



Anglican Orthodox Church

Worldwide Communion

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Report



Today we celebrated the Ninth Sunday after Trinity Sunday.

On Point

Someone asked, where do the quotes come from? The answer is from the people who uttered them. But, how did you find them? Oh, that. Some from Bishop Jerry, many from Rev Bryan Dabney, a few from other places, some from Rev Geordie Menzies-Grierson, but overall mostly from Bryan. He always has some great ones to share. On to the On Point quotes –

On Vice

If anyone thinks that Christians regard unchastity as the supreme vice, he is quite wrong. The sins of the flesh are bad, but they are the least bad of all sins. All the worst pleasures are purely spiritual: the pleasure of putting other people in the wrong, of bossing and patronising and spoiling sport, and back-biting, the pleasures of power, of hatred. For there are two things inside me, competing with the human self which I must try to become. They are the Animal self, and the Diabolical self. The Diabolical self is the worse of the two. That is why a cold, self-righteous prig who goes regularly to church may be far nearer to hell than a prostitute. But, of course, it is better to be neither.

Jack Lewis
Mere Christianity

Delay No Longer – NEVER MEET

It is a solemn thing to say tomorrow when God says today, for man's tomorrow and God's today never meet. The word that comes from the eternal throne is now, and it is a man's own choice that fixes his doom.

625 New Bible Stories and Illustrations

Comment

Time stretches from the far forgotten past to the unknowable future. The present is where the Finger of God touches the Line of Time. We live in the present, we can never re-live the past and for us the future will never come. We live and act only in the present. To do something tomorrow is not possible. If it will be done, it must be done now, that is today.

Rev LTC Hap Arnold

Timing is everything, this came in on Friday!

Screwtape strategizes with Wormwood, using Time as a weapon:

I had noticed, of course, that the humans were having a lull in their European war—what they naïvely call 'The War'!—and am not surprised that there is a corresponding lull in the patient's anxieties. Do we want to encourage this, or to keep him worried?

Tortured fear and stupid confidence are both desirable states of mind. Our choice between them raises important questions.

The humans live in time but our Enemy destines them to eternity. He therefore, I believe, wants them to attend chiefly to two things, to eternity itself, and to that point of time which they call the Present. For the Present is the point at which time touches eternity. Of the present moment, and of it only, humans have an experience analogous to the experience which our Enemy has of reality as a whole; in it alone freedom and actuality are offered them. He would therefore have them continually concerned either with eternity (which means being concerned with Him) or with the Present—either meditating on their eternal union with, or separation from, Himself, or else obeying the present voice of conscience, bearing the present cross, receiving the present grace, giving thanks for the present pleasure.

Jack Lewis
The Screwtape Letters

Pray that ye enter not into temptation.

St. Luke 22:40

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Philippians 4:13

This present world is an evil world. It is so full of sins, snares, and sorrows. We travel a dangerous road full of stumbling blocks, precipices, and false guides... Being told before that there will be seducers, tempters, persecutors, and many bad examples, let us stand upon our guard.

Matthew Henry
17th and 18th century English pastor and author

No defense is more secure against Satan than a life crowned and crowded with unselfish duties. When they are faithfully done, the Devil has no opportunity to speak reproachfully. James directs us to resist (James 4:7)— to set ourselves against the Devil with will and thought, conscience and heart. We must hold the Word of God strictly, strongly, and rigidly. The truth of God inflexibly held will make one invincible to the Devil, unyielding to his assaults.

EM Bounds
19th and 20th century American Christian pastor and author
(Guide To Spiritual Warfare, pp. 135-136)

I would not have you exchange the gold of individual Christianity for the base metal of Christian Socialism.

Charles H. Spurgeon
19th century English pastor and author

The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed (and hence clamorous to be led to safety) by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary.

HL Mencken
20th century American writer

Moreover, one cannot say that the South committed treason in establishing its own republic. It did not give aid and comfort to American enemies. It merely separated itself

from the United States in order to achieve, to its own satisfaction, a more perfect union of like-minded states. There is, in fact, neither crime nor treachery in that— only the democratic desire of the people of the Southern states to go their own way. The people of the South were loyal to their states and that loyalty in no way endangered the peace of those states that wished to remain part of the United States.

HW Crocker

20th and 21st century American historian and author
(The Politically Incorrect Guide to the Civil War, p. 130)

Government is not reason; it is not eloquence. It is force. And force, like fire, is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.

George Washington

18th Century American patriot, general officer and president

Propers

Each Sunday there are Propers: special prayers and readings from the Bible. There is a Collect for the Day; that is a single thought prayer, most written either before the re-founding of the Church of England in the 1540s or written by Bishop Thomas Cranmer, the first Archbishop of Canterbury after the re-founding.

The Collect for the Day is to be read on Sunday and during Morning and Evening Prayer until the next Sunday. The Epistle is normally a reading from one of the various Epistles, or letters, in the New Testament. The Gospel is a reading from one of the Holy Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Collect is said by the minister as a prayer, the Epistle can be read by either a designated reader (as we do in our church) or by one of the ministers and the Holy Gospel, which during the service in our church is read by an ordained minister.

The propers are the same each year, except if a Red Letter Feast, that is one with propers in the prayerbook, falls on a Sunday, then those propers are to be read instead, except in a White Season, where it is put off. Red Letter Feasts, so called because in the Altar Prayerbooks the titles are in red, are special days. Most of the Red Letter Feasts are dedicated to early saints instrumental in the development of the church, others to special events. Some days are particularly special and the Collect for that day is to be used for an octave (eight days) or an entire season, like Advent or Lent.

The Propers for today are found on Page 200-203, with the Collect first:

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

The Collect.

GRANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Epistle came from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the Tenth Chapter beginning at the First Verse. Paul reminds us we have a common past, regardless of our actual lineage. Spiritually, we are descended from the Jews of the Exodus. Their God is our God, their actions were directed by our God, the same God. He was a Trinity then as He is today. Their reality is our reality, whether we choose to understand or accept it. Our forefathers drank of "the same spiritual drink; for they

drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." Those who have gone before provide examples, both good and bad. In this letter Paul addresses the bad and suggest we should see what their ill behavior gained them before we set our course and not after. And, let we think ourselves ever so special, he reminds us that we are subjected to no special temptations, only those "as is common to man." This is another example of the adage, Those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it.

BRETHERN, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and did all eat the same spiritual meat; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Today's Holy Gospel started in the Fifteenth Chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke, beginning at the Eleventh Verse and recounts the story of the prodigal son. A man has two sons, the older is a wonderful young man who strives to please his father in everything he does. The younger son asks for his inheritance, now rather than later, and sets off to spend it wastefully in a far off land. In dire straits, he decides to go home to his father and beg to be allowed to live as one of his servants. He decides to tell his father, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son..." Before he can get the words out of his mouth, his father welcomes him, gives him new clothing and calls the servants to prepare a fatted calf for a big party. The elder son is very angry and hurt. He asks his father what he did wrong; he followed his instructions every day to the best of his ability, worked hard, and yet his father had never even given a small party for him. The father answered, saying, "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine." It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost and is found." This story, like that of the workers in the vineyard has a number of meanings. Like the father in the story, God wants us to be His faithful child, but rejoices when we return to Him. Like the prodigal son, we should be grateful to live long enough to return to Him. If we are like the oldest son, let us learn from his mistake and be joyful when our brothers and sisters come home to our family. Let us join in the celebration and not begrudge the fatted calf.

JESUS said, A certain man had two sons: and the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: but as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

Bishop Ogles' Sermon

We are off fortunate to get copies of Bishop Jerry's sermon notes. Today is one of those Sundays. Today's sermon starts off with the collect, and like always, it will give you a lot to consider in your heart.

Ninth Sunday after Trinity
Saint Andrew's
Anglican Orthodox Church
17 August 2014, Anno Domini

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

The Collect.

GRANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Gospel Text for today's sermon comes from the 15th chapter of St. Luke, verses 11-32. For the benefit of those who will be reading these notes instead of hearing them, I will include the entire text by individual verses in the body of my sermon rather than print the entire text at the beginning. We all have Bibles, so perhaps this will simplify our understanding.



Here is another of my favorite passages of Holy Scripture. It is the third series of Parables in this chapter that address “lost” things – the first is one lost sheep out of one hundred (Vs. 4-7). The sheep might be compared to a baby Christian who has not gotten his roots deeply set in the Word of God ere the winds of doubt and temptation assail. He has little vision to see the road ahead, and wonders off from following the Shepherd. Once lost in the rocky crevices of the mountain plain, he is terrified and begins to bleat. His Shepherd is the Good shepherd and He never loses a single lamb placed in his charge. The second example is that of a lost coin – one silver coin out of ten – that a lady misplaces. All those who are lost without the church are precious to the Lord. The lost have no conscience of being lost. They are as good as dead – just like the silver coin. They cannot even bleat for the Good Shepherd for they are “dead in trespasses and sins.” That lost coin can in no wise find itself, so it is like the sinner who is without hope unless he is found by the good woman (the Church).

Now the third example is you, and me, and all who call themselves Christians. Do not make the mistake of assuming, ladies, that this Parable is just about some errant son – it is about the errant daughter as well. If we belong to Christ, we are all equally the sons and daughters of God the Father. I understand this parable quite well because I have traveled the same road that the Prodigal traveled and, thank God, I have also returned by way of that same road. I have wasted my substance in riotous living, found myself alone and devoid of a friendly soul, wandered to the depths of the pig sty, and then, thank God, came to myself and arisen and returned. If you are honest with yourself, you, too, may have done all that the Prodigal did unless you are a very unusual son or daughter of Adam. The prodigal, unlike the lost sheep and the coin, knows his Father well, has a conscience to think, and goes into a far country away from his Father with intentional resolve.

Let us go back in time to that day when Jesus, confronted by the murmuring scribes and Pharisees, looked deep into the hearts of all men and spoke this Parable. His mind could see every human heart and every prodigal that had ever lived, or will ever live. Being the Master of all Truth and Wisdom, He condenses all of those prodigals into a single account, so much more accomplished at the art of example than any Shakespeare that ever lived – or any other. *“A certain man had two sons.”* (Luke 15:11) This is every man – every father, but especially, God the Father. The two sons are you and me, and every daughter that has seen the light of day.

The man is a good Father, and He loves His sons dearly. The younger son is a rebellious boy, just like you and me, who resents the authority of his Father over him. *“And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me.”* (vs. 12a) The boy believes that he deserves a reward for which he has never labored or sacrificed. He believes the wealth of his Father falls to him simply by accident of birth. How many of us cry for the blessings of God, but deny His Sovereignty over us? I venture to say everyone who hears this sermon does so to some extent. The Father looks at His willful son with love and disappointment; but His disappointment does not abate His love for his rebellious son. “What can I do to awaken my son to his great need?” the Father must have asked. Surely He could have denied the boy’s request, but would that have awakened him to his dire shortcomings, or simply hardened his heart in the matter?

