



# CROSSROADS

Journal of Rural Ministries Network (formerly Rural Workers Fellowship, Inc.), a community of small-church leaders: clergy and laity within the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada.  
[www.ruralministriesnetwork.org](http://www.ruralministriesnetwork.org)

## Delta Initiative

Bishop Larry Benfield and diocesan staff members Canon Jason Alexander and Micah McConnell recently led a weekend workshop for twelve congregations in Arkansas who share a common heritage as part of the Arkansas "Delta", churches that are mostly along the Mississippi. Holy Cross Episcopal Church in West Memphis was the host congregation. Many expressed surprise and delight that the Diocese was taking an interest in what some felt were long-neglected congregations in Arkansas.

Over 45 people from eight of the twelve congregations participated in the event that included a tent meeting on Friday evening with story telling and a video presentation recalling the history of the Arkansas Delta. Participants then developed their own time lines, recalling unique events in their churches that influenced their development and in some cases caused crippling challenges such as battles over desegregation, economic downturns and a general failure of the area to share in the prosperity and growth of other Arkansas regions.

Comments on the experience were positive: As one woman remarked, "We're more alike than I realized."

See *DELTA*, page 11

## Making a difference

### Called to Serve

Eight years ago St. Peter's Episcopal Church [41] in Rural Hillsdale, Michigan, began operating a free medical clinic for un- and under-insured and low-income people one night weekly.

"We had hoped it would be an urgent care clinic, but what we found was that people were coming in with chronic, complicated needs because they didn't have any access to health care," said Jill Pavka, the director of St. Peter's Free Clinic and a registered nurse, adding that in the first year the clinic served about 20 patients a week. Today it serves more than 60.

### Reaching out from the middle of nowhere

A town of 8,000 people (county population 40,000) with an unemployment rate of 20 percent, Hillsdale, home of the free clinic, sits near the Michigan-Ohio-Indiana-border, 70 miles from the nearest city. In the

See *CLINIC* on page 4

## Living Shoreline Project

Old Trinity Church, Church Creek, MD, was built in the 17th century and is thought to be the nation's oldest church standing in its original form and still in regular use by its congregation. For over 300 hundred years, local families have buried their loved ones in the church's cemetery. We do not know how many have actually been buried in the cemetery, since early grave markers were made out of wood and disappeared long ago. Moreover, some graves have probably been lost since the shoreline has been eaten away by heavy erosion. The erosion needed to be stopped, which led the church to undertake its living shoreline project.

The project protected 750 linear feet of shoreline around the church and cemetery, out of 1,850 feet of shoreline property owned by the church. The project created over 26,000 square feet of marshland. The project improved the buffering capacity of the bank, the quality of the water, and the habitat for wildlife and shallow-water critters. Gene Slear, a parishioner of Christ Church in Cambridge, and a principal of Environmental Concern ([gslear@wetland.org](mailto:gslear@wetland.org)) did the design for the shoreline, Kenster Shorelines did the

See *SHORELINE*, page 10



## Board Reorganization

Recent changes in personnel on Rural Ministries Network board have resulted in some major adjustments and temporary, voluntarily 'appointed' officers.

Early this year the board was saddened to receive a letter of resignation from LaDonna Wind (president). In addition, Steve Cuff withdrew from extended and, lately, pro-tem positions of vice-president and membership chairperson.

Without a vice-president, past president Netha

See *BOARD*, page 11

## Notes on church growth

Commenting on a recent Alban Institute essay by Alice Mann, Jim Naughton asks "Is growth even possible? Is anyone buying what we are selling? If not, why not?"

Is there room, amidst all the talk about parish histories and program sizes and pastoral sizes for a conversation about whether we need to consider radical changes in the way mainline churches do business if we are to reverse a well-established culture trend that leads to extinction?"

from *Episcopal Café*,  
www.episcopalcafe.com

Responses include these notes:

Many of our conversations about growth become increasingly irksome. The anxiety level always goes up, and how is that helpful?

-No one wants to join a community wringing its hands and navel gazing over its own demise.

-Nor does anyone want to simply become a number to prop up a flagging institution.

-We too often get the cart before the horse.

The real question is: Are we being faithful to the Gospel?

-Does our institution serve our mission of Christ Jesus to transform hearts and reflect God's work in the world?

-Are people finding spiritual nourishment, hope, and empowerment for ministry and service in their local communities?

If these criteria are being met, growth will follow. If they aren't,

Stay in touch!! Please send your ideas, comments, stories, to the editor, Crossroads: address below.

