
Grace to You...

Vol. 3, No.2

February, 2012

A Monthly Publication

Inspiration
by Fr. Joe Rees

Mission & Ministry



After the encounter with the woman at the well in John 4, Jesus is talking with His disciples who are startled that He would be even speaking to a Samaritan woman. Jesus is questioned by them how He had gotten food and Jesus says, *“My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.”* He finishes

this section of John 4:33-38 with these words: *“I sent you (His disciples) to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.”* Many of the Samaritans believed in Jesus because of the woman’s testimony, saying “we know this man really is the Savior of the world!” Do we understand that this is our mission statement too?!

We have been ‘sent’ by Jesus to reap the harvest of souls that the Spirit is bringing to readiness when we engage in their lives with the Good News of Jesus’ saving Grace! Often someone else has sown the seed of the Word of God into their lives, hearts and minds, and tried to bring them to Christ. Often it’s hard work. That person goes on then, perhaps moves, or has a life change, and suddenly one of our ‘Grace-72’-minded saints engages them with Jesus’ love and prayer. In a perfect moment of His Grace the new person is suddenly aware, an epiphany occurs, the reality sets in, and they accept Jesus into their hearts and are given all of His

blessings of eternal life. That action is one of the most exciting things that can ever happen to a Christian who is *‘finishing the work of Jesus’!*

Our mission is to go and make disciples of all the nations (Mt 28:19) and baptize them into the Kingdom of God. Our ministry is to reach out to make the connections to enable it all to happen. There are multitudes of ways that can happen but we must have the Spirit of God guiding us. We must be daily engaged in the Spirit’s directions so that we respond to those Grace 72 moments and are ready with prayer and Jesus’ love for that person who is searching and ready to receive Jesus into their hearts. That’s our chief goal in ministry...to reach the lost and bring them into God’s Kingdom. The times are desperate now for us to engage in this vital ministry. It needs to be viewed as our “Food” as Jesus said, that we live on to do His will. Sure, there are other important

ministries to meet the needs of our parishioners in the challenging moments of their lives. But, the key ministry is reaching out with the Gospel and be a life-saving station for Christ!

Your ministries throughout the church are crucial to making it possible to achieve our goal of harvesting souls for Christ. In each of the ministries I ask you to pray when you meet, that the Lord

would send to us or you will reach to those who are in need of Jesus. Pray as you minister that His Spirit would open up the hearts of those who are searching

(Continued on page 2)

and that we would be His instruments of applying such sweet grace that they yield in submission to Jesus' love. Pray every time you meet for someone you may be unaware of to be touched by Jesus' love to receive Him as their Lord and Savior. Pray that you would be directed to that person who is lost and lonely and broken and in despair, because it's that person who needs Jesus! Our small groups have engaged with people and prayed them through the toughest of times. They are being saved. God has met their needs. God is glorified by such ministry. We want to glorify the Lord by being His willing servants to be ready to receive, ready to reach, ready to engage someone with "May I pray for you in some way"! Tell them God specializes in the impossible!

The whole Samaritan village was transformed with the Good News that the 'sinful' woman had brought to them. They exulted in the proclamation that Jesus is the Savior of the whole world! This is what we are to proclaim, rejoice in, and believe beyond the shadow of a doubt. This is our ministry and our mission...to tell the story of Jesus, to pray people into His Kingdom, to reap the benefits of the labors of others to see the Spirit bring a person to their salvation moment. It matters not 'who' brings a person to Christ; it matters crucially that they be engaged with Christ through you!

Let us focus on reaching souls for Christ as this Epiphany season reaches its climax before Lent be-

gins on Feb. 22d. Lent could be a season of intensive discipleship for those who come to Christ. They then could be baptized at the Great Vigil of Easter! It's not impossible, nor improbable that someone is waiting for you to introduce them to Jesus. Start by praying for them. Engage with them in friendship. Invite them to come with you to church and offer to bring them. Go out of your way...Jesus did for you!

My prayer is that our focus of mission and ministry would be concentrated on reaching souls for Jesus to inhabit and bring into His Kingdom. Pray that with me folks. We need to be able to say with Jesus, 'my food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work of bringing God's saving grace to souls who are walking in darkness.' We need to reach out with the Light of Christ and with winsome appeal introduce those folks to the love of Jesus. Won't you help me to do that?

May God bless us as we labor to reap the harvest of souls who are being saved by Jesus!

Love in Christ,



Fr. Joe

United Anglican Communion Cursillos in Christianity
The Diocese of Western Anglicans

Grand Ultreya

Come one, come all!!