“And he divided unto them his living.” (vs. 12b) God the Father has no obligation whatsoever to bless us, but He chooses to do so. This old Hebrew father has no legal or ethical constraint to grant the boy’s request, but he grants him his prayerful request knowing that the boy will fare badly on his own. Why? Because the only way that we

can have our dull eyes opened, often, is by having all, losing all, and then coming to our right minds. It is coming to the last rung on our ladder. So what does the son do?

“And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.” (vs. 13) This son was in a great hurry to get out from under his Father’s thumb. *“And not many days after”* he gathered up his newfound wealth and left his Father, his brother, and all that was his Father’s. That is what we do when we have known God and, yet, embark off on a far journey to satisfy our own lusts and desires.

“And when he had spent all.” The only thing we own in this world is what our Father has given us. We have no wealth of our own at all since ALL belongs to God. When we strike out away from our Father’s House, we will soon expend the daily Manna He gives and exhaust ourselves in barren places. *“And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.”* (vs. 14) Wherever we go away from God, it is a ‘far country’ of unloving strangers. Whenever we obey our own wills and not the Will of the Father, there will result a famine in that land to which we have fled. The want for bread is not nearly so dreadful as the want for spiritual fellowship with our Father. A famine of the word, as Amos says, is far more severe than a famine of bread and water. (Amos 8:11-12)

If we take a chunk of our Father’s money and go out to a far country – say, Las Vegas – we shall have many friends as long as the largesse remains; but once gone, so are all of the dotting friends. Their faces now become sharp and condemning. Just as sodium is never found in its pure form in nature, but always joined to some other element, so the son who is not joined to his Father, must join himself to others – others who only use and do not care for him. *“And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.”* (v.15) There is no real love among the Godless. This young Jewish son found himself in the most deplorable of conditions for his faith – feeding the pigs. I will remind you that the Father knew all that was happening to His son just as God knows every second of your life, but He lifted not a finger to bring him home. Why was this? We shall see in due time.

Once famine strikes at the heart, it is unrelenting – never lessening, but always increasing from misery to misery. *“And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.”* (v. 16) Once we have known God as our Father, separation from Him becomes unbearable. Our hunger for righteousness becomes ravenous. God did not put us in this deplorable state: we did it to ourselves without Him. No man will lift a finger to alleviate the suffering of the poor in the Far Country of the World. It is a terror to be ravenously hungry and to know that no man cares enough to give us a crumb from his table. As the Prayer of Collect truly asserts, “. . . cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.” The Lord does not bless us in Far Countries from Him.

There are five profound matters that come to light which the son acted upon when he found himself in extreme depravity of soul:

1. HE CAME TO HIMSELF

“And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father’s have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!” (v.17) It is my opinion, and I believe one supported by Scripture, that all who are apart from God are out of their right minds. The son finally *“came to himself”* and recognized his total lack of

worth in this "Far Country away from his Father. Everyone who comes to Christ must first recognize their depravity and great need.

2. HE RESOLVED TO ARISE AND CONFESS TO HIS FATHER

"I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee. And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants." (v.18,19) Every repentance of man begins with a resolution to arise. Certainly, a sinner can sink no lower than he has already sunk. The only way to move is up toward God and His Savior.

3. HE ACTED ON HIS RESOLUTION

The son did not pay mere lip service to his resolution – he ACTED upon it! *"And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him."* (v.20) Here is a picture of whose beauty I can barely imagine! We know that the Father is completely aware of His son's debauchery, yet He never sought to bring him back. If He had sought the son to bring him back before he had reached the end of his rope, nothing would have been learned. The Father waited and watched in pain of soul. Every rebellious sin we commit as Christians is like another lash over the back of Christ. The son returned! His Father has sat watching the horizon patiently for days, then weeks, then months, and then the months turned to years. But with failing eyesight, He watched. Suddenly, a figure emerged over the distant horizon over which the road wound upon which his son had left long years before. The figure was dressed in rags, walked with a stumbling step, smelt of the filth of the pig sty, was bearded and gross of appearance – no one would have recognized this figure as the handsome young boy who so proudly marched away on the road of prodigality years before – no one EXCEPT the Father. His loved told Him who this fellow was at such a long distance. God loves us so much that He knows and recognizes us even when we are in desperate sin. The Father could no longer sit and wait. He waited when His son was going away, but when he was returning, this was a joy to the old man's heart. God cares that we are headed in the right direction even if we are yet a long way off from being at His side. Sin is a DIRECTION and so is RIGHTEOUSNESS. The Father hugged a filthy, flea-bitten son who stank to high heaven.

4. HE CONFIRMED HIS RESOLUTION BY CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

"And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son." (V.21) It is only when we recognize our unworthiness that we can please God. It is HIS worthiness upon which we must furl our flags. The Father, just as He knows our hearts, already knew, without words, the heart of His son. He did not even hear the verbal confession of His son – the spirit had shouted the news to His heart from afar.

5. HE IS FORGIVEN, RECEIVED, AND RESTORED

"But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:" (V. 22) The Father does not quibble over the depth of our sins and disloyalty when we have returned to Him with broken spirit and contrite heart. **THE ROBE:** He takes that precious, blood-bought Robe of Righteousness that Christ purchased at our Redemption and covers our filthy rags of sin and pungent odor. That covering represents forgiveness, justification, and acceptance. *"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness."* (Isaiah 61:10a) **THE RING:** This is

literally a signet ring which conveys the authority of the Father upon the son. As believing Christians, we too have that authority conveyed upon us. In labeling sin as sin, we express not our own opinion, but the law of God. **SHOES:** I have seen disturbing pictures of late of the senseless and cruel murder of captured Iraqi soldiers by ISIS. Most were lying in a ditch to be shot, and shoeless. Why? It has been a tradition as far back as King Cyrus that the shoes of captured prisoners be taken to prevent their escape. Shoes are a sign of liberty; and Christ is the Perfect Law of Liberty.

The Father arranges a feast for all who return to Him in love and repentance. *“And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry”* (v.23) There is rejoicing in Heaven over the repentance of a single sinner. (V. 7)

“For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.” (v.24)

Time does not suffice to bring out all of the beauty inherent in this Parable, or to expound upon the final verses. That will be food for a later time. But each of us should read this parable and, in each place the prodigal is mentioned, insert our own names. It will be an eye-opener.

If you are whiling your days away in a Far Country (no matter how far away that country is), come to your senses, resolve to arise, then follow up by arising; return to your Father, confess your sins, and be restored.

*Sermon – Reverend Jack Arnold - Time and Action
Church of the Faithful Centurion - Descanso, California*

Today’s sermon tied the Epistle and Gospel together talked, as is oft the case, of the need for action, not simply diction, the general content is in forewords above.



Consider the words from the Collect, wherein we ask God to give us ... the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will ...

This is kind of a follow-on to last week’s Collect. We are asking God to give us direction that we might know right from wrong and follow the right way. If we listen to our hearts and minds, like the aviator, mariner or adventurer without a compass, we will soon be hopelessly lost. With the compass that God gives us, we can find the One True Way, much like the compass always points North.

This is nothing new. As Paul reminds us we have a common spiritual past, regardless of our actual lineage. Spiritually, we are descended from the Jews of the Exodus. Their God is our God; their actions were directed by our God, the same God. He was a Trinity then as He is today. Their reality is our reality, whether we choose to understand or accept it. Our forefathers drank of “the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.” Those who have gone before provide examples, both good and bad. We should aspire to follow the good examples of those who have gone before and not the bad examples that they have left behind. In this letter Paul addresses the bad and suggest we should see what their

ill behavior gained them before we set our course and not after. And, let us think of ourselves ever so special, he reminds us that we are subjected to no special temptations, only those "as is common to man." Which is to say, common to everybody within the human race that is not Christ, which is also to say 100% of the human race. This is another example of the adage, "Those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it." It is an old saw, but one that is as valid today as the first time it was used.

Speaking of lessons, when Saint Luke recounts the story of the prodigal son we oft think of ourselves at that prodigal one returning to God so late in life. Yet there is far more to be learned than this, the titular one.

Consider the two sons. The older is a wonderful young man who strives to please his father in everything he does. The younger son asks for his inheritance, now rather than later, and sets off to spend it wastefully in a far off land. In dire straits, he decides to go home to his father and beg to be allowed to live as one of his servants. He decides to tell his father, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son..." Before he can get the words out of his mouth, his father welcomes him, gives him new clothing and calls the servants to prepare a fatted calf for a big party. The elder son is very angry and hurt. He asks his father what he did wrong; he followed his instructions every day to the best of his ability, worked hard, and yet his father had never even given a small party for him. The father answered, saying, "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine." It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost and is found."

This story, like that of the workers in the vineyard has a number of meanings. Like the father in the story, God wants us to be His faithful child, but rejoices when we return to Him. Like the prodigal son, we should be grateful to live long enough to return to Him. We should recognize when we have erred and as soon as we recognize that, we should immediately return to Our Lord in prayer, asking for His forgiveness. Like the father in the story, Our Lord will warmly welcome us back with open arms. The moral of the younger son's story is that God is always waiting for us, and if we are not late, we can always return to Him. Today preferably rather than tomorrow! He will always accept us with opening arms, but we must make sure it is not too late. Don't wait until you die! If you feel you have erred and strayed, repent now! Do not let the sun go down on your sins and wrath, you may not live to see another day! On the other hand, consider the oldest son, let us learn from his mistake and be joyful when our brothers and sisters come home to our family. Let us join in the celebration and not begrudge the fatted calf. We should not be jealous or angry when our long lost brethren return to the flock of Christ! We should be merry and joyful that they have returned to us! Do not let your anger and pride cloud your emotions like it does so many of us. But rather see a sinner coming back into His flock and rejoice in that he is no longer headed towards the Pit!

Action counts. For by their actions ye shall know them.

Heaven is at the end of an uphill trail. The easy downhill trail does not lead to the summit.

The time is now, not tomorrow. The time has come, indeed. How will you ACT?

It is by our actions we are known.

Be of God - Live of God - Act of God

Bishop Dennis Campbell's Sermon

Bishop Dennis is a brilliant speaker. He is able to take biblical precepts and make them perfectly understandable, even to me. Oft he provides the text of his sermons and I take the utmost pleasure in passing them on:



What's on God's Mind?

Psalm 115:12

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

August 17, 2014

What is on God's mind? I have always admired Thornton Wilder's play, *Our Town*, especially the close of Act One, where George and Rebecca Gibbs are looking over the town by the light of a full moon and a clear sky. They are in a pensive mood, and Rebecca takes the opportunity to describe the letter a sick friend received from her minister. Actually, it was not the letter, but the address that interested Rebecca. It was addressed to:

"Jane Crofut: the Crofut Farm: Grover's Corners: Sutton County; New Hampshire; The United States of America."

