



# FORWARD *in* MISSION

A publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

Advent 2013

*Equipping the saints for ministry*

## GAFCON 2 and the FCA movement unify traditional Anglicans

by the Very Rev. Ryan Reed

First of all, let me thank the diocese for the opportunity to represent you all at the second Global Anglican Fellowship Conference (GAFCON,) which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in October and hosted by All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi. Our delegation consisted of Bishop Iker, myself, Fr. Christopher Culpepper, and Debbie Petta. Fr. Michael Heidt attended as a member of the press and Glen Petta was there to represent SOMA (Sharing of Ministries Abroad).

### *GAFCON is growing*

At the first GAFCON in Jerusalem in 2008, 1100 people from some 2-plus provinces of the Anglican Communion attended, including 7 primates of the Communion.

At GAFCON 2, 1400 delegates from 40 nations and nearly 30 provinces of the Anglican Com-



munion – including 10 primates and 331 bishops – gathered in Nairobi. Every attendee first affirmed the Apostolic faith by personally adopting the Jerusalem Declaration, issued by the first GAFCON.

Our Kenyan hosts offered all the guests real Christian hospitality. The logistics of housing, transporting and feeding 1500 people for a week could have been a nightmare, but our Kenyan brothers and sisters truly pulled it off.

Every day of the conference began with worship and Bible study. We had daily working sessions and presentations, and then a number of mini conferences ran throughout the week. Topics for these conferences included the challenge of Islam, marriage and family, Gospel and culture, being women of God, aid and development, theological education, etc.



### *The GFCA movement continues GAFCON work*

While GAFCON is an event, the Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans (GFCA or just FCA) is a movement of orthodox Anglicans from around the world who are willing to stand up and defend the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To be a member of FCA, one must simply subscribe to the Jerusalem Declaration. The FCA has become a network of Bible-believing orthodox Anglicans from across the world who are trying to hold fast to the Gospel. It includes provinces, dioceses, churches, para-church organizations, and individuals who share one common goal: to help reform, heal, and revitalize the Anglican Communion and expand its mission to the world.

Even the current Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most. Rev. Justin Welby, recognizes that the structures of the Anglican Communion are no longer working. He made this point in his sermon in Nairobi on the day before GAFCON began. From my perspective, the structures of the Anglican Communion have utterly failed to protect the

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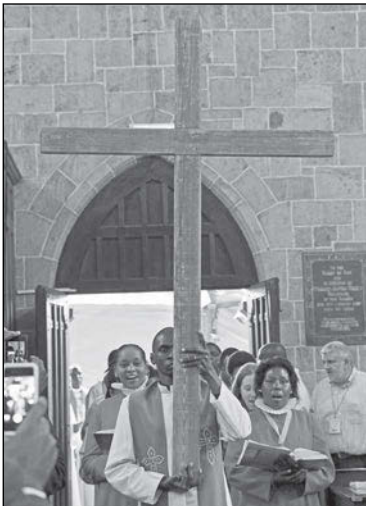
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integrity of the Gospel: They have failed to promote Apostolic faith and practice, and they have failed to hold accountable those who preach a different Gospel.

GAFCON and the FCA intend to shape the future of the Anglican Communion for generations to come. This will be accomplished by three objectives:

- † Proclaiming and contending for the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- † Building fellowship with all faithful Anglicans for mission and discipleship
- † Authorizing and affirming faithful Anglicans who are excluded by their diocese or province.

GAFCON intends to organize around a Primates' Council, a board of trustees, an executive committee, and regional officers. To accomplish this, the leadership will begin seeking financial support from its members.



*The GAFCON cross in procession*

The priorities of GAFCON are the Great Commission, a deepening of discipleship, a witness to the transforming power of the Gospel in society, standing up for the marginalized – especially women and children – and standing alongside the persecuted church.

Two of the more significant developments that

came out of the conference I will give to you by quoting Bishop Iker's report to the Diocese.

First, "The Anglican Church in North America has been identified by the GAFCON primates council as the orthodox province for Anglicans in the United States and Canada."

Second, "By unanimous vote of the Bishops meeting in Nairobi, the Primates council will expand

its role in supporting and recognizing Anglicans in places where Biblical faith has been compromised. This will include not only recognition of provinces and dioceses standing against revisionism and secularism, but, where necessary, will also entail consecrating new bishops."