Come and fellowship with other Cursillistas and be renewed by the Spirit of Cursillos

Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 1-4 p.m. (light refreshments to follow)

Presbyterian Church of the Master,

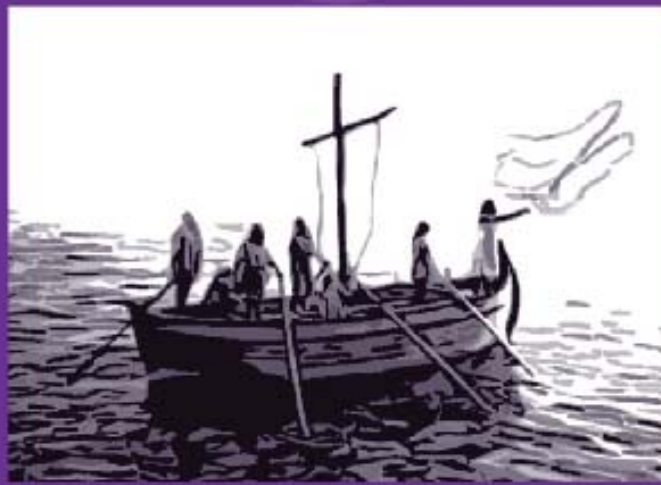
23051 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo, CA 92691

Special Guest:

The Rt. Rev. William A. Thompson, Bishop of the Diocese of Western Anglicans

KINGDOM CONFERENCE

2012



SPONSORED BY

The Diocese of Western Anglicans

The Anglican Church in North America

March 23-24

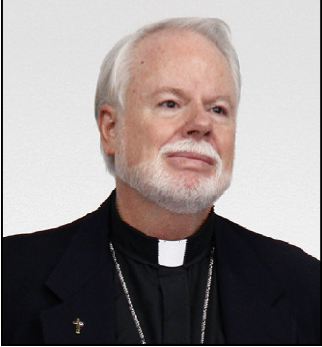
*The Power of Vision:
The Church for the 21st Century*

● **Mariners Church, Irvine, CA** ●

Register Today: www.westernanglicans.org

Words on the Word— Mission and Ministry

by Fr. Tim Laundrie



One of my seminary professors would continually say, “All ministry is God’s ministry.” In meditating on this it became clear that submission to God and saying “here I am” when He calls gives us a unique opportunity. That is the opportunity to co-operate with

God. God leads. God sets the agenda. God empowers us and He uses us. God trusts us to use our gifts and talents, our reasoning and intellect, to engage and successfully complete His mission. This is exciting, rewarding, and a bit terrifying.

The thought that God trusts me to do something special for Him, no matter how small the ministry might be, is very humbling. The One I’m ultimately working for is so magnificent that I cannot think of myself at all, I must think about the task He has given me. My greatest joy in service comes when I am completely absorbed in the ministry God has given me. Often doing healing ministry captures my thoughts entirely such that everything else is blocked out and I am overwhelmed with joyful humility,

Jesus’ ministry was most obviously God’s ministry. He said “I came not to be served, but to serve.” Jesus first served God the Father. Then, as we know from the Gospel of John, Jesus carried out the mission God the Father gave Him by serving humankind. Jesus accomplished His mission perfectly, and as he departed he commissioned all believers, as we read in Matthew 28:16-20.

According to Jesus’ model, the primary objective of the ministries of the church is to serve Him, since all authority in heaven and earth has been given to Him. It occurs to me that everyone in ministry should first get his or her orders from Jesus before ministering. Many people are ministry vigilantes who consider the ministry in which they are involved to be their

own ministry rather than God’s. This is the key problem we face in ministry where we become so devoted to what we are doing that we forget for Whom we are actually doing it.

When I speak with someone who says something like “I’m going to feed the homeless,” or “I’m going on a mission to Peru,” or something similar, I always want to ask whether or not they really heard that particular call from the Lord. If the minister freelances—proceeds without God—the chances for success are dim. Fortunately, most people with such passions have been called by God.

Every Christian is called to the ministry of Christ in the church. Ministry is leading others to transformation for Christ through service and sacrifice in love. It is Christ-centered and other-focused. Doing ministry “in love” is very important. Love in ministry is other-focused, godly love. But, we need to understand what godly love is.

The kind of love we are referring to is love that a person in Christ does, not just something that motivates doing. In fact, unmotivated love is the most pure love; it is godly love. It is such a simple concept to change the definition’s focus so slightly and make such a big difference. What I mean by this is that usually when 1 Corinthians 13 is quoted it is in reference to the qualities exhibited when one loves another. In other words, the characteristics are results of the love, not actions of the love. When we turn this around as an act of will it changes love from passive/emotional to active/willful. The word “willful” generally has a negative connotation. However, when we willfully love, choosing to be patient, kind, humble, respectful, selfless, forgiving, honest, and committed, we make a statement far beyond words. We exhibit Christ.