At this point George interrupts, asking, "What's funny about that?" "But listen, it's not finished," Rebecca replies. "The United States of America; Continent of North America; Western Hemisphere; the Earth; the Solar System; the Universe; the Mind of God."

I think those words express something very important, and they express it very eloquently. There is a benevolent Divine Being in whom all things exist. And this Divine Being is mindful of us. I don't know anything about Thornton Wilder's beliefs, but on this point he agrees with Psalm 115, "The Lord hath been mindful of us." The God of the Bible is no distant disinterested God who only looks at His creation occasionally, like a person going to a beach or engaging in a hobby. He is continually interested and active in His creation. Jeremiah 23:24 says, He fills heaven and earth. Jeremiah 23:23 tells us He is at hand and near to us, not afar off. Psalm 147:9 says He feeds the ravens. Matthew 10:29 says He sees even the sparrow, and not one of them falls without His knowledge. The point of these verses is that God is active in the small details of His creation, and of the lives of His creatures. Therefore we can know He is interested and active in our lives also.

Again, multiple passages of Scripture make this point. In Genesis 6:5, God sees the wickedness of man. In Exodus 3:7 He tells Moses, "I have seen the affliction of My people which are in Egypt." And He is not watching from outside, like a spectator at a sporting event. He is on the field and in the game. He knows what is going on inside of us. He knew the imaginations of the hearts of people in Genesis 6:5, and in Jeremiah 17:10 He says, "I, the Lord, search the heart." It is God's complete knowledge we recognise in the opening collect for Holy Communion;

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

“The Lord hath been mindful of us.” That is the first point of this sermon. We need to be reminded of this because, sometimes we forget it. Sometimes it seems like God has forgotten us, or, worse, abandoned us. I think that is part of the background of Psalm 115. The Jews were going through a dark time and they thought God had abandoned them. Enemies had risen against them, and the Jews thought the enemies would destroy them. But when the enemy came upon them, God delivered them in a great victory. He was mindful of them, and had not abandoned them. And He watches you. He is mindful of you. His eye is on the sparrow, and you are infinitely more valuable to Him than a sparrow.

Let’s look at verse 14 for a moment: “The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children.” Prior to the battle, Israel probably expected to be conquered and nearly exterminated. That’s what conquerors did in those days. Instead, God promises to increase Israel. In its original sense, this refers to blessing the Jews with numerous, healthy children and grand children, so the population will increase and Israel will become a large and powerful nation. But this increase goes beyond this. It looks to a time when the nation of Israel will have no boundaries, and her people will number in billions rather than millions. It looks forward to the day Christ brings the Gentiles into the faith, and transforms Israel from a geographic nation to a spiritual family that unites people of all races, nationalities, and social, economic and cultural backgrounds in Christ. We call this united people the “Church.” In the Church we find the real United Nations, and the real New World Order. In the Church Israel is fulfilled and increased. As Paul wrote in Romans 3:6, “I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.”

There are other ways God gives increase to His Church. We, the New Israel have been given increased light. We see God far more fully than most people saw Him in the Old Testament. To them He was a shadowy Being, revealed, and, at the same time, hidden in the sacrifices, feasts, and liturgies of the Temple. To them He was the mysterious Melchisedec. He was the Three Men who came to Abraham at Mamre. He was the Man who stood among the myrtle trees in the book of Zechariah. He was known to them as glorious light enshrouded in impenetrable darkness. But in Christ, “The darkness is past, and the true light now shineth” (1 Jn. 2:8). By His life and teachings, and by His death and resurrection God reveals Himself more fully than He had ever been revealed before. We see the light as we look into the Bible. There we “see” Him walking by the sea, teaching in the Temple, and dying on the cross. There we see the empty tomb. There we hear His words and see His miracles. There the light still shineth in the darkness, and those who receive Him become the sons of God.

God gives increase in faith. We often think of faith as something we create in ourselves. Not so. Ephesians 2:8 &9 clearly tells us faith, even the faith that trusts Christ as Saviour, is “the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.” Is your faith small and weak? Rejoice that God has given you any faith at all. But don’t quit there. Pray. Ask God who giveth to all men liberally, for greater faith. Trust the words of the One who said, “Ask and it shall be given.” Ask for faith to increase, that you may love and trust Him more. Pray like the man who said, “Lord, I believe, help Thou my unbelief.” Pray like the disciples, “increase our faith.”

God gives increase in grace. Grace, in this sense refers to the God-given ability to believe the teachings of Scripture and to live the Christian life. Hebrews 4:16 tells us to

pray for this grace. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

So, what is on the Mind of God? You are. He watches over you with unfathomable loving Providence. He keeps you in His mind and in His thoughts. He works all things for your good. He is preparing a place for you in Heaven, and He is coming back to escort you to your mansion in His Mansion of Mansions.

His mind is on you to give you increase. He intends to give you increase in light and knowledge of Him. He intends to give you increase in faith to love and trust Him more. He intends to give you increase of grace that you may find help in time of trouble. "The Lord shall increase you more and more."

Notice how the blessings promised in this Psalm are fulfilled in Christ Jesus. In Christ God is mindful of us. In Christ He accomplishes what His mind intends. In Christ Israel is increased beyond the physical boundaries of Canaan. In Christ, light and faith and grace are increased to us today. Surely Psalm 115 speaks truth, "Ye are the blessed of the Lord."

Roy Morales-Kuhn, Bishop and Pastor - St. Paul's Anglican Church - Anglican Orthodox Church

Bishop Roy is pastor of the biggest AOC parish West of the Mississippi and is in charge of the Diocese of the Epiphany.

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

17 August 2014

"Examples"

1 Corinthians 10:1-13 St. Luke 15:11-32

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

The Collect.

GRANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

How is it that we learn from examples? We can and do learn from bad experiences, a bad taste, a burnt finger, a bad smell, so how do we learn from examples? In our passage from the first letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul is admonishing a rather randy group of believers to shape up and learn from other's experiences. Paul gives the people of Corinth several examples of bad behavior as modeled by the ancestors of these believers, those who left Egypt with Moses.

The city of Corinth was located on the isthmus that would one day have a small canal built near it. This area was a thriving seaport with ALL the sport, vice, corruption, and resident evil humans could put together in one area. Corinth was well known for its vices. So when Paul was writing to a group of Jewish believers who had settled in that city, he used examples from their past, he pointed to the forefathers and what mistakes



they had done; and then just to make it clear, Paul also wrote about the consequences of this behavior. Remember Jesus gave us many examples during his three and a half years on earth, we know them as parables. They are stories filled with examples, what to do right, how to avoid the pitfalls of life, and more especially, how to live a Christian life.

Paul gives us three specific examples of those in the desert, three examples that we should also avoid.

1. Avoid idolatry. Today that means putting too much affection into something or someone that can keep you from your primary affection, worship of the Lord. Jobs, hobbies, sports, friends, parties, all things that can get in the way and take your eyes off of Jesus. The above mentioned activities are ok, as long as they do not become the central focus of your life, don't let them come between you and your God.
2. Do not commit sexual immorality. "Well some things are no longer considered immoral today as they were 50 years ago" Ah yes, the age of relativity, the beginning of post modern thought. If it is prohibited by both the Old and New Testament, it would be considered immoral. If we leave the social, psychology, and humanist ideals on the shelf, they are not the determinants for what the Bible says is still considered immoral. Remember, at one time in the Old Testament, throwing your first born child into a fiery furnace to appease Molech was considered the norm by societies that surrounded the Hebrew people. Thanks to Judeo-Christian influence we have gotten away from child sacrifices. Today we have too many people who think that maybe rules about marriage are passe and all sexual activities outside of marriage is ok, no holds barred. The only problem is God's Word tells us to not go that way. We are to either be chaste in our singleness or faithful to one spouse. That one spouse is supposed to be of the opposite gender. Remember, when God instituted the family in the Garden, it was Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve.
3. The last example Paul give the Corinthians is grumbling. Yikes, that covers a large group of us. I know that when something isn't happening fast enough for me, I tend to grumble. Why do you suppose grumbling was singled out? For one thing, it calls into question God's ability to provide for us, IN HIS TIME, NOT OURS. Also, we show our ingratitude towards our Creator, by not accepting what he has given us, He knows what we need and don't need. And I think probably the most important reason grumbling was included in the list of examples.....it causes others to stumble. When we hear someone grumble about things, especially about God's work, it can cause us to lose hope. It can cause us to be downhearted, it isn't a good thing, sort of a slow poison, that causes others to stop enjoying the blessings of the Lord.

But just in case you were totally discouraged by the three examples, Paul leaves us with a wonderful promise;

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Wow, what a wonderful promise. Now when we pray together the Lord's Prayer, let us take to heart the phrase '...lead us not into temptation....but deliver us from evil'.

Let us take this message to heart, let us avoid evil in any form, let us cling to the Lord, let us put our trust in Him, He that is able to keep us from harm and lifts us up from temptation.

Let us pray

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being; We, thy needy creatures, render thee our humble praises, for thy preservation of us from the beginning of our lives to this day, and especially for having delivered us from the dangers of the past night. For these thy mercies, we bless and magnify thy glorious Name; humbly beseeching thee to accept this our morning sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; for his sake who lay down in the grave, and rose again for us, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

O GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly; Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do, that the Spirit of Wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Rev Bryan Dabney of Saint John's Sunday Sermon

We are fortunate to have Bryan's Sunday Sermon. If you want people to come to The Truth, you have to speak the truth, expound the truth and live the truth. This is really a good piece and I commend it to your careful reading.



Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Ezekiel 14:1-11 (KJV)

- 14 Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me.
- 2 And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
- 3 Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them?
- 4 Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the Lord will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols;
- 5 That I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they

are all estranged from me through their idols.

- 6 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God; Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations.
- 7 For every one of the house of Israel, or of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to enquire of him concerning me; I the Lord will answer him by myself:
- 8 And I will set my face against that man, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.
- 9 And if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I the Lord have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand upon him, and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel.
- 10 And they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity: the punishment of the prophet shall be even as the punishment of him that seeketh unto him;
- 11 That the house of Israel may go no more astray from me, neither be polluted any more with all their transgressions; but that they may be my people, and I may be their God, saith the Lord God.

When we examine Ezekiel 14:1-11, we find the familiar theme of idolatry. God despises idols and idol worship because it opens the door to the evil one. And Satan will lead all who engage in such behavior away from their worship of the Almighty and into the worship of anything else. While we will briefly touch on the topic of idolatry, our primary focus will be on those whom God has labeled as false prophets and false teachers both then and now.