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institutional death is a natural outcome. But we are not children of the institution. We are people of the resurrection.

—RH, May 10, 2010

The key is the same as it ever was for the church—be doing what needs doing—sharing how God makes a difference in one's life and how the church is a part of that—inviting and welcoming. Looking at the community around the church and at the gifts the church has—where they meet—that's the opening.

In Little Snake River, Baggs, Dixon, Savery, WY—a beautiful isolated valley in southern WY—they noted that there was nothing after school for elementary age kids, so they started ARK (amazing river kids). It became their primary ministry in the community: a small church making a difference with a goal of serving. Wyoming is one of the few dioceses showing growth—I think it is partly that we have turned from "congregating" to serving. Of course one new family makes a huge difference in a church of 20 people.

—AF, May 10, 2010

Ann, it's stories like these that need to be shared! ... a small congregation of 20-30 people in the rural Midwest opened a store-front outreach center near the church building that became a hub for all kinds of service to the wider community, including tutoring for at-risk youth who were referred to us by the local school district.

Building connection with the wider community was life-giving for St. Philip's, and it was no accident, I suppose, that Sunday attendance started to rise. But again, they had gotten the horse and the cart in the right order!

—RH, May 12, 2010

Check this out!

**THE VITAL CHURCH**  
(replacing the Small Church Blog)  
at <http://vitalchurch.blogspot.com>

## Board nominees

For upcoming elections by the Rural Ministries Board, three candidates have been nominated as new board members. Board members will vote, through electronic- or snail-mail, on new members and officers

**Jimmy Martin**

Jimmy is a lay person from Fort McKavett, TX. He is a rancher of goats or sheep on land that has been in his family for maybe at least four generations and serves as a very active lay person in St. James, Ft. McKavett.

**The Rev. David Caffrey**

David is a priest at Trinity Episcopal Church in Redlands, CA. David formerly served as Regional Missioner in the high desert of Diocese of Los Angeles and continues to work with the desert churches. David has been active in the formation of local priests.

**The Rev. John Harris**

John is an attorney in the Diocese of Northern California. John is a local priest at St. Timothy's, Gridly and is active in the diocese. He was recently appointed to be the Living Stones Coordinator for the diocese. —All of these individuals bring their own experiences and knowledge of rural and small church ministry.

*Nominating committee*

**Bicycle built for two** Photo contributed

Suzanne Rumsey is cycling to raise awareness and funds for World Relief and Development, shares her love of fitness with son Robin, 6. *Story on page 3*

## Notes from all over

In early April we received news of Mary Davidson's death. The wife of the late Bishop Davidson, Mary lived in small communities in Montana, N Dakota, and Western Kansas, supporting his work with her own strong ministry of love, friendship, and devotion. Below is a portion of the message:

### April 2: Dear friends,

Yesterday afternoon (the day during Holy Week when observances are held remembering Jesus serving his followers) someone who has served me and most of you died peacefully in Loveland, Colorado. Mary not only gave much of herself to me and my own upbringing, but modeled that selfless giving and sacrificial love that never asked anything in return to me and my immediate family.

Memories today are flooding through my mind as we finalize details and I try to incorporate my own loss in the context of the religious observance of Jesus giving his life up selflessly, willingly and completely for the whole world...just what my mother has done her whole 91 years.

... She was much more than my mother, she was my inspiration to bring out the best in me that no one else could truly do in the way she did for me.

I will miss Mom but knowing that each of you will carry a bit of her makes her loss a little easier.

*The Rev Bob Davidson. Loveland CO*

### Small steps

#### Consider the following for your church

Hold a potluck dinner featuring **local food**; make the evening an educational event.

Use **fair trade** coffee at the congregation's coffee hour and have speakers from the country where the coffee originates (e.g., Guatemala, Nicaragua) talk about their home communities and the social justice and environmental issues related to coffee.

Have the congregation join a **community supported agriculture** farm (search "CSA farms Canada" on the Web). Have members of the congregation, especially families with children, volunteer on the farm. Donate the congregation's proceeds from the CSA to local food banks. This gives low-income people access to nutritious food while using the congregation's funds to support sustainable agriculture.

For congregations with lawns or other greenspace, consider donating **land for a community garden**, particularly for farmer refugees in the community.

Growing Colorado ([www.growingcolorado.org](http://www.growingcolorado.org)) is an example where individuals and churches provide garden space to the refugee community.