The patience of love gives the other person time and space to think, apprehend, and respond. The kindness of love treats the other person as we would like to be

(Continued on page 5)

treated. The respectfulness of love listens attentively to the other in empathy, detached from one's own emotive responses and instead focused on the emotions of the other. The selflessness of love goes the extra mile to meet the legitimate needs of others by sacrificially giving of time and resources. The forgiveness of love builds bridges by forgiving offenses regardless of whether the offender repents or not. The honesty of love responds to situations with courage and wisdom, hates lies, does not flatter, and tells the truth. The commitment of love lives in integrity and stands behind promises, thereby evoking trust and confidence in its recipients. The humility of love is love that freely gives and is other-focused, confident in itself, needing no recognition of its own but giving all to Christ.

Love is proactive, grabbing the opportunity to serve, being the first to express or ask for forgiveness, humbly asking questions and listening, giving honest feedback. Love takes a chance by being more transparent, starting the conversation rather than simply reacting.

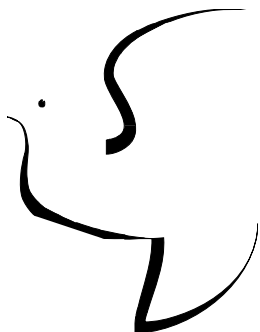
The corporate expression of this love is in the ministry of the church, the mission of which is to continue the mission of Christ in seeking and saving the lost. Dr. Ray Anderson, one of my professors, said that "the church does not exist otherwise than in its life given to its members as the visible and corporate manifestation of God's mission to the world." Jesus' incarnation served the purpose and mission of God. Before Jesus ascended he gave instructions to the disciples as to what they should do going forward.

Except for replacing Judas, nothing tangible was done by the disciples until Pentecost. The church was born on Pentecost by the Spirit of Christ falling on Jesus' disciples and empowering them. The disciples were instructed by the resurrected but not ascended Christ with what has become known as Great Commission, and at Pentecost the infant church was empowered by the Spirit to carry out that mission, which it is still doing.

While the church cannot replace Christ, it is "an incarnational presence of Jesus Christ in the world through its inner life grounded by the Spirit of Christ and in solidarity with all men and women in common humanity." The ministry of the Church seeks to reach the prodigal sons and daughters of God to return to the family of God by proclaiming, teaching, and manifesting the kingdom of God. The way the church does this is through its various individual missions and ministries.

Since the church is the continuing ministry of Christ in the world it must do what Christ did while He was in the world. While Jesus was very active in his public ministry in teaching, healing the sick, and performing other miracles, the lasting effect he had was in training, authorizing, and sending the disciples. Thus, training, authorizing, and sending disciples should be the primary role of the church today.

So, brothers and sisters in Grace, how are we doing with this word?



Soaking Prayer

February 8, 2012

Wear your comfortable clothes, bring your pillow and a blanket, and get ready to soak in the awesome presence of the Lord.

Bring a Friend! Bring several friends!

You will all be blessed!

Whom Shall I Send? Who Will Go For Us?

Fr. Richard Bowman



"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2)

". . . Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes and see that the fields are white for harvest." (John 4:35)

The laborers of which Jesus speaks here are not primarily the clergy - deacons, priests, and bishops. The ordained people are pastors and under-shepherds, as well as laborers in their several capacities. The laborers are all of us who love the Lord Jesus and who look forward to His appearing. All of us are hired to go into the vineyard, as it were, and to reap souls for His Kingdom.

The people we meet in our daily lives are hungry for the Lord and His Word. They are at various stages of need for something deeper, something that gives meaning.

When a serious problem, a crisis hits, they are forced to look beyond the "normal" of their lives. I see a good many of them at Tri-City Hospital where I minister part-time. But the people we all see in our ordinary lives and whom we meet by some ordinary circumstance, are all in need of that "something meaningful, something deeper". And they may have heard about Jesus, they may have read their Bibles - or not. Others may have talked to them about the Lord before we see them. Something may have happened to them in their younger lives which turned them away from church, from the Lord. They may think the Bible is full of unprovable myths. They may be angry at God for a sudden loss, someone who died a painful death after long suffering and many prayers.

They may be ripe for the picking. You may well be the one who picks the ripe fruit. Supposing you see someone you don't know in the store. Earlier at home you asked the Lord to use you today to reach out to others in His Name. Someone in the store seems to draw your attention. You begin praying for him/her. The opportunity presents itself for you to say hello to him and possibly make some comment. Perhaps a small conversation follows. As you listen to the Lord inside and to the other person outside, you may see a natural way to ask about her and to listen. As she shares, be attentive to how you may be able to fit in here. You already are by having asked and now listening to her. The Lord may urge you on the inside to ask if you can pray for her. If she says yes, pray lovingly and sensitively. If she seems receptive at all to spiritual matters, either she may ask what church you attend, or you can ask her if she has a church. If not, invite her to Grace. If that doesn't happen and she is satisfied with being prayed for, you know that you have reached out and planted a seed which the Lord will build upon.