Chapter 14 of Ezekiel opened with a group of Israelite elders who had come to the prophet seeking the LORD's advice (v.1). The prophet then said, And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them (vv.2-3)? Therefore speak unto them, and say... Thus saith the Lord GOD; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the LORD will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols; that I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols (vv.4-5).

To begin with, God questioned the prophet on whether he should even answer those men on account of their deceitfulness. He then described their idolatry as being a stumblingblock. That word is derived from the Hebrew word *mikshowl* and can denote an offense, an incitement to go astray, or a cause of failing or falling. God's message here is that the sin of idolatry makes plain the worshiper's state of being with God. Ergo, he cannot realize the love of God, or enjoy his benefits as he has chosen to worship and serve that which is false. For in that error, the idolater has fallen away from the true faith. And yet here they came to enquire of the LORD concerning a particular matter. We call that being "two-faced" down here in the South, as it refers to someone who tells you one thing but will do another. A "two-faced" person cannot be

trusted. Our Lord said, No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (St. Matthew 6:24). For the duplicitous, it is a matter of who can do them the most good at that moment. It might be termed “religious opportunism” as the person so moved is simply looking for “a better deal” or arrangement.

These men had come to the prophet Ezekiel thinking he would not know their hearts. In the ordinary scope of things, the prophet would not have possessed such knowledge. But the LORD gave him that insight as part of his message to those men wherein he stated plainly, Every man... that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the LORD will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols; that I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols (vv.4-5).

Those that worship idols and then come to God’s prophets for his counsel will be counseled, according to the multitude of his idols. Matthew Henry noted that, “the counsel... given them [was] for the preventing of this fearful doom.” God was doing them a favor by advising them to come clean and remove their idols from their heart. He called on them to, Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away... from all your abominations (v.6). And this applied to not only the house of Israel, but to the stranger that sojourneth among them (v.7).

As with every warning, there was a consequence— a judgment that God would carry out if his will was not obeyed— which the prophet proclaimed: And I will set my face against that man, and will make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of my people; and ye shall know that I am the LORD (v.8). God will be against any person who will not be obedient to his word and commandment, and will also make him an example in word as well as remove him from among those who are his own. God’s omniscience permits him to know the secret things of men’s hearts. Even as those men thought that they might deceive the prophet, they could not deceive him who is above deception.

But what if they had gone to a false prophet? God had an answer for that as well: And if the prophet be deceived when he hath spoken a thing, I the LORD have deceived that prophet, and I will stretch out my hand upon him, and will destroy him from the midst of my people Israel. And they shall bear the punishment of their iniquity: the punishment of the prophet shall be even as the punishment of him that seeketh unto him (vv.9-10).

Notice that it did not matter whether the prophet was of God or a false prophet; if they possessed a heart for idolatry and persisted in seeking a “word” from the LORD even by means of the fraudulent, the punishment would be the same.

In our world today, there are a sizable number of false prophets and false teachers. Some travel about like the snake oil salesmen of old, while others broadcast their nefarious doctrines on various networks both over the airwaves or on cable. Most have written volumes on their questionable doctrines which they sell at their pay-for-view gatherings, as well as on the internet. Sad to say, that their followers know more about their false teachings than what’s in the Bible. God’s word written contains all that is necessary for salvation and for living the Christian life. My question is, “Why re-invent the wheel when you don’t have to?”

Our heavenly Father offers every person the opportunity to know of him, and what he desires from each of us. The Bible tells us about those things that God regards as good and acceptable as well as those things which he regards as sinful and abominable. All that is required of us is that we read and heed his prescriptions for life. Reading the works of men or women who are commenting on Scripture is secondary. Only by reading the Bible and comparing its teachings with those who have written on what God really means can one get the sense of truth or, to the contrary, that of falsehood which lies within their understanding.

The false prophets of Ezekiel's day were notorious for telling the people what they wanted to hear. Their modern-day counterparts are no different. And God's message to those in the Old Testament— that they would become signs and proverbs as well as being cut off from among the people— should serve as a warning to us that he will deal with the false teachers and ministers of our day.

St. Peter tells us that there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. Through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you... (II St. Peter 2:1-3).

The apostle noted that false teachers would bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them. Think for a moment about the various the false teachers in today's world. Consider those "faith healers" who actually heal no one; or the "name-it-and-claim-it" pastors who say if God does not give you what you asked for, then you really do not have enough faith in God. Consider the following description of such deception," ...James Randi, a magician, in his book, Faith Healers, documents many of the tactics used to deceive the gullible. Some are as simple as placing staffers in the audience who pretend to be healed. [One healer] would pull the heel of one shoe out slightly to make it appear that he was lengthening a leg. [Another] received his "Words of knowledge" through a [radio earpiece] through which his wife [would transmit information to] him as she read from cards collected by staffers. Several faith healers have rented wheelchairs to use as props. Some have even encouraged people who walked into the crusade to sit in one of these chairs so they could be taken up to the front to get a better view. These same people were then pulled out of their wheelchairs to the amazement of the crowds (Rev. Keith Gibson, "Faith Healers or Fake Healers?", Apologetics Resource Center).

God does not charge us for membership within the Body of Christ neither does he command a fee for any healing he extends to a believer. If these so-called healers and evangelists were true to the faith, they would not sell their gifts. Did St. Paul charge for his ministry? Did St. Peter or the other apostles do so as well? Absolutely not! They gave what they had freely. It is one thing to ask for offerings or donations; but to scoop up bucket-loads of money from those who are the least able to contribute, and then lie to them about their condition is twisted and evil. St. Peter reminded the faithful concerning such persons that The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: but chiefly them that walk after the flesh... Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities (II St. Peter 2:9-10).

God will one day deal with all who have twisted his word for their gain at the expense of his sheep. We would do well to remember his words to Ezekiel and admonish those

around us to avoid the smooth and soothing words of those who would make merchandise of you for their gain in this life but who will forfeit eternal life in God's coming kingdom.

Let us pray,

FATHER, as you have communicated to the prophets of old, and to the apostles after them, so fill us with thy most holy Spirit; that in all things we will seek to properly discern the truths of Scripture and avoid the snares of the world, the flesh and the Devil; for these things we ask in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Have a blessed week, Bryan+

After Church Hospitality

We need snack pictures! Come on, help us out!

People in our Prayers - <http://faithfulcenturionprayerteam.blogspot.com/>

Why? Prayer is an extremely important activity.

It is not that God knows not our needs, for He surely does. Yet, Jesus commanded us to ask God for those same needs. In addition to the obvious of asking God for help, offering thanksgiving and the like, prayer helps us focus our thoughts on how we might do God's work.

The Prayer Team of the Church of the Faithful Centurion was established to help our members and fellow Christians pray for those in need and to give thanks as well for the blessings we have been granted.

Who can be on the list? Do I have to be a member of the Church of the Faithful Centurion to be prayed for?

No! The only qualification to be on the list is that you want our prayer team to pray for you. We are Christians and are happy to pray for you, no matter who you are. If you want help from God, you are our kind of people.

What is the commitment from the prayer team?

Each member of the team will pray for the desired outcome at least once per day.

How do I get myself or someone else on the prayer list?

You can email one of the prayer team leaders: Jack - jack@faithfulcenturion.org or Dru - dru@faithfulcenturion.org, or call the church office at (619) 659-3608 or fill out a prayer card at church.

What should I ask for?

Depends on what you want. Some people merely want God to be asked to heal their ills and be mentioned by their first name, others want a specific outcome and / or have more of their personal information known to the team. Ask for what you want. It is your desire and need for prayer the team is attempting to meet. For typical examples, see the list below.

Updating the Team

If you are on our prayer list, or if you have submitted a person that you have asked us to pray for, please update one of the team members or Hap in person, by telephone or email. It helps to be able to pray specifically for these individuals including their specific needs; plus if they get better, it is nice to give thanks!

Please note that on the yellow (maybe green or orange if you get an old one) cards at church, you can ask that those to be prayed for have their names disseminated to the

prayer team. Those names will be said in church and appear here. Or, you can ask that their names and purpose be kept confidential, then only Hap will know to pray for them.

Prayer List Notice – If you have someone on the prayer list and their needs have changed, please let us know. We'd like to update our prayers to reflect the need and most important to give thanks!

Travel

None reported

Birthday

Bob Smouse celebrated his 53rd on 6 July 2014.

Anniversary

Rev. Don and Ruth Fultz celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on 15 August 2014. An early celebration dinner was given by St. Peter's Anglican Church on 3 August 2014, as they will be on travel at the closest Sunday.

Marriage

James, the grandson of the AOC founder Bishop James P. Dees, and *Sarah* were joined together in marriage on 5 July 2014. Please give thanks for the wedding and pray that the two will become one in the Lord.

Move

The Thomas Family is now in Okinawa for a second short tour. Please pray for this new assignment to go well for Kurt and for Mary and the kids to make new friends. In particular pray that *Kristyna* and *Mitchell* will develop good friends and schoolmates there so as to further their development as both Christians and citizens. Give thanks the safe move and ask for continued good developments.

Departed

Sylvia Lee (Sandra Lee's mother) passed away the evening of 15 August 2014, after a very hard last couple of years, with kidney failure and other difficulties. Her family is very close and wonderful followers of our Lord. Please join them in giving thanks for *Sylvia's* time here on earth and the wonderful children, family and friends she left behind. You are known for what you do and her family tells the real story of her life. Please pray for her family who of necessity remain behind, that they might put their sorrow at the temporary separation on God's back, while they look forward, not back.

Rede Acker (mother of REC minister Keith Acker) passed away the night of 12 August 2014, after an extended battle with a drug resistant infection and recent kidney stone surgery. Please pray for her family who of necessity remain behind, in particular her husband Jack, sons Scott and Keith, as well as the rest of the family, that they might put their sorrow at the temporary separation on God's back. Pray in particular for Jack to look forward, not back.

Eugene Lockwood Coffee (father of Terri Jennings) passed away at 0030 6 August 2014, after a long downhill slide, from which his return home is a release. A fine man, a great American and father of some really great children, a reminder we are in a sense who we leave behind. Please pray for his lovely wife of 62 years, Terri and the rest of the family as they adjust to the temporary separation. Please give

thanks for Gene's time here on earth and for the family to put their sorrow on God's back as they move forward to Him.

Laurie and Chris were newly rejoicing in the recent news they were going to have a baby, when yesterday they lost the baby they were expecting. Pray the Lord will comfort them and heal their hearts from the loss of their baby.

Jere Wolf (Melanie Zimmer's dad) left for home at 0315 Sunday 3 August 2014, after a hard well fought fight with Congestive Heart Failure and all that it entails. He and his family have been a true blessing to those around them. Please give thanks for Jere's time here on earth and pray that his family, in particular his wife Doreen and daughters Cindy and Molly (or Melanie) will let God carry their sorrow at this temporary separation until they leave the Shadowlands to join him at home.