### *Anglo-Catholics in GAFCON and FCA*

On a personal note – and this brought me a great sense of hope – Fr. Culpepper and I were part of a small group of about 50 Anglo-Catholics and Evangelicals who came together to discuss our differences and our identities. While nothing official was released from this group, we came together in a spirit of repentance for the way in which we speak about one another and left with a commitment to work together for the sake of Gospel.

We, as the Diocese of Fort Worth, have a seat at the GAFCON table. At this point in the life of the Anglican Communion, there is no other game in town. GAFCON is committed to Jesus Christ as head of the Church, to the authority of his Word, and the power of the Gospel to save lives. Granted, we must work through the old churchmanship issues here in the West, and we will be challenged by the different expressions of Anglicanism in the many different cultures that it exists; however, GAFCON in my opinion is where the future of Anglican Christianity exists.

GAFCON is calling all Anglicans – whether Anglo-Catholic, Evangelical, or Charismatic – who are committed to biblical faithfulness to answer the call in our time of defending the Faith and making disciples of all nations. I am proud that our diocese is willing to answer that call.

GAFCON is proving to be an instrument of unity for all flavors of Anglicans at a time when the Anglican instruments of unity have utterly failed. It gives me great hope that we, here in the Diocese of Fort Worth, can stand with tens of millions of Anglicans across the globe in proclaiming the Gospel and making Jesus Christ known in every part of the globe.

*Read Bishop Iker's report at [fewepiscopal.org](http://fewepiscopal.org).*

*Read and sign the Jerusalem Declaration at [fca.net](http://fca.net).*

## *Our heritage in the Faith*

# When they ask, “What do you mean by ‘Anglican’?”

*by the Rev. Stuart Smith*

We have the blessed opportunity to present ourselves to the community for who we have, in fact, always been: Biblically orthodox, Creedal, Spirit-Filled, Soul-Winning, “Little c Catholic” Christians, who gratefully observe and teach Traditional Christian morals for family and church life.

How do we respond when friends, family and co-workers ask, “What do you mean by ‘Anglican’?”

### *UNPACKING “ANGLICAN”*

#### *1. Anglicans are biblically orthodox*

“Orthodox” – in this case – means “right thinking” about God’s Word. It means, thinking about Scripture the way the Church first thought of it prior to the unhappy divisions in the 11th and 16th centuries!

We believe that the Bible is God’s Word – full stop: no apologies, no “revision” for modern sensibilities. We believe that God’s Word speaks its own Truth, and that Truth is not negotiable, nor capable of being “voted on” in a General Convention of 21st-century Christians taking council of their own opinions. Further, we believe that Scripture is its own interpreter. That is, we believe that any questions or apparent contradictions in God’s Word can be resolved by a wider, more integrated reading of the whole of the Bible.

As Anglicans, our way of worship bespeaks our dependence upon, love for, and celebration of God’s inerrant Word: the Bible. Our Book of Common Prayer would be largely empty without the direct or paraphrased excerpts of the Bible. We love God’s Word so much, that we use it to worship Him.

#### *2. Anglicans are creedal*

Can we “vote” on what we believe? Well, no. We live in the “Kingdom” of God – not the United

States of God, nor the Peoples Republic of Christianity. Without a godly summary of our Faith, a godly summary which the ancient Church proclaimed as TRUE beyond question, we would be left to our own contemporary devices as to how to pass on to the next generation the great, wise, and holy insights of the Fathers of the Church in the first 10 centuries. We would be subject to all the delusions and passing passions of cultural currents. We would be unprotected from charlatans.

The Creeds we use most – the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed – are beautiful, biblically sound, triumphantly true declarations of who God is, and who we are, in His image. Actually, we pray the Creeds during the daily offices of Morning or Evening Prayer, and in the Sunday and weekday Masses. Notice, this Sunday, what comes at the every end of the Creed: the word “AMEN.”

Saying the Creed is praying the Creed. It is an offering up to God, anew, our utter dependence on His self-revelation (through the Bible and through His Incarnate Son’s Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension) and our joy at belonging to Him.