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth." (I Cor. 3:6-7)

We are the Church. The Church will not grow unless we fulfill our mission - the mission Jesus Christ has given us: to reach out to others in order to share His Love and to introduce others to Jesus. Each one of us has a gift. And as we use and develop that gift we are able to honor our Lord throughout each day in praying for and reaching out to those in our little part of the field who are ripe for harvest. Or who need seed sown. Or who need watering. His Love through us is the key. Others are drawn to Jesus through our interest in and love for them. They are not drawn to us (though they may think so at first).

(Continued on page 7)

Tomorrow morning, then, before you become involved, turn to Jesus and say something like:

Lord Jesus, I am Yours to use as You will today. I want to obey You in reaching out to others in Your Love. Show me someone today whom I can touch and listen to and pray for. Help me be attentive to Your voice and to be sensitive to the person You lead me to. I want to

please You and hear You say tonight,
"Well done, good and faithful servant.
Enter into the joy of the Lord."

Take courage. Be not afraid. The Lord is with us wherever we

Newly-appointed Rector's Warden's Address to Congregation at Annual Meeting, January 29, 2012



I need to tell you straight off that my voice used to be better. I had surgery on my tongue and radiation on my larynx. Praise God, I am still alive, I am healed, and I can talk. I'm so thankful that Fr. Joe still has his good voice and that he is using it to God's glory here at Grace Anglican Church. Wasn't that a powerful sermon this morning? (Applause)

When Fr. Joe asked me to be his warden, the Lord reminded me of two things:

- First, a hymn we sang long ago in my college chapel: -Rise up O man of God; have done with lesser things.-Give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.
- Second, my Cursillo, where I said "Here am I, send me."

But now as I stand here, it is overwhelming. It is impossible. I did not seek this office. I am not worthy. Many of you could do better. It is impossible for me to take the place of Trish, Jane, or Barry, the ones who have served before me. But I am the one who has been called at this time. So please pray every day for me and all of the vestry, clergy, staff and our many wonderful volunteers. Pray every day. Without Him we can do nothing.

I am excited about the new vestry. In the Vestry Questionnaire, I like what Jane said about this being a really fun year, and what Bill said about thinking big and carrying out big plans. I like what Dink said about listening and discerning God's will, and what Carolyn said about operating in unity, and taking no offense with each other. I like what JR, Michael, Jackie, and William have said during the past year on the Vestry. I really do look forward with "positive expectancy."

But I need to add that, without YOU (the congregation) we can do nothing. You are the church, the bride of Christ. As you know, a bride must be actively and intimately involved in her marriage. Christ needs you here, your love, your time, talent, and treasure. I get Goosebumps when I think of what Christ can do through you this year! So I would say to all of you:

-Rise up O people of Grace, the church for you doth wait.

-Her resources unequal to the task, rise up and make her great.

May God pour out a magnificent blessing on Grace Anglican Church.

From Deacon Sue.....

Thoughts on Our Mission and Ministry to Young Adults



Thoughts on Our Mission and Ministry to Young Adults

In my “other life”, I served as an educational leader for 38 years in our local community. One of my roles was to coordinate vital research to understand the needs of our learners and their families and to cast a community-wide vision of

how we could help our learners be all they were meant to be (in God’s image). It’s amazing what we were able to accomplish once parents, children, teachers, and leaders shared a common vision and willingly integrated resources on behalf of our children.

I think that God had me in long term training for my primary role as a deacon: to understand and communicate the needs of our people and to develop ways for our church family to use our God-given resources to serve their needs. This kind of research requires extraordinary teamwork and listening to what God is saying through His people. Praise God. We have this teamwork and commitment at Grace! We want to serve God’s people, God’s way.