Three hundred Korean high school students perished in the sinking of Korean passenger vessel, SEWOL, on 16 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind, soul and heart for the families of those who perished. Please give thanks for the bravery and compassion of PARK Ji Young, aged 22 years, who remained on board to help rescue as many souls as possible. She even gave a student her own life vest. Her body was later found floating in the frigid waters of the sea. Ask God to help the families deal with their grief.

Nearing the end of their time here on earth

Maggie is nearing the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for Maggie and her husband Dub as she prepares to go home to be with her family who have gone before her. Pray for the faith of her family to build and the transition to be good.

Alan is a victim of metastasized colon cancer already destroying his liver. His youngest sister has put aside her hard-earned career to care for her brother in these days on earth. Please pray for him as he prepares to go home to be with his family who have gone before him. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Alan and his family who will of necessity remain behind.

Saundra is in ICU with congestive heart failure after a heart operation. She is aged and frail. Saundra is near the end of her time here on earth. Please pray for comfort, understanding, strength and guidance for Saundra and her family who will of necessity remain behind. Pray for the love of God to stay foremost in their hearts.

Polly is in hospice care with dementia and spinal stenosis. Please pray for her as she prepares to go home to be with her family who have gone before her. Pray for the faith of her family to build and the transition to be good.

Homebound or Infirm

Mary is an elderly woman who has fallen four times in the last couple of days. Please pray the doctors find a reason for her falling and that God will stabilize, comfort and heal her.

Lily is the caregiver of her elderly husband *Harold*; she fell down the stairs and has a break that will take six weeks before she can be on her feet again. Please pray for rapid healing for Lily and for a plan to form that will make things tolerable for both of them.

Paul has dementia but seems do be doing well in the Nursing Home today. Pray he will eat and that his family will be together in one accord as they take care of him

Martha and Irene both have Alzheimer's Disease. Pray that their hearts will stay close to Jesus.

Walter has many health issues and is growing weaker and weaker. Pray Walter will learn to be able to swallow correctly.

Joan has had serious medical problems that have kept her confined. On 26 September 2013, she took a fall. Please pray that in the weeks ahead her health will remain stable.

Lou has aspiration pneumonia. Please pray for the infection to be knocked down and for her continued recovery.

Norma, Sara's mother is in a state of deteriorating health, both physically and mentally, with both dementia and Alzheimer's. She is slowly drifting away, though she still recognizes Sara and prayer gives her a sense of peace. Please pray for both Sara and her mother to put their cares and worries on God's shoulders so they can deal with the many problems involved.

In need of a miracle or understanding of God's Plan

Lloyds' mother is in the hospital because of heart failure. Please pray for a miraculous remission of the heart failure; that his mother's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Lloyd and his mother and their family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Dennis, nephew in law of Rev Rick Reid, had a seizure at work on 28 April 2014, after a couple of hospitalizations, he is back home. It seems he has a mass of veins enlarged on right side of brain called arteriovenous malformation (AVM). This is an abnormal connection between arteries and veins. An AVM is usually dates to birth. It can develop anywhere in the body but occurs most often in the brain or spine. A brain AVM, which appears as a tangle of abnormal arteries and veins, can occur in any part of your brain. Blood vessels rupture, causing bleeding in the brain. It is possible for a brain AVM to be treated successfully. The real problem right now is no one wants to treat Dennis. Please pray that one of the doctors he sees will be willing to try to help him, not to push him out to die. Pray also for trust in the Lord for Dennis and his family that they might find peace and strength in Him.

Sarah, wife of Rev Geordie (AOC – UK), has been treating for ovarian cancer. The treatment has not worked and she has been advised her time here on earth is short. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Sarah's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Sarah, Geordie and their family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Leon McKay suffered a stroke a few weeks back that has left him unable to speak and while undergoing evaluation the doctors also found he has a very aggressive cancer. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that Leon's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Leon and his family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Rev. Thomas Brooks is not improving and being kept alive by artificial machines. Please pray for a miraculous recovery and if that not be God's Will, a rapid passing to

home. Help Thomas' family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry

Ronnie has kidney cancer that has spread and the surgeons are very concerned. Please pray the medical team to formulate a successful treatment plan and for a miraculous remission; that Ronnie's remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Ronnie and family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Levi was cancer free for 4 years and just discovered he has kidney cancer. Levi has a great deal of faith and said whether he is healed or God takes him home he will be fine. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that Levi and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders. In particular, please pray for pain relief; Levi is 22 years old.

Ray Daley is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and served his country during the Korean War era. Ray is taking chemotherapy treatments for cancer. Meanwhile his son Trevor is in the hospital in a coma and seems to have lost the will to live.

Pat has been under treatment for colon cancer for sometime. He has had major complications the last few days and your prayers will be appreciated by family and friends.

Dorothy had pneumonia, on checking her lungs they found tumors which permeated the lung area. Further investigation found a primary site in the colon, with the lung being secondary. It would appear there is no viable treatment at this time. Please pray for a miraculous remission; that her remaining time here on earth might be good. Help Dorothy and her family put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Scott, one of our Lord's ministers who collapsed a week ago and is in the ICU of a Medical Center since he had a pulmonary embolism, with a concurrent infection of several bacterial agents. He has stopped breathing on several occasions, and may have undergone brain damage. He currently is on DNR. Please pray for recovery so that he will continue to do his Lord's calling.

Becky has fourth stage metastasized lung cancer and is not doing well with chemotherapy treatments. Please pray for Becky and her husband as they are together during this difficult time in their lives.

Jane has fourth stage cancer and is not doing well. Please pray for Jane and her family as they are together during this difficult time in their lives.

Larry Howes suffered a fairly severe stroke. 4 December 2012, doctors replaced a valve in a shunt that had been put in about two weeks before, and Larry responded very well. He was able to go home.

Pray also for confidence in our Lord for Larry and his family. Larry needs a miracle, pray for one. Please.

Colleen has been battling pancreatic cancer over the last year and it has now spread to one of her lungs. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Christine has cancer of the colon, which spread to her liver; she is receiving chemotherapy and is having difficulty eating. Please pray for the medical team treating her to pay attention and do their very best; pray also for confidence in

our Lord for Christine and her family.

Todd and *Kenny* have both been fighting osteocarcinoma for over five years and have been told their time here on earth is nearing its end, absent a miracle from God. Both are ready to go home and leave the pain, but would like to stay. Please pray for them and their families.

Need of Transplant

Jennifer's Father who has diabetes and is on daily dialysis. Please pray he receives a kidney in the next few weeks.

Surgery

Albert had a pacemaker installed recently. He will require surgery soon for a leaking heart valve and has just been told he has esophageal cancer. Pray he will turn to God and come to know Him on a more personal basis as the days go by.

Jane underwent heart valve repair surgery on 3 July 2014. Please pray for full recovery. Pray also *Jane* and her family to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Mario has early-diagnosed prostate cancer and had surgery. Pray for complete remission and that *Mario* and his family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Eddie has upcoming bladder surgery. Please pray for the surgical team to pay attention and to their best and for a good outcome. Pray also that *Eddie* and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders.

Testing and Treatment

Garth Neel's cancer turns out to be lymphoma. This seems to be positive in that it not require surgery; but he will have chemo and radiation therapy. There is some concern about the perforation of the bowel as the tumor shrinks and presently they are not sure if the biopsy taken will provide the oncologist with enough tissue to determine which type of lymphoma he has. More tests may have to be made before the treatments begin. Please continue to pray and pray that he will be able to have things determined soon so he will be able to start treatments. *Garth* is the AOC Bishop of Canada with oversight of South America and a really both good and nice fellow. Pray for medical team contemplating and evaluating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for *Garth* and his family.

Jennifer has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Surgery is contemplated. Pray for guidance for the medical people treating her that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for *Jennifer* to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry.

Jennifer has some lumps on the right side of her neck; they have grown and multiplied. In the last few months she has been having problems swallowing. *Jennifer* has an appointment with specialist in several weeks to try and discover what it is. She is having a great deal of anxiety as she waits for her Doctors appointment and will appreciate your prayer for anxiety and health.

Rick has heart problems. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating him that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for *Rick* and his wife *Wanda* to keep their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Clay has melanoma. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating him that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Rick and his wife Pam to keep their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry.

Tom is battling cancer. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating him that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Tom to keep his trust in the Lord and let Him carry his worry.

Atina has been diagnosed with skin cancer. Pray for guidance for the medical people treating her that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Atina to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry.

Evelyn has been diagnosed with bone cancer. Pray for guidance for the medical people treating her that they might pay attention, do their very best and make the right recommendations regarding treatment. Pray for help for Evelyn to keep her trust in the Lord and let Him carry her worry.

Stacy has Multiple Sclerosis and was hospitalized for what turned out to be food poisoning. Pray for trust in God for Stacy and Chris as they deal with Stacy's illness.

Dick Gray had developed a Merkle Cell carcinoma just under his sternum carcinoma which is considered a stage four carcinoma since it has 'metastasized'. He traveled to Seattle, Washington where he was examined and considered for a new type of treatment. That treatment will not begin for at least three months, so they referred him to the Rutgers University Cancer Institute, New Brunswick, New Jersey. They have accepted him into the evaluation process, which will begin on Monday 11 August 2014. Rutgers started with monkeys and had good results, so now they are working with humans, Dick is hopeful as he has oft been referred to as an "Old Monkey." Please pray for peace of mind and safe travel for Dick and his lovely wife Jennifer as they travel to New Jersey this weekend. Pray for those contemplating the treatment that they might be guided to the correct choice and do their very best. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Dick and his wife Jennifer. Dick is the Treasurer and a Vestryman at Saint Paul's AOC in Missouri.

Janet Jessup had a stroke on 3 July 2014. She has made some progress and is now out of the stroke unit and in the General Surgery and Care Unit. Please pray for those treating her to find the appropriate treatment and for trust in God and peace of mind for Name and her family, in particular her husband of 43 years, Rev Roger Jessup, minister of Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church.

Paul has been in and out of the hospital for several weeks. Pray that the Doctors will find out what is wrong with him and he will be healed.

Dennis had a stroke on 30 May 2014. Pray for his wife and family during this time of recovery Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Dennis and his family, most particularly his wife; as well as for God's guidance for the neurologists and other medical people treating him they might find the best course of treatment and allow Dennis to heal completely.

Liz Strauch had a pineal cyst, which in the end responded well to a surgical draining last year. Since November 2013, similar symptoms have returned. A CT Scan turned up what is thought to be either a new cyst or an enlarged pineal gland. More testing, including an EEG is in the works. She can no longer work. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Liz and her family, in particular her husband Ken and sons Caleb and Nathan; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Liz to heal completely.