As Anglicans, our Creedal way of praying helps us avoid heresy, stupidity and unfaithfulness by making sure what we preach, teach and talk about is in agreement with the ancient Church’s understanding.

#### *3. Anglicans are Spirit-filled, soul-winning*

Anglicans believe in the Holy Spirit. Further, we believe that, at Holy Baptism, every new-born believer is filled with the Holy Spirit. The Bible teaches this. The Church’s experience confirms it. We can authentically follow Jesus Christ only by the same Holy Spirit which conceived and lives in

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# Around the Diocese

## *For all Altar Guild members*

The annual meeting of the diocesan Altar Guild is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, at St. Vincent's Cathedral in Bedford. Fr. Robert Young will be the guest speaker at the event, which begins with Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

## *Union Gospel Mission celebrates 125 years*

Ground was broken in September on a new building for women and families at Union Gospel Mission in Fort Worth. The improvements will help UGM minister to the homeless and needy, who continue to find God's love at the Mission, which was founded by area churches in 1888. Fr. Stanley Maneikis, UGM's chaplain, sees lives changed every day through the programs and services the Mission provides. Best of all, many residents find or renew their faith through Bible studies and the ALPHA program. As part of the 125th anniversary year, UGM is seeking 125 churches to perform one service project each. Call Fr. Maneikis at 817-334-0894 to get involved!



*In September, Fr. Bill O'Connell (center) and members of his vestry took Bishop Iker on a tour of the new home of Cross of Christ Church in Glen Rose. The congregation is now meeting in the former Baptist church at 1405 W. Highway 67.*

Bishop Iker has announced a new policy for distributing diocesan



**HABITAT  
FOR HUMANITY**

funds beginning in 2014. Any congregation wishing to sponsor a Habitat work day will have its funds matched – up to \$5,000 – by the diocese. Contact the Diocesan Center at 817-244-2885.

## *Annual workshop for parish leaders*

All clergy, treasurers, parish administrators, Junior and Senior wards, and Christian education leaders are urged to attend a one-day workshop on Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Fort Worth. Start the New Year right with up-to-date tax and benefit information, a review of parochial reporting procedures, property management updates and best practices. Registration, materials, and lunch cost \$15 per person. Call the diocesan office at 817-244-2885 to register, or send a message to [dharrell@fwepiscopal.org](mailto:dharrell@fwepiscopal.org).

## **SOCIETY OF KING CHARLES THE MARTYR**



**REMEMBER!**

### **ANNUAL SOLEMN MASS OF SAINT CHARLES, K.M.**

**11 a.m., Saturday, 25 January 2014**

Saint Vincent's Cathedral, Bedford TX

The Rt Rev'd Jack Leo Iker, DD, SSC, Bishop

The Very Rev'd Ryan S. Reed, SSC, Dean

The Rev'd Martin C. Yost, SSC, Preacher

Cathedral Choir of Saint Vincent

Dr. Barbara M. Burton, Director & Organist

**Followed by BUFFET LUNCHEON**

**Reservations required. \$20 per person.**

Make check payable to "Saint Vincent's Cathedral"

- memo line "SKCMP" – deadline: 14 January

**Send to: Saint Vincent's Cathedral Office**

**1300 Forest Ridge Dr., Bedford TX 76022**

Website: [www.stvincentscathedral.org](http://www.stvincentscathedral.org)

**S.K.C.M. General and Membership information:**

[www.skcm-usa.org](http://www.skcm-usa.org) or [membership@skcm-usa.org](mailto:membership@skcm-usa.org)

# Around the Diocese

## *New Executive Director for Camp Crucis*

The ministry of oversight at our diocesan camp and conference center passed this fall to Philip Craig. Jason Bontke, camp Director for eight years, returned to the business world after the close of Summer Camp in August.

Philip is a lifelong member of the Diocese of



*The Craig family*

Fort Worth whose parents, Harvey and Tomie Craig, have been lay leaders at St. Vincent's Cathedral for many years. A former member of both St. Vincent's and St. Anne's in Fort Worth, Philip joined

St. Barnabas Church in north Fort Worth in 2007 with his wife, Janet, and their children.

Philip was a summer camper at Camp Crucis and served on the diocesan Youth Council before attending Texas Tech, where he majored in architectural engineering. He has since served his parishes as a vestry member, acolyte master, lay minister, stewardship chair, and youth leader.