Look to **Greening Sacred Spaces** ([www.greeningsacredspaces.net](http://www.greeningsacredspaces.net)) for inspiring ideas.

*The Anglican Journal, April 1, 2010*

.. in the community

## First area bishop elected

Using a time-honoured tradition of standing behind the nominee of their choice, delegates from 16 native communities in the diocese of Keewatin's northern Ontario region elected Archdeacon Lydia Mamakwa as their first area bishop in early March.

Bishop-elect Mamakwa, 53, said she was "at a loss for words" when her election was announced. "The parishes of northern Ontario took a bold step in electing a woman as their first bishop. It is an honour," she said in an interview



Bishop-elect Mamakwa is an aboriginal priest from Kingfisher Lake, an Oji-Cree First Nation located north of Sioux Lookout, Ont. She has been serving the Anglican Church of Canada at local, diocesan and national levels. She has worked as a non-stipendiary priest since 1995.

Bishop-elect Lydia Mamakwa (center) and family.

PHOTO: Sheba Mckay

Bishop-elect Mamakwa's election came after years of consultation with the diocese of Keewatin.

*The Anglican Journal, April 1, 2010*

## From Halifax to Montreal in 18 days

It was a gem of an idea that took Suzanne Rumsey back to the mid-70s, when she was around 12 years old. For two or three years, she had participated in a bike-a-thon organized by the parish of Christ Church, Cranbrook, B.C., for The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF).

"My dad was the parish priest and so of course, my family 'went along for the ride,'" says Rumsey, who is now public engagement co-ordinator for PWRDF,

### Fundraising bike-a-thon

.. for those in need

Today, more than three decades later, Rumsey is embarking on "Le Tour de PWRDF," an awareness and fundraising bike ride that will see her travelling a 1,300-kilometer distance from Halifax to Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., over 18 days.

She will ride 80 to 100 km per day and plans to spread the good news about PWRDF in 10 to 12 Anglican parishes along the way.

The route Rumsey has chosen is a journey back into PWRDF's history. Her June 9 departure from Halifax, site of this year's General Synod, will mark the official end of PWRDF's 50th anniversary celebrations. From there she will ride to Springhill, N.S., where the tragic 1958 mining disaster gave rise to the idea of PWRDF. The tour ends at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, on the west island of Montreal, where the 1959 General Synod officially created PWRDF, the relief and development agency of the Anglican Church of Canada.

Rumsey will also pass through the New Brunswick

See CANADA, page 5

### Small Church Blog on the move

Hi everybody—I am in the process of shutting down this blog, and moving to a new blog which I hope will be more encompassing of the work I do. You can find my new blog, which is called **The Vital Church**, at the following address:

<http://vitalchurch.blogspot.com/>

Come and check out the work over there. I look forward to having you join the conversation.

*Blessings, Bob*



Episcopalian”. It’s full of great bits about why people are glad and proud to be a part of the Episcopal Church. Enjoy!

#### Wednesday, May 5, 2010:

##### 30 Minutes that will Change your Life

I just got done watching a half-hour video entitled “Jubilee”. It tells the story of an Episcopal Church in Dallas TX that experienced a moment of transformation, where the life of that congregation and its members, and the life of the world around them were changed forever. If you want to see a great example of how the Church can partner with the neighborhood and partner with God in an effort of holy work, I encourage you to click on the link and see for yourself.

<http://episcopalchurch.org/multimedia/jubilee/>

Take a look, and tell me what you think of it

#### Wednesday, May 12, 2010:

##### What if Worship was like an NBA Game?

So... it’s funny, a bit irreverent, and says a lot about what does and doesn’t work with worship today. Check it out at

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=piZq6aX4wDQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=piZq6aX4wDQ)  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xpYjPeEFGA&NR=1&feature=fvw>

#### Tuesday June 1, 2010: Church After Dark

Grace Cathedral in San Francisco has not always been known to be on the "cutting edge" when it comes to engaging the wider community in meaningful ways. But here's an article from the San Francisco Chronicle website which gives a taste of how "church" can mean something different than just the stuff that happens on Sunday morning.

I think this is just one example of how every congregation in every community is going to have to figure out ways that are contextually appropriate to expand into the world around it.

[http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=c/a/2010/05/30/PK9L1D15M1.DTL)

[bin/article.cgi?f=c/a/2010/05/30/PK9L1D15M1.DTL](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=c/a/2010/05/30/PK9L1D15M1.DTL)

—What are ways that your local church can express itself in new ways to reach portions of your community who have not yet been reached?