Steve fell from a roof Saturday, 5 April 2014. His injuries were multiple, extensive, severe, and life threatening. He is slowly making improvements. He still has a long road to travel and is still in great need of prayers. Yours are very much appreciated. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Steve and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Steve to heal completely.

Faye is in the hospital because she is weak has been receiving blood transfusions. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Faye and her family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Faye to heal completely.

Tom has heart and kidney problems. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Tom and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment and allow Tom to heal completely.

Harold has had a severe stroke. He is now home, but his family is looking for a rehabilitation facility to help him recuperate. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Harold and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people caring for him that they might find the best treatment facility to allow Harold to heal completely.

Joe has had a preliminary ALS diagnosis. Pray the final diagnosis will something that will allow him to continue taking care of his devoted young family. Pray for strength, courage and understanding for Joe and his family; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Mark had swelling and fluid buildup in his lungs. It appears things may be getting under control. He needs to use a Bi-Pap mask to breathe until his lungs clear and he hates it. Pray that he will be able to adapt so his lungs can clear. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mark, as well as for his family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Preston is reacting poorly to recent neck surgery and now has problems with his liver count; Physicians feel that dialysis will help. There may be a blockage in the bowel and an operation might be necessary. Please pray for the medical team to pay attention and to their best to determine how to help Preston and for a good outcome. Pray also that Preston and family will be able to put their worry on God's shoulders while Preston does his best to facilitate a return to good health.

Marianne is hospitalized with a perforated colon. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Marianne, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance

for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Erica has a non-malignant Brain Tumor which cannot be surgically removed due to the size and location. They are going to attempt chemotherapy. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Erica, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Brenda is in the hospital because of bleeding on her brain. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Brenda, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Mackenzie is a young girl with leukemia. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mackenzie, as well as for her family, and for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find the best course of treatment.

Mack has had diabetes most of his adult life. Circulation in his legs is very bad and doctors are considering amputation. Please pray his medication will help and he will not face amputation. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Mack and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Michael has been diagnosed with lung cancer recently after making it through gastro intestinal cancer last year. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Michael and his wife Gayle; as well as for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Ken Strauch has been tired and is anemic, he had a colonoscopy which found a pair of polyps which were removed and are being tested. Just for good measure they found he has a hiatal hernia with ulcers, basically part of his stomach is pushed up into his esophagus and is bleeding from there. Sounds like there may be surgery involved. Please pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Ken and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that they might find the best course of treatment.

Adriano is in the hospital due to high sugar and high blood pressure. He is very weak and will appreciate your prayers.

Heather recently found out she has cancer. Please pray for peace of mind for her and for the medical team treating her will be guided to the right solution.

Jim has had an aneurism and blood clots. Pray that healing will come.

Georgia has liver and pancreatic cancer. The doctors are evaluating whether to do surgery and how to tackle the disease. Georgia is a faithful Christian and appreciates your prayers. Pray for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Georgia and her family.

Lana's doctor found something on her lymph nodes and ovaries. Pray for God's guidance for the medical people treating her that they might find out the source of the problem and best course of treatment. Pray also for peace of mind and trust in God for Lana and her family.

Healing

Ebick is suffering from a severe ulcer but the Doctors cannot give her the proper dosage of the medicine due to her six month pregnancy. Please pray doctors will find an alternative avenue for treatment or that God will provide.

Stan is going through chemotherapy and radiation treatments for cancer. He is elderly and the treatments are tiring him. Please pray for his wife *Marvelene* as they do this together.

Casey has strep throat along with her mother *Deanna* and Grandmother *Virginia*. Please pray that the other members of the family may stay healthy while those with strep throat recover quickly and rapidly.

Meg recently found out she had heart problems causing low blood oxygen levels, loss of focus resulting in an emergency room crisis. As a result of the symptoms she made errors on the job that caused her to lose her job. She is grateful for the excellent medical care she has received and optimistic, feeling with God's intervention in her life her health may be reversed and a new job will become available.

Barbara has serious problems with her Sciatic Nerve. Please pray for guidance for those treating her, for relief of the severe pain, for trust in our Lord for *Barbara* and her family, for healing.

Donald is in the hospital and had his leg amputated on 14 April 2014. Pray he will adjust and healing will begin.

Dallmus has lost 40 to 50 percent of his sight. Pray he will learn to cope with the situation and that he will trust in God to heal as He will.

Lucius Dabney (father of Rev *Bryan Dabney*) is now at home recovering from an infection. Please pray for a complete healing of the infection and return to health.

David has many concussions and unable to go to school, read books, watch TV and has headaches and migraines. He has trouble sleeping and his family will appreciate your prayers for this 10 year old young man.

Barbara Apple fell the week of 11 January 2014, in her home, breaking her right humerus (the large upper arm bone) in a spiral fracture, which cannot be set. Movement is very painful and due to a total lack of energy, she is more or less bedridden. Healing does not seem to be going well at this point. Pray for inspiration for those caring for her that they might find the appropriate treatment. Please pray for *Barbara* to put her trust in the Lord, look to Him for strength and for her to gain energy so she does not lose the mobility she has; pray for a full and rapid recovery. Please pray also for her husband *Bob* who is taking care of her that he might be comforted and strengthened in this time of stress.

Gladys has breast cancer and has had a lumpectomy. She needs to take a year off of her work to have chemo treatments.

Alwin Jack has had a stroke and recently has had a relapse. Please pray for those who treat *Alwin* that they might chose the best possible treatment and pray for peace of mind for *Alwin* during the recovery phase.

Carolyn has Multiple Sclerosis with complications. Pray Carolyn and her children will be close to our Lord Jesus Christ as they and family members help to ease the problems.

Jeong was in an auto accident and sustained a serious back injury. Please pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Dale was hospitalized Sunday 25 August 2013, after a heart attack. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for Dale and his family.

Gil Garcia developed a bed sore which precludes sitting and is now confined to his bed. Gil has very smooth and delicate skin, please pray for a rapid healing of the sore so he can get out of bed and move around in his chair. Gil spent almost a year in the hospital the last time this happened. His faith and his attitude are almost beyond belief, he is an example to us all. But, we pray this time he will heal quickly. Pray also for his lovely wife Mary who takes care of him. Pray for both of them also for strength to deal with the loss of their son Bernie.

Bill had malignant growth removed from a lip last month and seems to be experiencing a re-growth of the cancer. He asks your prayer for the medical team treating him and for peace of mind for himself.

Hank has osteoporosis, which has caused him a great deal of pain and inconvenience in the past few years. Pray for his healing and that his medical bills will be met.

Evelyn is an elderly woman who has had problems with her eyes and is now blind. It appears some sight will return shortly, pray for that to happen!

Joanne has begun kidney dialysis as a result of kidney failure due to extensive chemotherapy. Additionally she cares for an adopted drug addicted baby who is now nine years old. Please pray for her to keep her faith, to let the Lord carry her worry and concern and to give her strength. Pray also for those treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

Mr. N. Anand is in the hospital and is seriously ill. He is being encouraged to pray for repentance of his sins and to depend upon our dependable God for a cure and recovery of his health. Pray that he will be a strong witness for Christ.

Jacob has been going through some dental procedures and has some pain and aggravation with the numbness. Please pray for comfort and strength for him, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating him that they might pay attention and do their best.

Jean fell and broke her ankle in three places. She will be in the hospital for rehabilitation for the next 6 weeks. Please pray for comfort and strength for her, as well as for guidance for the medical team treating her that they might pay attention and do their best.

Bud and his wife for their continued welfare and enthusiasm. Bud has been advised of an aneurism in his heart of a size not mandating immediate surgery. This comes at a time when he has sole care of his wife who recently broke two vertebrae and thereafter sustained pneumonia.

Virginia has Sinus and Allergy problems giving her severe problems. Pray that the Doctor will discover why it continues and find a cure.

Steve Thornell had a brain aneurysm, which was found before it burst. He is home from the hospital and working hard on recovery. He lacks energy from seven days in the hospital. His doctor told him he has to make serious life changes. One of the two main arteries in the back of the head is now completely closed. He must take blood thinners, he has thick blood and recent chemotherapy made it worse. Steve has always operated at 110 percent, he needs help to slow down. Please pray for trust in the Lord and a full and rapid recovery. Pray for peace of mind for Steve and his family.

Arlen is receiving treatment for lung cancer and recently experienced a ruptured colon during treatment. She is alone in Oregon but does have a friend who has traveled a great distance to be at her side. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Arlen.

Oscar discovered some time ago he had blood clots in his leg and lung. He has been treated for them and has not been cured. He now will be facing surgery. Please keep him in your prayers.

Angela had an ischemic stroke (clot). Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Angela. Please pray also that she and her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Nora had a stroke mid February 2013. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Nora. Please pray also that she and her family might put their worries on our Lord's back so she can work hard towards recovery.

Linda has been hospitalized for several days with a gastrointestinal problem. Please pray for guidance for the medical team treating her and for strength and trust for Linda.

Dester is suffering from unknown skin and diseases. Please guide the medical team treating him to find out what the problem is and cure it. Pray also for Dester to trust in the Lord.

Lee has Arterial Fibrillation; the medical people are not sure how to help her. Please pray for guidance for the team treating her and for Lee and her family to make the right decisions regarding treatment.

Nell recently adopted two children and has just been diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

Mary Lou has been suffering with seizures. She was in the hospital with a 24 hour monitor and is being sent home from the hospital with two medications and orders to return in 2 months for another MRI to review whatever is going on in her brain. Please pray for guidance for the medical people treating her, as well as peace of mind and trust in God for her and her family.

Kathleen has spent the last two weeks in the hospital. She has been diagnosed with colitis, shingles and possibly colon cancer. Pray she will be comfortable and begin to heal.

Rachel has Mitochondrial Myopathy. This is a hereditary disease of the muscles and they do not have a cure for it. Part of her pain is her family does not believe she is indeed ill, as she appears to be just fine. Please pray her family will learn the truth and be supportive of her; pray also the medical people treating her will

find the right measures to minimize the disease. Most particularly pray for Rachel's trust in God.

Nicolas is in the hospital with serious symptoms of a heart disorder. Please pray for peace of mind for him and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Mrs. Baek an elderly women fell and injured her spine. Doctors cannot repair the spinal injury due to her age. She fell again the morning of 12 December 2012, breaking her collar bone which is also untreatable. Mrs. Baek is in severe pain and will appreciate your prayers.

Juanita is a young girl who was in a coma because of a blood disease. She has not come out and is gaining strength. They are awaiting results from blood samples. Her family thanks you for your prayers and asks that you continue.