In his professional life, Philip has spent 25 years in the aerospace industry, working for American Airlines and several equipment suppliers in materials and project management, with responsibility for key contracts, personnel, inventory, budget, quality, and scheduling.

Fr. Andrew Petta writes of him, "As Junior Warden, Philip attended to every task ... either by personally repairing the need or delegating it to proper [professionals]."

"More than being a handyman, Philip has been a spiritual leader at St. Barnabas. He and Janet have led our youth group for a few years

now. Through engaging studies, events, and fellowship, they have built our youth group in size and maturity. In [every position he holds], Philip has promoted, recruited, trained, and equipped those who he ministers to and with."

Responding to the call to serve at Camp Crucis, Philip writes, "I am beyond excited about the opportunity. I consider it both an honor and a blessing. My family is equally thrilled about where God is calling us.

"I have always enjoyed working with young people, both as a Sunday school teacher and youth leader. That experience, along with my background in business and project management, will assist me in helping Camp Crucis to reach its full potential, in bringing others closer to Our Lord, Jesus Christ."

Philip and Janet have moved to Camp Crucis with their 11-year-old daughter; their twin sons attend college in Tarrant County.



*Fr. Eric Vowles was instituted as Rector of All Saints', Weatherford, on Saturday, Nov. 2. He and his wife, Sarah, relocated to Parker County from Midland.*

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Him. We are the Body of Christ. We participate in and are held together by the Spirit of Christ.

To be “spirit-filled” might mean “emotionally stirred,” “inspired to great praise,” “enthusiastic for the Kingdom.” Being “filled by the Holy Spirit” applies to every avenue of our life: from brushing our teeth in the morning, through worship throughout the day, to seeking and serving Christ in everyone we see, to using the Holy Spirit’s gifts for the glory of God the Father. All of life is lived in the Holy Spirit, if we will let Him have His way in our lives.

One manifestation of being “Spirit Filled” is the pursuit of what the Holy Spirit is always in pursuit of: winning souls to Jesus Christ. Of course, the first soul we are most responsible for “winning” with the Holy Spirit’s help and direction is our own! Before we bless (inflict) our own understanding of how another person is being called to know and serve Jesus Christ, we must tend our own garden. Having said that, the Bible is clear: The mission of believers is to go out in faithful service to God with the Good News that Jesus loves them, died for them, and that they can have eternal life through trusting in Him alone. We are to have evangelical (“filled with the message”) hearts:



God wants to use us to help others come to repentance and Faith in His Son.

As Anglicans, our primary means of “soul winning” is friendship with others. We believe in the method Jesus Himself used to call sinners to the

love of God. Jesus reached out to serve, heal, and exemplify the Good News He proclaimed. Never do we see Him simply “down loading” a teaching. Always, His message is lived out in tangible demonstrations of love. The Cursillo Movement sums this up as: “Make a friend; Be a friend; Introduce your new friend to Jesus.”

#### *4. Anglicans are little “c” catholics.*

To be a “little c” catholic is not to be a catholic who is in obedience to the Bishop of Rome. We Anglicans are not, in the Roman sense of the word, “Catholic.” Rather, we are “reformed Catholics.” That is, we hold the Faith which the Church held prior to its sad divisions in the 11th and 16th centuries.

At times, we have had a kind of self-inflicted amnesia about what a catholic Christian is. Here’s a very short and incomplete list of what catholics practice:

- i. *We accept the three-fold ordained ministry* of Bishop/Priest/Deacon as the Anglican way of providing godly, pastoral leadership in the Church.
- ii. *We worship according to a prayer book.* We accept and rejoice in other, more extemporaneous forms of worship, but hold as precious the heritage of Anglican prayer book worship.
- iii. *We observe the ancient calendar of the Church:* with the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost every year without fail. We do not give ourselves permission to take a year off from this observance! Why? It keeps our minds and hearts focused on the Mystery of Jesus Christ – His birth, life, passion, death, resurrection, and ascension. Following the church year also keeps us relatively in harmony with other catholic bodies, including the Roman Catholics and the Eastern Orthodox.
- iv. *We exercise shared authority between ordained and lay ministers.* Bishops rule in our Church. When there is a final decision in our Church, and there has to be a singular decision maker, that decision maker is the duly-elected, Holy Spirit-anointed Bishop of the diocese. For us, that means the Rt. Rev. Jack Leo Iker. There is no diocesan bishop other than him. The Bishop shares his authority with other clergy and with duly-elected representatives from every congregation in his diocese. Our annual Diocesan Convention is a demonstration of shared leadership, shared authority. Within the parish, a Vestry makes decisions which only they can make. Similarly, the Rector or Vicar has areas of decision which are made only by him. At other times clergy and laity make decisions together.

