](#), “An Anglican priest and his family narrowly escaped harm this morning after a mob armed with rocks and petrol bombs were kept out of his church building by steel window bars. The Revd Ehab Ayoub, his family, a lay minister and a guard were trapped in St Saviour’s Church, Suez, for hours while pro-Mursi supporters were attacking the building.”

*Asia News* provides [a long list](#) of “at least 58” churches and other Christian institutions attacked, looted and torched in the initial wave of violence perpetrated by the Muslim Brotherhood. In

addition, many Christians lost their houses, shops and vehicles to the vandalism. Seven are reported to have been murdered, 17 kidnapped and hundreds injured.

In mid-August, Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird and Andrew Bennett, Canada's Ambassador for Religious Freedom, issued [a statement](#) saying, "*We are concerned by recent attacks on religious institutions in Egypt, in particular the unconscionable attacks on Coptic Orthodox and Anglican churches and on Baptist and Franciscan institutions. Attacks on places of worship are unacceptable. Canada calls on Egyptian authorities to protect worshippers and religious sites from violence and intimidation...*"

The August 24<sup>th</sup> *Anglican Unscripted* video newsmagazine provides a [good analysis](#) of the situation in Egypt, cautioning us not to impose our western thoughts about democracy on the Egyptian situation.

*VirtueOnline* also has insightful reports [here](#) and [here](#).

**Syria** – [Reports](#) from the refugee camps estimate that 10 per cent of the Syrian population has fled and are refugees – some even fleeing to Iraq.

**Middle East** – The [Telegraph reports](#) that "*Lord Sacks, the outgoing Chief Rabbi in Britain, warns that the plight of Christians in countries such as Iraq, Syria and Egypt is a tragedy "going almost unremarked". In an interview with The Telegraph Lord Sacks described continuous attacks on Christian believers and churches as "the religious equivalent of ethnic cleansing".*"

A [Huffington Post article](#) notes, "*For decades now, Christians have been the "invisible or ignored victims" of conflicts in the Middle East. At best, the US has paid scant attention as once thriving communities of indigenous Christians in Palestine, Syria, Iraq, and Egypt have been attacked, threatened or forced to endure indignity and hardship.*"

*There are many reasons for this lack of attention to the situation of Arab Christians, with one principal factor being ignorance...the impact of sectarian conflict on the two thousand-year old Christian communities of Syria and Egypt is rarely factored into policy discussions and press commentary about these countries... Meanwhile, on the ground, in both Syria and Egypt, ancient Christian churches are destroyed and communities live in fear of violence incited by extremists...*

*The societies of the Arab East are undergoing profound change... The future of the religiously complex societies of the Middle East must recognize their diversity and respect the equal rights of all their citizens."*

In [calling Christians around the world](#) to pray, give and act to help Christians in Egypt and Syria, Barnabas Aid tells how Christians in these two countries are targeted for attack. In Egypt, Christian's homes, churches and businesses, have been marked with a painted black X to mark them for destruction.

**Congo** – St Paul's Anglican Church and an adjacent school were badly damaged by missiles raining down on a residential area of Goma recently. At least four were killed and 15 wounded. This mineral-rich area of eastern Congo has seen fighting between rebel forces and government troops for more than 15 years, [according to the Anglican News](#). This renewed fighting has displaced a further 100,000 people adding to the 2.6 million internal refugees – with more than 6 million in need of food and emergency aid. Please pray for the suffering Church in the Congo!

In an effort to raise awareness of the atrocities perpetrated by rebel terrorists, Archbishop Henri Isingoma Kahwa [has appointed](#) a communications officer to keep the Communion informed and ensure that churches in the Congo mobilize to support and pray for their brothers and sisters.

**Nigeria** – The Anglican Church in Nigeria [will soon launch](#) its own television channel. According to the Anglican Communion News Service (ACNS), "The new vision of the Church of Nigeria, revised in 2010, stated that to expand mission work, media facilities - such as cable television, radio and

print media - should be established and existing ones fully utilised... The Province's Communications Director the Ven. Foluso Taiwo told ACNS that the channel would be a tool for evangelism. "The vision is to reach the unreached. The main focus is salvation," he said adding that the Church of Nigeria wanted to deliver the "undiluted Word of God". A test transmission for ACNN TV, channel 91 on MyTV, was done in May and now staff members are being hired.