Barbara had an accident while cooking and the pressure cooker blew up in her face, causing second and third degree burns over her face and upper body. Because of this she has incurred kidney problems and may need a transplant.

George had foot surgery. Please give thanks for the surgery and pray for a full and rapid recovery.

Nellie is in the emergency room of a hospital in a great deal of pain. Please pray for peace of mind for her and guidance for the medical team looking for the cause and cure.

Lauralee Meade underwent a lumpectomy on Friday after Thanksgiving. A further anomaly has been discovered and she had additional preventative radiation treatment. Please pray for a complete remission of the cancer. Pray also Lauralee will maintain her great attitude and trust in God.

Kevin Gerhart discovered cancer on his neck. He underwent radiation and chemotherapy. Please pray for the medical team treating Kevin that they might pay attention, do their very best and find the source; that the treatment might be successful and he might live a long and healthy life to His honor and glory. Pray also for trust in God and peace of mind for Kevin, his wife and family.

Bill, Sara's husband, had a third abdominal surgery on 22 November 2011, to remove a tumor. Bill is doing better keeping the doctor's instructions, for which we are all grateful, including taking chemotherapy once a day for one more year. He has decreased the consumption of alcohol and eating at least mostly properly. Please pray for help for him to continue do all this. Please pray also that Bill might turn his heart outward to help those around him, as well as live a long and healthy life to the honor and glory of God. Pray also for peace of mind for Bill and his wife Sara.

Kay Denton (Mrs. Kay) has had a chest infection, perhaps viral, but seems to be getting better. She actually sent an iMessage last week, but did not hang around for a response a minute later! Please pray for continued peace of mind for Mrs. Kay and her family. Give thanks for her trust in the Lord and her positive attitude.

Matt Alcantara, age 16, came back with ZERO SCANS again in August 2014! Matt has Osteosarcoma (bone cancer), a very rare and often lethal form of cancer with limited treatment options. This is a disease that is about 90 percent fatal in a couple of years. He has no hip joint on one side, but he walks and swims!

Courage? Guts? You bet! Please also give thanks for the great faith of Matt and his entire family. Their faith and trust is a wonderful example for each and every one of us. But, now is not the time to stop praying. Actually, it never is the time to stop praying!

Judith Clingwall, is afflicted with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She is currently in Laurel Place, an extended care facility in Surrey, British Columbia. Judith's condition has worsened recently. Please pray for her to take an active part in her own life, for her strength, peace of mind, trust in God and remission of the disease so she might return home to her family. Pray also for strength for her husband Martin as he deals with all the problems and stress of Judith's situation.

Vince (age 15), reoccurrence of Osteosarcoma, recent testing found a nickel sized tumor in his lungs. The doctors are consulting with a specialist in Houston. Please pray for guidance for the medical team and for peace of mind for Vince and his family.

Thanksgiving and Continued Healing

Nathan had successful surgery on 4 August 2014, to remove a tumor near his heart; he is home from the hospital. They think they got it all but he will continue on chemotherapy for a little while. Nathan and his family thank you for your prayers.

John Evetts had successful extensive heart surgery; he is still in the hospital and recovering. He is in good spirits. John and his family thank God for the answer to many prayers on his behalf. John is a minister in the Anglican Episcopal Church which as a relationship with the AOC. We look forward to his return to his ministerial duties at St. George's Anglican Church in Ventura in the near future.

John Evetts entered the ministry after a lifetime of work in industry and business as well as service in the Armed Forces in Vietnam. Like the Apostles, he came to the ministry from the secular world of work. Rev. Evetts is married and has two daughters and two grandchildren.

We thank the Rev. Evetts for his service to our country and his continuing service to God and His people.

Mary Thornell had surgery on 30 October 2013, at the Riverside Community Hospital to remove a huge mass along with about ½ her colon and part of her lower bowel. Mary finished chemotherapy 17 June 2014. Tests the week of 2 June 2014 showed totally clear scans. For now, treatment is done after the last chemotherapy session. Please give thanks for the great result and also for the strength, guidance and peace of mind our Lord gave Mary and her husband Jim, as well as daughter Janice and son Jimmy, she underwent treatment. Please pray she will stay free of the cancer in the future.

Eli a two month baby is back home after going to the ER the night of 28 May 2014, not able to breathe. Please give thanks for her recovery and pray for strength, courage and understanding for Eli's family; as well as for God's guidance for the neurologists and other medical people treating Eli they might find the best course of treatment and allow Eli to heal completely, as well as for strength and understanding for the parents.

Jim has been hospitalized and had several operations for cancer the last few years. The physicians discovered a number of spots; but his exam was better than expected—prayer changes things and he thanks you for your prayers. Please continue him in prayer for he will have another scan in April.

Al had an abscess found on his liver for which he was hospitalized, it turned out to be benign and will not require surgery, he has been released from the hospital. Please give thanks for this good result and pray for continued healing.

Elma is suffering from cancer. She was taken home from the hospital on the advice of her Doctor. We were asked to pray that Elma's remaining time here on earth might be good and that Elma and family might put their trust in the Lord and let Him carry their worry. Since then, Elma's Bishop told us a great Miracle of the Lord is working over Elma. Doctors sent her home to die, but now she seems to be doing all right. On behalf of her, thank you for all of your prayers. Please continue praying for her complete healing.

Please join together in thanking the Lord for strengthening *Christopher*, a young man with psychological problems who departed meds to a bad effect, for his maintaining healthy discipline the last six months, and join together in praying that he continue to be infused with strength and rationality.

Dennis has heart problems; now the medical people treating him discovered a large mass on his liver which turned out to be a cyst! Please give thanks for this great development and pray for peace of mind and trust in the Lord for Dennis and for God's guidance for the medical people treating him that the contemplated surgery might go well.

Dwight had major oral surgery, for which he gives thanks. He is recovering slowly and asks your prayers to speed the process.

Mike was very ill in hospital. He is doing much better now and his family asks you to give thanks for the miraculous recovery. Mike is a veteran who has served his country when she called. Please pray he will open his heart to God so He can make Mike's crooked road straight and pull him towards the summit rather than to the pit.

Dick's left arm was amputated after treating for Merkel Cell carcinoma over a year ago. He is now believed to be cancer free and is waiting to be fitted with an artificial arm. Please join Dick and his family in giving thanks to Our Lord Jesus Christ for his recovery as well as for their trust in God.

Bob Smouse had shoulder surgery on 28 November 2012. While the surgery went well, he is still in pain and would also appreciate prayers for continued healing and the pain to subside. He promises to work very hard on recovery therapy.

Carol Stone, the sweet wife of Mike Stone, recovered far better than expected from a severe brain bleed, but fell recently and broke her hip. She still requires 24 hour care, which Mike provides with little help.

Business

Mark's business is in difficulty. He works in a shrinking field, of which he is one of the country's true masters, but there is little work available. He asks that you pray that he can find a way to survive in his industry, which he loves and needs his talents. Pray he can find new sources of business and new ways of doing things,

perhaps someone to partner with to better use his talents. Pray also for those who work for and with him that they might do their best to help.

Financial Guidance and Employment

Charlie is coming along in his need of both spiritual and financial. Charlie feels that he has no skills, which is clearly incorrect, but nonetheless he feels that way. While on the one hand, he knows that is not right, on the other hand, he is having a problem shaking that belief. Ask that God send the Holy Ghost into his heart for guidance. In addition, Charlie needs God's guidance as to how to handle his life from this point forward. After many years in the aerospace industry, he is looking for a place to employ his talents to the mutual benefit of a company. He asks that you pray for God to guide him to a new place to allow him to gain an even financial keel.

Carmine is looking for employment. Pray God will guide her and she will accept his guidance; something she has not always done, so your prayers will be especially appreciated.

Chris and several others at his firm were let go after many years of faithful service. Please pray that they might find a company that can use their considerable skills and dedication to their mutual benefit. Pray also for those who remain behind that they might find peace in the confusion caused by the departures.

Doug recently became unemployed from his job of 18 years. He has been applying for jobs, but unable to get one at this time. His wife is working; this is not enough for the family. Please pray he will find employment with a firm that will be able to use his considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

Catherine and Lewis are at a low ebb due to a struggle for employment. Your fervent prayers will be appreciated.

Lori is considering a potential change in her employment. Please pray for God's guidance in considering all aspect of her potential work.

Rodriguez Family are looking for work. It seems many obstacles have been put in their way of finding employment. Please pray they will find employment with a firm that will be able to use their considerable skill and hard work to benefit both the firm and the family.

Sarah is concerned about the future with her company. She would appreciate prayers for her continued employment and that her firm might find more and better ways to use her considerable skills.

Financial Guidance and Healing

Clark is in need of salvation; for God's Will to be done in his life. Pray his family will be blessed with the financial miracles that come from doing His Will.

Timothy and Sharon had their home foreclosed the morning of 15 April 2014. They are experiencing spiritual, emotional and financial crisis at the current time. Please pray for God's guidance as to how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves and more importantly have them draw closer to God and each other.

Linda, Rick, Christian and Sawyer are a family experiencing spiritual, emotional and financial crisis at the current time. Please pray for God's guidance as to how they

might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves and more importantly have them draw closer to God and each other.

David and Lorna are having financial problems. They are trying to find a smaller home which may be more affordable. *Lorna* has had an ongoing battle with brain cancer, her trips back and forth to the hospital have drained their finances to the point they sometimes struggle to have enough food in the house. Please pray for *Lorna's* healing and guidance on how they might handle the financial difficulties in which they have found themselves.

Guidance

Elizabeth and Gunner need your prayers for their general well being. Pray that they might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide their lives. Pray they might open their hearts not only to the Lord, but to each other to become one in Him and happiness.

Eric and Betty need your prayers for their general well being. Pray that they might see the Light of the Lord and let Him guide their lives. Pray they might open their hearts not only to the Lord, but to each other to become one in Him and happiness.

Eli has lost his way both spiritually and mentally, please pray for him and his parents Ed and Barb, who are having great struggles seeing their son, go through these afflictions having brought up in a Christian home. Please pray his parents can find a way to help Eli.

Marie has suffered the loss of her husband, her job and her pet all in a short period of time. Please pray for peace of mind for Marie, as well as for trust in the Lord for her and those around her that she might adjust to the changes in her life and move forward to the honor and glory of our Lord with His Help. (140607)

Mitten has a Christian talking to him about Christ. Mitten does not believe and does not seem to care. Please pray Mitten will see the light.

Luis Martinez had a heart attack on 1 November 2013, and seems to have recovered fairly well. His wife Selma passed away on 12 April 2014. Please pray for peace of mind for Luis, as well as for trust in the Lord for him and the rest of the family.

Kristen, Rickey and their two children ask you to pray for grace, wisdom and understanding as they attempt to cope with infidelity, separation and possibly divorce as a result of backsliding from the Lord into the World.