—Where do you see new expressions of community arising in your world?

*Peace, Bob*

**The Vital Church**  
A vital church is a community of faith which invites people to become passionate followers of Jesus Christ, creates opportunities for personal and corporate transformation, and equips individuals for gospel mission in the world.

#### Sunday, May 2, 2010: Welcome One and All

Welcome to this new blog called “The Vital Church”. I’m Bob Honeychurch, and I serve as the missioner for Congregational Vitality with the Episcopal Church Center. The goal of this blog is that it will become a forum for discussing the joys, the challenges, the possibilities, the hopes and dreams of people who want to build and maintain vital churches. I look forward to the conversation!

#### Monday, May 3, 2010:

##### Unapologetically Episcopalian

If you hang out on Facebook (and who doesn’t these days?) you might want to check out a brand new group (founded May 1) called “Unapologetically

Making a difference

*CLINIC, from page 1*

last few years, Pavka said, the region lost more than 2,000 jobs, most of them in manufacturing, but in the larger state, the problem goes unnoticed.

“We are out in the middle of nowhere,” she said. “In Michigan it really is all about Detroit. There’s really no recognition of how poor it is in our area.”

St. Peter’s Church donates the space for the free clinic, which operates on a \$120,000 annual budget — mostly private donations — and more than two dozen volunteers.

.. in people’s lives

Pavka was one of 170 Episcopalians and others interested in social service who gathered April 28-30 for “Called to Serve: The Episcopal Church Responds to Domestic Poverty,” a conference designed to explore the nature of domestic poverty and the church’s role in addressing it.

*Episcopal News Service, April 29, 2010*

*From ‘Called to Serve,’ by Lynne Wilson. Lynette Wilson is a reporter and editor for Episcopal News Service.*

**National Council of Churches Eco-Justice** The website address is [www.ncecojustice.org](http://www.ncecojustice.org)

What approaches have helped your congregation to fulfill its vision of remaining a vital source of assistance to the community and to the world?

## Gathered at the River

Dorchester County Episcopal Churches observed Soil and Water Stewardship week with an outdoor service and picnic on Sunday, May 2nd at “Old Trinity” Church in Maryland. About 85 people attended and later toured the church and shoreline restoration.

The Dorchester County Council of Episcopal Churches is a voluntary cluster formed several years ago largely through the efforts of The Rev. Dick Hayes who died last year. A large factor in the ongoing success of the cluster is the willing participation of Christ Church in Cambridge, the one congregation served by a full-time paid priest. The other churches are served by a non-stipendiary deacon, a non-stipendiary priest on disability, and two part-time retirees. In one enclosed photo, Deacon Jack Mason reads the gospel.

An informal leadership group of lay leaders and clergy (when available) meets monthly. (All five ordained members of the team are over sixty.)

Dorchester County is a rural area on the “Eastern Shore” of the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland. Seventy-five years ago its churches were served by one of the pioneers of the “Town and Country” movement,

William McClelland, who became bishop of Easton. He is buried in the churchyard of Old Trinity, perhaps the oldest American Episcopal church still used every week in its original form and location (some folks still come by water).

Old Trinity Church is located on Church Creek, a finger of the Little Choptank River and Chesapeake Bay. The Backwater Wildlife Refuge Visitor’s Center is about five miles from the Church. The church owns about 90 acres and has recently planted Conservation Reserve buffers on the farm fields. [Related story begins on page 1.]



Rev Robert Gribbon, Old Trinity Church, Church Creek, Maryland (rector@oldtrinity.net)

CANADA, from page 3

cities of Moncton, Fredericton and Edmunston before riding to Rivière du-Loup on the St. Lawrence, west to Quebec City. From there she heads to Montreal.

Rumsey is hoping for company on part or all of the trip. “We are also hoping that if people can’t bike, they might simply come along for a day as my ‘sag wagon,’ feeding me lunch and picking me up on the road if I wipe out,” she said. She hopes her efforts will prompt other Anglicans across Canada “to raise funds where they are, for PWRDF, for our partners, and for our planet.”

Rumsey, who’s had “a long-held desire to experience what it would be like to undertake a long distance bike trip,” is more than up to the physical challenges the bike-a-thon will present. She already trains and competes in triathlons, a popular sport involving swimming, cycling and running.

Sadly, her six-year-old son Robin won’t be biking with her. “He’s a bit too small for such an adventure and has to complete the ‘academic’ year at senior kindergarten,” she said.