A number of us have wondered why there are so few young adults between the ages of 18 and 30+ in our faith community and in the Body of Christ in general. Over the past year, we have looked at the research on the “millennials” as this generation is called. Here are some interesting findings:

- 15% of the young adults in this age group identify themselves as committed Christians.
- 6% of these millennials affirm the following:
 - The Bible is the accurate, written Word of God
 - Believers have a God appointed responsibility to share their faith with others
 - God is all-knowing, all powerful, and rules the universe today
 - Salvation and reconciliation to God’s original plan for humankind is by grace alone

- Jesus has a divine nature and a human nature and was sinless in his human nature.
- Satan is a living being.
- ***41% of committed Christian millennials prefer a more traditional faith rather than a hip version of Christianity***
- Most of the committed Christians had a relatively “weak” understanding of Scripture, doctrine, and church history (reflecting the same data about committed Christians in general.)
- ***70% of the millennials considered the institutional church to be irrelevant to their lives. They see churches as too interested in the conversion process of salvation and adding to their numbers.***
- 59% of the millennials who professed at least a belief in God, dropped out of church within a few years of young adulthood.
- 5% are explicitly antagonistic toward Christianity.
- 11% have a slight if any interest in knowing more about spirituality
- 70% are relatively apathetic to spiritual development of any kind.
- ***85% are close to family and like to be around friends.***
- The millennials in general, seek equity and justice for all, and want to make a difference in this world.

The good news is that the 15% who are committed Christians have a yearning to live out their faith devoted to the apostles’ teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers (as in Acts 2). These millennial Christians forfeit material gain to serve others, have a dedication to Bible study, have an intense prayer life, and a total commitment to reach and minister to others in their communities and the rest of the world. *Several of these extraordinary millennial Christians are joining our Grace Family! What a blessing. They are truly out there!*

What can church communities do to support the 18-30+ year olds in clarifying and living out their faith wholeheartedly in these changing times? The various research studies seem to see solutions around a few major themes:

- Developing intergenerational mentoring relationships
- Viewing Christian Calling as a 24/7 vocation for ALL believers, not only ordained clergy.
- Making Godly Wisdom a priority.

Intergenerational Relationships

The millennial Christian “voices” in the research called for a community where all people of all ages know, love, and serve each other and work together in unity and mutual respect for the sake of others. They are asking for a more collaborative, mutual mentoring environment. The wisdom of elders and the action-packed enthusiasm of the younger generation can work in synergy in soul shaping friendships. *We see emerging evidence of this intergenerational collaboration in our Family Friendly gatherings, in our small groups, in mutual mentoring relationships, and in our mid-week fellowship. Our growing emphasis on God’s Word and prayer is addressing the relative weakness in Scriptural foundation and a disciplined prayer life. Our growing interest in intentional intergenerational mentoring will address the common criticism of flawed or non-existent discipleship or the lack of intentional cultivation of the next generation’s leaders.*

24/7 Christian Calling for ALL Believers

How many of us have a clear mental picture of our role as Christ followers in the world? How many of us know what we were put on earth to do as individuals and as a community? If we can answer yes to either question we have a clear sense of our Christian calling or vocation. This concept of vocation has been basically lost in contemporary expressions of Christianity. Most of the committed Christian millennials interviewed, had no idea that their faith connected to their life’s work. This and the weakness in knowing the Gospel message well enough and clear enough to share it with others, are reflections of the greater Christian community, not just millennials. *A radical concept that is being advocated in the training of new pastors is that the church exists to support the church members in living out their faith wherever God places them in their daily lives. This requires knowing every member “by name” ...their interests, their strengths, their spiritual growth needs, their struggles and successes in life and more. The whole*

effort is to inspire, encourage, and support church community members of ALL ages in their relationships with family, friends, work place/school associates, and community. The health and effectiveness of a church is measured by the fruit in this family/community outreach.

Making Godly Wisdom a Priority

Godly wisdom is the spiritual, mental, and emotional ability to relate rightly to God, to others, and to our culture. This kind of wisdom is cultivated by a deep, heart understanding of God’s Word, continual listening to the Holy Spirit’s guidance in daily life, in receiving the sacraments, in faithful service to others, in practicing the traditions of a faith community, in fellowship with others, and in our continuous reverence for the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Researchers did not find this kind of cultivation of wisdom in most youth and young adult ministries, or faith communities for that matter.**

What would happen if we intentionally addressed the cultivation of wisdom for all ages, especially our children, youth and families? If we commit to an intergeneration approach to faith development, we would be spontaneously building a foundation of wisdom as a legacy for the next generation.

Start with Our Millennial Family, Friends, and Neighbors

A number of us have friends and family members who are “millennials.” What would happen if we as a united faith community of parents, community leaders, and active Christian millennials, took this distinctive research on young adults to heart? What if we committed to building intergenerational relationships? (Our church family has a long history of intergenerational mentoring. I for one, was spiritually mentored by elders for over twenty years.) What if we took the radical approach to support one another to flourish as “God’s light” 24/7? What if we took the cultivation of wisdom seriously in our community for the sake of millennials and others? We would be an empowered community in Christ, a living example of His light to the world.....They would know that we are Christians by God’s love, grace, and truth coming from the overflow of His Spirit in our hearts. Amen.