Erica is having school exams for the next several weeks. Please pray her mind will be open to what she has learned and her heart opened more and more as the years go by to Jesus.

Aaron has a problem seeing is where his life should be leading him. Please pray that he can listen to his father Paul and those around him who want him to work hard and obtain a real education now rather than just coast towards oblivion.

Danielle has accepted Christ as her Saviour. Pray she will read the Bible and meditate on His Word so she can grow in him.

Helene and her family ask your prayers for them as they deal with the loss of Alan, husband and father.

Stephanie seems to be very deeply into post partum depression after her baby was born prematurely. Please pray for her Mother in Law who is going a great distance to help Stephanie and her new Grandson. Pray that Stephanie will be able to direct her attention outward, rather than inward.

William is an elderly man living with his Son and Daughter in-law. William is causing trouble in the family because of his demanding ways and continually using bad language. The family is at wit's end to know how to handle him and will appreciate your guidance and prayers.

Caitlin is in the grip of the Prince of Darkness; she thinks there is escape from reality in drugs. The saddest part is that reality is not as she sees it. Her family is despairing as they can do nothing to help her and ask that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into heart and show her the need for change before it is too late.

Nathaniel is in spiritual turmoil. His family and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal his heart.

Sam and her *two children* that have been living in a shelter and are to lose their place there. Please pray a place will be found they can stay in and recover.

Please pray *Darlene* will surrender her life to Christ.

Norrie is facing daily exams in the weeks ahead. Pray for calmness and concentration and to do the best possible.

Jonathan is addicted to drugs. He is now in jail awaiting trial. His parents and friends will appreciate it if you will keep him in your prayers for him to find the root of his trouble and accept God's help to heal addiction.

Beth is suffering from ungodly treatment in her marriage. Please pray God will guide her in her behavior, actions and thoughts that she might be able to lead her husband to God so her marriage might prosper to the benefit of them.

Brandon a young man from a Christian family who married a year ago and almost immediately became estranged from his family. As a result he has had a serious problem with keeping the civil law. Please pray for Brandon that he will return to the Lord and the many problems will be eventually settled. Pray the hurt he has caused so many will be helped with our Lord's care and love.

Dennis has some decisions to make and will appreciate our Lord's guidance.

Earl to read and understand Scriptures he has been given.

Jeanette has had many members of her family die from diabetes and several are near death now. Jeanette does not know the Lord and is despondent and perplexed about her family and herself. Please pray she can open her heart to allow the Holy Ghost in to bring her knowledge and understanding.

Dr. Elizabeth Raj is teaching a biblical approach to the psychological problems facing many in our society today. She is battling against the growing influence of worldly psychology adopted by the churches themselves. Elizabeth constantly stresses answers are found between the covers of that precious Book, the Holy Bible. Please pray for encouragement, strength, fortitude and courage for her.

Abigail is a teenager who has behavior problems. She feels she is in an area of mental darkness. Please pray that she might look to God for help and not within herself.

Sara asks that you pray for guidance for her as she deals with the stresses of her family and life. Pray that she can separate those things which she can affect from those things which she cannot and give her grace to accept that she cannot do everything and can only change those things within her control. She asks for God's help for her business so that she might remain gainfully employed while keeping up with the needs of her mother and husband and healing her own problems.

Jacquie to open her heart to God and accept His Love and Grace.

Hap asks you to pray he might be able to trust God will help him make the right decisions at the right time and not to worry uselessly, to change those things he can change, accept those things he cannot change, sleep well to be able to do the correct things with a clear head and that he will open his heart to the Holy Ghost.

School Challenges

Destiny, Blake and Janet

Anglican Orthodox Church

From Bishop John Nakka of our Church Family in South India. We must know, but by the grace of God, we could, and may, experience the same in our own land:

Dear ALL,

I am so painfully writing this mail as we are very very suffering a lot politically and also due to separation of our State. No power for around 10 to 12 hours in the cities and more than 12 hours in the villages. No enough drinking water, very hot summer.... Politically we are now really afraid as the sectarian hindu religious background parties took over the Union and State Governments. We are a religious minority in India and now our hearts started beating fast and do not know what happened for us in the near future. WE ARE REALLY UNFORTUNATE. We may live like a second grade citizens and we need to face a very hard persecution as was the Hebrews in Egypt. The persecution was already started and around 05 issues were reported for abuse, warnings and stopping the conventions etc., during this week alone i.e., just within a week after Mr.Modi took over the charge.

PLEASE PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS IN INDIA.

yours fraternally in Christ,

+John.

The *Anglican Orthodox Church in Narowal, Pakistan* had its wall boundary collapse due to heavy rain on 5 July 2014. Water from the street is entering into the church compound which may damage the church building. Please pray for our priest and his wife as they try to reconstruct the wall boundary as soon as possible in order to prevent further damage.

Christians in the Central African Republic are experiencing the ravages of a war between the Muslim and Christians. We have both ministers and members of the Anglican Orthodox Church in Central African Republic. Please pray for God's guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.

On 21 March 2014, *Faith Theological Seminary* in Gujranwala, Pakistan graduated a class. Please pray the Holy Ghost will fill the hearts of the graduates as they go forth to spread The Word of Jesus Christ our Saviour

Rev Rick Reid asks that you pray for Saint Andrews Anglican Church in Newton, North Carolina. They would like to see their congregation grow to the point is it self-sustaining and vibrant. The congregation asks that you pray for the Holy Ghost to enter into their hearts and inspire them to do their best to further His Will.

Saint Paul's, Moberly, Missouri would like your prayers that the Holy Ghost might enter more fully into their hearts so that they might be more effective in spreading the Word of God.

Saint Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Orthodox Church is under a lot of stress. We all are, but they need even more prayer. Rev Roger Jessup, their wonderful minister, is pressed by the duties of a primary care giver, in addition to all the worries of this world. They have one of their family's primary breadwinners who will be soon unemployed, absent His intervention. As Rev Roger said so eloquently, "We must pray for those who mean us harm and deprive us of our property are our enemies: Our LORD has so commanded us." We must pray they will see light and cleave to it while turning their backs on the Prince of this World. Equally important, we must pray that the Lord will raise up a political leader from among us as He has done in the past. Pray also for trust in God for each member of the parish and for them to find economic relief.

Armed Forces & Contractors

Airman Donny Patton (Hulbert Field, Florida), Jordan (USMC – Fleet Marine Force - Pacific), Trevor (USAF - KC-10 Boom Operator – New Jersey), Trevor (USN – Whidbey Island, EF-18 Pilot), Kurt Thomas (USN – Camp Foster, Okinawa)

For Our Country

Our country has lost its way. Over half the people that vote, voted for a government that promises them things it cannot deliver in return for their souls which it can, will and does take. Our foreign policy backs the rise of Islam, we turn our backs on those who would follow God and arm those who murder them. Pray that God will raise up a leader from among the people who can turn the country's course 180° and attempt to come back to God. Pray the people will recognize that they are headed down a smooth wide road into the pit, a road that will get smoother and smoother, steeper and steeper until the only possible way is down. Down, into the depths of the pit. Pray people will recognize there is:

- One True and Triune God who is goodness in and of Himself
- All religions are not equal
- All ways of life are not equal;
- The Bible holds the Key to Life;
- All rights come from God, not the State;
- Good;
- Bad;
- Evil;
- Right;
- Wrong;
- Allah is the Devil;
- Abortion is no more than sacrifice of children to Baal.

Pray this recognition will not come too late. Pray we will, each of us, do our duty to God, Country and Family, putting His Honor above all.

Persecuted

Around the world, Christians are under attack, not only in the Muslim world, but from Hindus and others in India. Also, they are under continual attack in the name of "Separation of Church and State" in the western world, as it becomes actively atheist or pro-devil buddy. Please pray for God's guidance and protection for all persecuted Christians and those around them.

Thanksgiving

The *Thomas Family* and *Scott Potter* give thanks for safe travels around the Western United States for almost all of July.

Rachel Lilly gives thanks for a safe and successful short-term mission trip to India 6 - 29 July 2014. She and her team arrived safely back in Calgary after presenting the gospel to hundreds of children in India. On one occasion she shared her testimony with 600 children. Thanks for all the prayers from our AOC family.

Melody Summers of Gold Creek, Montana was diagnosed with a brain tumor, which was operated on and turned out to be benign. Please give thanks for the great result and the special miracle for her and her family.

Tracey found employment as a nurse in a local hospital; please give thanks for the job.

Various Special Requests

Liberia is experiencing an outbreak of the Ebola Virus; causing sickness and many deaths. Please pray for people of Liberia and for their Health Providers.

The *Anglican Orthodox Church in Peshawar, Pakistan* sustained damage to their building as the result of heavy rains. At present the roof is being rebuilt and they have not been able to hold services. Pray it will be fixed very soon and a new place might be found until the church is restored.

Nathalie is teaching English in a small western Ukrainian town where they are having so many problems. Pray for Nathalie and others around the world who are standing up for Christian principles in their countries.

This is a horrible time for the *people of India, Christians in particular*; they are having problems with Hunger, Bank Closings, Transportation and Schools not functioning. Pray for the Leaders and Members of our Church in Eluru Andhra Pradesh. Pray their basic needs will be met and God will be close to them in this time of need.

Lisa discovered her 9 year old daughter *Mariah* had been raped. This is in the court system now and we know that prayers are needed for this family. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" James 5:16 Lisa says she feels the power of your prayer in God's hand on her heart.

Please pray for *all the people of Egypt*; Bishop Mouner Anis of Egypt is asking your prayer as the supporters of the deposed Mursi government, with the support of the United States government, have been attacking Christian churches--Anglican, Catholic and Orthodox. They destroyed the car of Anglican priest Rev. Ehab Ayoub. The people of Egypt, the people of the United States need our prayers, even more so the people of the Muslim Brotherhood that they might repent of their evil and know God so the rest of the people may live in peace.

We ask that you pray, please ask God that the Holy Ghost might give you insight into how you might make the lives of your friends and family better. Remember helping others is not just those who you don't know!

Please join us in praying that the *Free Teen Guitar Class* will be continue to be an opportunity for God to work in the lives of the kids and their families. Please ask God to guide the class to new opportunities to make Him known to others. Help us to let the love of our Lord shine through us into their lives, putting Him first, so that He might enter in to their hearts and lives.

The near future, as well as Next Sunday

24 August 2014 – Tenth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

31 August 2014 – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

7 September 2014 – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

14 September 2014 – Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

21 September 2014 – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity – Holy Communion - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**

28 September 2014 – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity – Morning Prayer - Service start time 1000 (10:00 am); welcome or gathering songs before the service at 0945 (9:45 am); **Time 1000 (10:00 am); Location – 10603 Burrell Way, Descanso, CA**