*From article by Marites N. Sison, staff writer, The Anglican Journal*

## Senior aboriginal bishop-elect in Moosonee

It will be a homecoming of sorts for Archdeacon Tom Corston, a senior aboriginal priest in the diocese of Algoma, who was elected the ninth bishop of the dio-



Bishop-elect Tom Corston  
Photo: Stephen Andrews

cese of Moosonee at an electoral synod on April 10.

Bishop-elect Corston, currently the archdeacon of Sudbury and Manitoulin, Ont., was ordained a priest in the diocese of Moosonee in 1975 and spent his first 12 years as a young priest there.

He succeeds Archbishop Caleb Lawrence, who retired in January, becoming leader of a diocese that is a member of the Council of the North. Bishop-elect Corston said his priorities as bishop would include fostering spiritual growth, strengthening financial responsibility and walking “in partnership toward the implementation of an Indigenous Covenant” in the diocese.

Since 2002, Bishop-elect Corston has served as archdeacon of Sudbury and Manitoulin, Ont., after fourteen years as rector of Church of the Epiphany in Sudbury. He has been active as a member of the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples (ACIP) and since 2005, as a member of the Anglican Journal board of directors. Through his membership with ACIP, Corston said that he has “brought front and centre”

issues that are important to the aboriginal community.

In addition, he has served as editor of two diocesan publications: The Northland and The New Brunswick Anglican.

*From article by Marites N. Sison, staff writer. The Anglican Journal, May 1, 2010*

## WHO ARE THE HEROES? TOWN and COUNTRY HEROES—Third Quarter 2010

### **Prayer for heroes**

**W**e bless you, merciful Lord, for all those who have served your Church in small congregations and places throughout the land, remembering especially on this day your servant(s) *name(s)*. Grant that, inspired by this ministry, our work, prayer, and witness may share your love with all who hunger and thirst for your coming; who live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

### **The Reverend Joseph Moore**

**M**ethods of survey work in the Episcopal Church were pioneered by the Rev. Joseph Moore of Evansville, Indiana, and in 1951 the National Council of the Episcopal Church established the Unit of Research and Survey, headed by Moore. The final report of the unit's study of Episcopal congregations was published in 1954 and showed that 80% of Episcopal Church membership was in urban centers, but a majority of congregations were located in rural settings.

An interesting finding of the 1950's survey was that the Episcopal Church was better represented in communities with fewer than 2,500 population than in larger ones. The report showed that Episcopal members represented 8.27% of the population in rural settings while in cities of 10,000 and above, Episcopalians were only 1.65% of inhabitants.

### **The Right Reverend Henry Benjamin Whipple**

**B**ishop Henry Benjamin Whipple was elected Bishop of Minnesota in 1859 at a Diocesan Convention with 13 congregations represented. He continued to lead the diocese until his death. One of the bishops who consecrated Whipple in 1859 was Jackson Kemper, a great pioneer bishop of the Church. Addison writes: "Before he was consecrated, a mission and schools had been established by (James Lloyd) Breck at Faribault. Whipple made his home there and proceeded to incorporate the school and to build a new church. At this center there were soon to develop the Cathedral of the Merciful Saviour, the Seabury Divinity School and the Shattuck School for boys."

Bishop Whipple was a leader of the group of 'Broad Churchmen' who established the Church Congress, which met for the first time in New York, shortly before the 1874 General Convention, with Bishop Whipple presiding. Addison notes that in 1874, "when party spirit was 'inflamed,' the Congress included representation of all groups and parties," and "the chance to meet unofficially and to confer and debate with no

**I**n our prayer cycle this quarter, we remember these outstanding ministries in small church work:

**August 31—Rev Joseph Moore**

**September 16—Rt Rev Henry Benjamin Whipple**

**September 20—Rt Rev Philander Chase** (d. 9/20/1852)

First Bishop of Ohio—First Bishop of Illinois—Presiding Bishop 1843-1852. Founder of Kenton College, Bexley Hall Seminary as well as several churches in Ohio, Louisiana and Illinois; "an apostle who loved frontiers ... who pushed boundaries."

*The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, Oct 8 2008, at Bexley Hall and Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Bexley, OH*  
Not listed in Prayer Cycle; see *Lesser Feasts & Fasts*.

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thought of voting proved welcome to all concerned."