iv. *We share a traditional moral life.* Catholic Christians follow the moral and ethical teachings of God’s Word and the godly direction of the Church for our family, parish and community lives. We teach the Commandments of God – from both Old and New Testaments. The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount give invaluable direction to how to live a godly life in Christ. We apply the Commandments of God without twisting them to mean what we would like them to mean.

*Fr. Stuart Smith is rector of Good Shepherd Anglican Church in Granbury.*

*Offering the love of Christ to the world*  
**In the aftermath  
of a tornado**

After this spring's tornadoes in Granbury and Cleburne, some \$19,000 was donated by various churches and individuals, and by the diocese (in the form of designated Habitat for Humanity funds) to help the victims. The fund was managed by the vestry at Good Shepherd, Granbury. After prayer and consultation, the vestry decided to work with the case manager at Mission Granbury, who selected the Joel Martinez family to receive aid.

The Martinezes own their lot in the Rancho Brazos development, where many homes had been constructed as Habitat for Humanity projects. After the tornado raked through their neighborhood, only the foundation of the Martinez residence was left. The truck, trailer, and riding mower Mr. Martinez used to make a living were lost, as well as their house and its contents.

Mrs. Martinez and their four children went to stay with relatives in Fort Worth. Mr. Martinez camped in a tent on his foundation. Soon, new equipment was donated to him by another church organization in Hood County, and he could work again.

Fort Hood in Killeen pledged a donation of seven modular homes for tornado victims. One of these was earmarked for the Martinez family. The total relocation and move-in cost was put at \$34,500. With the \$19,000 in the special account and another \$15,500 from the accumulated donations to Hood County charity, the Martinez family would be together again.

The process took time. On October 30 the Church of the Good Shepherd held a dinner with the Martinez family as guests of honor. Also attending were Mary Flores of Mission Granbury and Larry Mullins, representing the United Methodist Church.

Mr. Mullins gave an update on repair and construction in Rancho Brazos, which was due for completion in early November. All that remained was for the government to approve the release of the modular homes.

Mr. Mullins also explained that many years' experience in planning administration in the Army had prepared him for the work he does presently (voluntarily) and that his next assignment will be in West, Texas, to help with the aftermath of the plant explosion.



*Fr. Smith with guests on Oct. 30*

Mr. Martinez told members of the congregation that he is very happy for all of the help he has received, and he is anxious to have his family back home. His daughter, Iris, was injured in the tornado but will, in spite of her injuries, be heading off to college in Austin next fall. His 12-year-old son has been the victim of some bullying in school this fall, so it is important that he can come back home to Granbury as soon as possible.

While the modular home has not yet been delivered, Mr. Martinez has been able to move into temporary housing in Granbury. Church of the Good Shepherd will stay in touch with the Martinez family in 2014 as their lives are made whole again. Please pray that it will be a year of many blessings after such a trial.



# FORWARD in MISSION

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Month	Date	Event
January	12/15	ST. PAULS, Gainesville
February	12/22	CROSS OF CHRIST, Glen Rose
March	12/24	Christmas Eve
April	12/25	Christmas Day
May	12/24-1/1	Diocesan offices closed
June	12/29	Discretion
July	1/5	ALL SAINTS, Weatherford
August	1/12	ST. SIMON'S, Fort Worth
September	1/19	ST. STEPHENS, Hurst
October	1/20	9:30 a.m. Commission on Ministry 1:30 p.m. Standing Committee
November	1/26	ALL SAINTS, Wichita Falls, and ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, Burburnett
December		

**Boldface type indicates Bishop Iker's visitations • Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are held at the Diocesan Center for Ministry**

## DIOCESAN CALENDAR - ADVENT/CHRISTMAS 2013