Walk a Mile in My Sandals

by Trish Snider, Former Rector's Warden

This is my last newsletter article as the Rector's Warden. It has been quite a year! At the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2012, I will be reviewing the past year with all of you. Therefore, I decided to reflect on my experience as the Rector's Warden.

It has been my honor to pray daily for our Rector, Fr. Joe Rees. I know him to be a Godly man who faithfully commits each day to the Lord. He listens to God's counsel and follows His direction in all he does. It has become obvious to me during this past year that most of us have no idea the hours Fr. Joe (and all the clergy, but I am concentrating on Fr. Joe!) spends doing the Lord's work here at Grace Anglican Church.

I invite you to come with me and walk through a sample week. *The names have been changed to protect the innocent! I would also add that Fr. Joe does not know of this article. I am slipping this in the Grace To You in by the grace of Jean.*

Fr. Joe begins each morning with a quiet time listening to the Lord and reading the Word.

On Sunday he arrives at the church by 7 A.M. to help set up and prepare for the services, turning on the heat! He usually preaches at both services and even when he is not preaching he serves at the altar at both services. There are often activities after church that he attends. He makes sure the building is secure before he leaves. He tries to rest a bit at home unless there are critically ill people who need a visit. You can imagine how busy he has been recently with the special needs of our Grace family.

On Monday he spends time in the office until lunch. He and Jean go over the calendar for the current week and future weeks. He picks the hymns, discusses Sunday services for the

Bulletin preparation. He returns phone calls, answers emails, and makes appointments. He leaves for Pastoral calls and appointments.

On Tuesday he often has an appointment with a parishioner before coming to the office. His office time today involves answering phone messages and emails. He also writes "The Shepherd's Voice". There is a Bible study which he leads from 11:30 to about 1:00 P.M. He then makes Pastoral calls. He is at the church for appointments late in the afternoon. He attends the 6:30 Pot Luck supper, often teaching himself. When he does teach we add preparation time to his schedule for the day. What a blessing to have our team of clergy!

Wednesday dawns early as Fr. Joe arrives before 7:30 A.M. for Listening Prayer and Holy Eucharist which meets in the middle Sunday school room. This is a powerful hour and a half during which a small group sits quietly listening to God. As God leads, they are led to certain scriptures and they listen and write what God speaks to them. The group shares what they received and it is marvelous how God connects the individual revelations. Holy Eucharist is shared. (All are welcome to come!) From 9:30 until noon, Fr. Joe meets with the staff. First there is a time of worship, then long range plans are discussed, calendars checked and all of the day to day needs discussed. At least once a month the staff shares lunch following the meeting. Fr. Joe usually has a lunch meeting, pastoral visits and other appointments all afternoon. Wednesday evenings are busy: first Wednesday is a healing service; second Wednesday is Soaking Prayer; third Wednesday is Vestry meeting; fourth Wednesday he often visits the youth group.

Thursday arrives early with a 7:00 A.M. Bible study. At 8:00 A.M. he meets in the office with all of the clergy until about 9:45 to discuss the pastoral needs of the church. Among other

items, they discuss coordination of home and hospital visits; scheduling of in-home communion for those who are not able to come to church. He has appointments and visits all afternoon. He returns to the church at 6 P.M. for a choir supper followed by rehearsal until 9 P.M.

Wow, we made it to Friday and Fr. Joe's "day off". One of my challenges as Rector's Warden was not to call or email or text Fr. Joe on his day off. I did not succeed often. He really does try to take the day off, but that may mean mowing the lawn, fixing something at home and probably continuing to work on his sermon or other writing.

Saturday begins with the Bible study for the men and continuation of pastoral visits.

Somewhere in the midst of all of this he prepares his sermon (which requires quiet time to be with the Lord and listen to what He wants preached!). He also writes his article for the newsletter, his report for the Vestry meeting, and a weekly email to the youth. During Lent he has sent daily emails to foster thoughtful reflection. He takes time to talk to people who drop in to see him. People call him all hours of the day and night with needs that must be met right away. He is never too busy to offer prayer, consolation, encouragement, a shoulder to cry on, or to listen to someone's troubles or joys.

This is a long article, yet the purpose was to give you a glimpse into the weekly walk of our Rector. It is also to remind all of us that we need to express our appreciation to our Rector more often than we do. We often say when something does not please us, yet how often do we express our Joy and Thanksgiving. Fr. Joe does what he does to the Glory of God, yet all need an occasional pat on the back! Our transition to Grace has been supported all along the way by our Fr. Joe who loved us through every bump in the road. Let's not neglect words of thanks giving and praise.

This week one of our new family members did just this. She wrote the following email (published with permission!)