## Resources

### Day of prayer to end human trafficking

Many ANiC members are deeply concerned about ending human trafficking. Around the world, millions are enslaved – many even in our own country. All positive social change begins with prayer. Let's join the Salvation Army in their annual day of prayer for victims of human trafficking - Sunday, September 29. Resources and information is available on the [Salvation Army website](#). A great personal prayer guide can be found [here](#).

### Non-Anglican pastors reflects on traditional Anglican liturgy

You can read [a great article](#) by Carl Trueman reflecting on his experience of an evensong service at King's Chapel Cambridge sitting next to a young woman wearing a hijab. He says (in part), "...as I reflected on the service and what the girl in the hijab had witnessed, I could not help but ask myself if she could have experienced anything better had she walked into a church in the Protestant evangelical tradition... [H]ere is the irony: in this liberal Anglican chapel, the hijabi experienced an hour long service in which most of the time was spent occupied with words drawn directly from scripture... Cranmer's liturgy meant that this girl was exposed to biblical Christianity in a remarkably beautiful, scriptural and reverent fashion. I was utterly convicted as a Protestant minister that evangelical Protestantism must do better on this score: for all of my instinctive sneering at Anglicanism and formalism, I had just been shown in a powerful way how far short of taking God's word seriously in worship I fall."

### Ministry resources

**Anglican liturgical traditions explained** – A [video](#) with excellent insight into Anglican worship! Although the video isn't short, it is highly informative - and worth your time. Thanks for bringing it to our attention Father David McElrea!

**The Pastor's Family**, a recently published book, offers practical advice to clergy and their families. One quote: "*The problem rests not in the demands and pressures we face but in how we create idols out of those demands, idols that lead us to neglect our family and dishonor God.*" You can read a [review of the book](#).

**Youth ministry** – A [Christianity Today article](#) notes the growing importance of apologetics in youth ministry.

### Resources for Christian living

**Praying with your children** – Pastor Tim Challies [challenges](#) parents to teach their children to pray by praying with them – modelling prayer that is bold, confident, trusting and enthusiastic, not a mere duty or a superstitious practice.

**Families and faith** – A new book, *How the West Really Lost God*, argues that the decline in traditional families was the precursor to the loss of faith in God. Read [a review](#) on *LifeSiteNews*.

**Befriending Muslim women** – A [great interview](#) by Karen Stiller (of ANiC's New Song Church, Port Perry, ON) discusses the need to befriend Muslim women living in North America.

**Handling conflict** – In [an article](#) on the five ways people manage conflict, a Gospel Coalition writer suggests that "*Relationships are more likely preserved when people on both sides recognize the different ways that people go about managing and resolving conflict.*"

**Pornography** – Calling *Finally Free* the strongest "weapon" yet in fighting what has been described as "*probably the number one pastoral problem in the world today*", Tim Challies [writes](#), "*This is a*



*book that approaches an ugly topic with dignity... It is not really a book about pornography at all. Rather, its emphasis is "the amazing power of Jesus Christ to free you from pornography."*

**Suffering** – In a moving 20-minute video interview, R C Sproul Jr [comments](#) on his own grief in the deaths of both his wife and daughter to teach on suffering and the sovereignty of God.

**Euthanasia** is [now promoted](#) in Belgium for purposes of organ harvesting.

**Aging and death** – Countering the growing societal sentiment for euthanasia, Anglicans for Life has produced an "...8-week Adult-Education Curriculum [Embrace the Journey \[which\]](#) is designed to help churches educate and equip parishioners to care for elderly family and church members." More information is available [on the website](#).

**Abortion devastates women** – A [LifeSiteNews article](#) relates the effect of abortion on women.

### **Soul food**

#### **Just for laughs**

Need a good laugh? See [a short video](#) of a Christian comedian's take on various worship styles.

#### **Thoughts**

*The storms of life no more indicate the absence of God than clouds indicate the absence of the sun. ~ John Blanchard*

*The Word of God never yet prospered in the world without opposition. ~ Iain Murray*

#### **And now a Word from our Sponsor**

*Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?*

*It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.*

*Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.*

*To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One.*

*Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these?*

*He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing.*

*Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?*

*Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.*

*He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.*

*He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.*

*Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.*

Isaiah 40:21-31 ESV