"Fr. Joe,

I want you to know how much we appreciated and were blessed by Nathaniel's Song. I have reread it several times since Sunday. What a testimony to others who also come and see. I think I'd like that song sung at my funeral someday, though that may be years in coming. Think you'll be up to it? May your day be overflowing with joy,

Oleta and Charlie Woolsey"

Coming to Grace Anglican in March

**Rev. Daryl Fenton of CMJ-USA
(Church's Ministry among Jewish People)**

Friday evening, March 2nd and Saturday, March 3rd.

More information soon



Prayers & Squares

Our next meeting will be in the Fellowship Room on February 11th from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Contact Carol Neu for more information.

Prayers & Squares often receives letters and cards from people who have received one of the prayer quilts. They tell of marvelous healings and comfort from the prayers of everyone who tied a knot on the quilt. Please continue to stop after communion on Sundays and tie a knot as you pray for the person who is to receive the quilt.

Shrove Tuesday

Join us on Tuesday, February 21st for our annual pancake supper followed by fun, frivolity and quite a lot of silliness for our Shrove Tuesday entertainment. If you would like to sing a song, do a little dance, tell a joke or two, please contact the church office. The sillier the better. The pancake supper starts at 6:00 p.m. and will be immediately followed by the entertainment. Don't miss it!

Don't Miss the Kingdom Conference in March

Night fades and morning twilight begins its advance. We see tiny dew drops on petals, feel the brace of cool breeze, sense the ground beginning to warm. It's a new day! **Kingdom Conference 2012** will bring this experience to church ministry. Set for **March 23-24, 2012**, The Power of Vision: The Church for the 21st Century, Our workshop leaders and Bishop Martyn Minns the keynote speaker will bring you practical, tangible ways to grow your church through evangelism and new approaches to youth and children's ministry. Don't miss out on the only west coast conference designed just for Anglicans. March 23-24, 2012 in Irvine, CA. More info coming soon

Update on Outreach to Pregnant Moms

By Joy Anna Rosendale
Women's Ministry Leader

On Sunday, January 8, eighteen women plus Father Joe gathered in Grace's Fellowship Room for a yummy Chipotle lunch and a presentation by Georgette Forney from Anglicans For Life. She explained with passion and vivid detail the new Anglican Angel Ministry we want to start in our church. It was easy to see how this ministry demonstrates the compassionate heart of Jesus. And it was also easy to see how much it will help the pregnant moms who are struggling with a decision about abortion, and how much joy and fulfillment it will bring to the "Angels" themselves (those of us serving on the big team).

Our church will work with the Pregnancy Resource Center, who will refer moms to us who want our help. Father Joe will also direct us in announcing this ministry on our church website and in putting up signage outside the church, welcoming these special moms to come to us for our assistance. Kim Brunson from PRC says that there are four pro-life centers near us, and all four of them can refer pregnant moms to us. So in other words, this will be a busy, thriving, productive ministry!

But we don't want any "Angels" to get overloaded. Therefore we will work together as a big team, each person doing a little bit. There will be a place for every woman who wants to volunteer her talents, time and love. What do you like to do? There will be a way for you to serve:

- Do you like to mentor, listen and pray? You can be the Special Mom's primary contact.
- Do you like to go shopping? You could take the Special Mom with you on a fun shopping trip.
- Do you like to knit or sew? You could make some lovely custom-designed outfits for her baby and herself.
- Do you have time to drive her to the doctor? That will be a wonderfully needed ministry.
- Do you like to cook and have people over for dinner? What a blessing it will be to a lonely,

needy Special Mom to have a loving meal at your home!

- Do you like to talk on the phone and provide initial guidance? You could serve in one of the most the vitally needed aspects of this ministry as one of the intake liaisons who are the Special Moms' initial contact with this ministry.
- Do you have insights to share about your experience as a mother? You could be a much-needed mentor, question-answerer and encouragement for her.
- Do you like to do anything else? Sing, dance, play music, have fun, go on picnics, lounge on the beach, play with children.... What else? You think of it and we will find a creative way to use it.

There truly is a place in the Anglican Angel Ministry for every woman in our church who wants to serve Jesus. Nobody has to do it all. Everyone can do a little bit according to your interests and resources. When Father Joe talks to us about the importance of outreach, this is a great way for you to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in obeying the sermon—and the Lord's leading!

Our next step will be Georgette returning to our church in February or March (date to be announced) to give a four-hour training. At that time we will begin discerning what each woman can do and learn how to minister effectively. Will you ask God if He wants you to sign up for the training? Start praying about it now. Thanks so much!

KOINONIA (Fellowship/Study/Ministry) GROUPS

Our K-Groups provide a caring environment for fellowship, prayer, service, and spiritual growth. We usually meet at least weekly as a group. Each group may have a particular emphasis. All groups listen, love, and pray for one another. We invite you to join a K-group in the New Year!

CURRENT OPEN GROUPS

SUNDAYS

Anglican Distinctives: Between Services (9:30-10:10 AM) **Eucharist (January)**
Newcomers Fellowship: Second Sunday Between Services
Sabbath Celebration: Carlsbad
Fellowship/Bible Study: Fallbrook

MONDAYS

Men's Prayer Group: Church
Fellowship/Bible Study: Gospel of John : Carlsbad

TUESDAYS

Rector's Bible Study: Church
Healing/Communion: Christian Healing Center
Supper/Learning God's Word at the Heart Level: Church (**NEW: January 9**)

WEDNESDAYS

Women's Christ-Centered Wholeness (**NEW STUDY: January 31**)
Youth Group: Church
Men's Cursillo Follow-up Group
Healing Service—(First Wednesday) Church
SOAKING PRAYER (Second Wednesday) Church
Christ-Centered Wholeness (Men/Women) NEW Gospel of John: **January 10**

THURSDAYS

Discipleship: Church
Wholeness and Empowerment: Bondage Breakers: Church
Senior Women's Fellowship: Vista
Healing/Eucharist Service: Christian Healing Center
Women's Bible Study: Lifestyle of a Healthy Christian
Christ-Centered Prayer/Praying the Scriptures (Lectio Divina) **NEW January 19**

FRIDAYS

Corporate Intercessory Prayer
Wholeness and Empowerment (Recovery)

SATURDAYS

Men's Bible Study: Church
Prayers and Squares: Second Saturday Church
Men's Fellowship Third Saturday
Family Friendly Fellowship (Fourth Saturday)

Several other new groups will be forming in January/February focused on God's Word and Prayer.



Fr. Joe Rees
Rector

Your Vestry Members

Congratulations to our new Vestry members:

3 year term: Carolyn Blumberg
Bill Collins
Dink Nash

1 year term Jane Rost

Richard Rieder is the new Rector's Warden

Jackie Lansing is the new People's Warden.

Pictures will be here next month.

Church Staff

The Rev. Joseph R. Rees
Rector

The Rev. Richard Bowman
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Tim Laundry
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Dcn. Susan Bentley
Small Groups, Recovery Groups

The Rev. Dcn. Barry Montgomery
Church Planting

Jean Hawk
Parish Office Manager

Frances Slaughter
Treasurer

April Snyder
Organist

Colleen Nash
Altar Guild

Paula Sholly
Sunday School Superintendent

Stefanie Vallas
High School & Middle School Youth

Lucy Rees
Nursery Care

Jennifer Murphy
Nursery Care Assistant

Bill Laitinen
Sexton

Vestry Members

(Term Expires in 2013)

JR Fox 760-941-3016

Michael Murphy 760-994-5847

Jane Rost 760-535-3476

(Term Expires in 2014)

Richard Rieder..... 760-631-4683

(Rector's Warden)

Jackie Lansing..... 720-251-1470

(People's Warden)

William Culbreth 760-931-1377

Term Expires in 2015)

Carolyn Blumberg..... 760-685-1954

Dink Nash 760-453-9259

Bill Collins..... 760-295-7804

Newsletter Staff

Editor Jean Hawk

Photographers Stan Peterson

Sue Bentley

Jean Hawk

The Newsletter is on the web at www.graceanglicanchurch.com and is available on Sundays in the Narthex. Please pick up an extra copy or two to mail to your friends or give to someone you think might like to know more about Grace Anglican Church.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the January newsletter is **Friday, February 17th**. The newsletter is usually published for distribution on the last Sunday of the month.

Sacraments and Pastoral Calls

If you need information regarding the Sacramental ministries of the Church, such as Baptism, Marriage, Reconciliation, etc., please consult with the Rector.

Baptisms are administered one Sunday per month within the context of the regular worship service.

Marriages are scheduled year-round except during the seasons of Lent and Advent. Pre-marital counseling is available from the clergy and is required for marriage at Grace.

If you desire a pastoral call or would like to meet with one of the clergy, please contact the church office during office hours (9 am-3 pm).

Grace Anglican Church
4055 Oceanside Blvd., Suite P
Oceanside, CA 92056

Phone: 760-730-9900

Email: churchoffice@graceanglicanchurch.com

Website: www.graceanglicanchurch.com

Frjoe@graceanglicanchurch.com

February, 2012

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Services at Grace Anglican Church

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service with Choir
 - 9:30 a.m. Coffee and Adult Education
 - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 - 10:15 a.m. Holy Communion Service with Worship Team
 - Child Care available at the 10:15 a.m. service.
-