One who was present at the Congress wrote: "At the critical period of the Congress, there appeared upon the stage the tall and familiar figure of Bishop Whipple. A rising cheer greeted his advent, and when he came forward to speak, the ovation was overwhelming." (from *Men and Movements in the American Episcopal Church*, by E. Clowes Chorley)

At the Lambeth Conference in July 1888, the opening session included a sermon preached by Bishop Whipple who commended the 'Chicago Quadrilateral' set forth by the General Convention of 1886. Before Lambeth adjourned, a slightly amended version of the Chicago statement was adopted and is still known as the Chicago/Lambeth Quadrilateral. Bishop Whipple died September 16, 1901, after a distinguished episcopate of 42 years.

### **The Right Reverend Philander Chase**

**C**hase's pioneering work in upstate New York and New Orleans, Louisiana led him to Ohio where in 1818 he established the Diocese of Ohio, first diocese of the Anglican Communion that had not been part of the Church of England. Because of the need for clergy in the wilderness, Chase founded Kenyon College (incorporated as the "Theological Seminary of the Diocese of Ohio") as an educational institution for men willing to work in the western areas of the country.

After resigning his duties as Bishop and President of Kenyon, Chase was elected first Bishop of Illinois in 1835, where he also founded a college, Jubilee, that did not survive the aftermath of the Civil War. As the oldest Bishop in the country Chase became Presiding Bishop in 1843, and served until his death in 1852 as result of injuries sustained in a carriage accident.

*Information on all Town and Country heroes is posted on the Rural Ministries Network website at*  
[www.ruralministriesnetwork.org](http://www.ruralministriesnetwork.org)

**Heroes make a difference**

+ + RMN PRAYER CYCLE + + +  
Third Quarter, 2010

*Italics indicates New Members/Friends*

\* indicates new address

**Bold type indicates Town and Country Heroes**

July 1

Rev Lisa Pang 237 Pugua Dr Yona GU 96915

July 2

Dr Grace Parker 617 Evergreen New Braunfels TX 78132 28803-3281

July 3

Rev Limuel Parks 229 Westwood Batesville AR 72501-9228

July 4—Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Most Rev Michael A Peers Retired Primate of Anglican Church of Canada 600 Jarvis St Toronto ON M4Y 2J6 CANADA

July 5

Helen Philbrick 165 West St Duxbury MA 02332-3703

July 6

Rev Gordon S & Mrs Ruth Price 2849 Dwight Av Dayton OH 45420-2607

July 7

Rev Sue Ann Raymond PO Box 264 Independence IA 50644

July 8

Rev Thomas N Rightmyer 450 Crowfields Dr Asheville NC 28803-3281

July 9

Rev Derek S Salter PO Box 433 Okanagan Falls BC V0H 1R0 CANADA

July 10

Rev S Paul Rowles PO Box 116 Edinburg VA 22824-0116

July 11—Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Rev Holladay Sanderson 3805 Sherwood Dr Coeur D'Alene ID 83815-7834

July 12

Rt.Rev Alan Scarfe Bishop of Iowa 225 37th St Des Moines IA 50312

July 13

Rev Stephen Schaitberger 1402 S 8th St Brainerd MN 5401-4429

July 14

Rt Rev Gordon Scruton Jr Bishop of Western Massachusetts 37 Chestnut St Springfield MA 01103-1705

July 15

Rev Stephen Sedgwick 647 Reid Av Lorain OH 44052

July 16

Rt Rev Ronald Shepherd 110 Ensilwood Rd Salt Spring Island BC V8K 1N1 CANADA

July 17

Rev Robert A Smith 212 Courtland St Dowagiac MI 49047-1248

July 18—Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev Roger S Smith 70 Country Club Rd Manchester ME 04351

July 19

\* Rev Frederick Smythe 1700 Norton Ave NW Apt 107 Bemidji MN 56601

July 20

Rev Paul M Sneve PO Box 1606 Rapid City SD 57701

July 21

Rev David A Storm 2611 Broadway E Seattle WA 98102-3906

July 22—St Mary Magdalene

\* Rev William C Tapley 1604 W Kansas Av Midland TX 79701

July 23

Rev Francis Tatem Jr 1552 Park Rd Harrisonburg VA 22802-2410

**Prayer for members/friends**

**A**lmighty God, bless we pray you, the work and witness of the Rural Ministries Network, and of each member, especially your servant(s) *name(s)*, whom we remember before you this day. Grant that by our work, prayers and witness, your Church's ministry in towns, country and small cities may be strengthened and extended to your praise and glory. AMEN

July 24

Rev Carol Tookey PO Box 720 Farmington NM 86504

July 25—Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev John Scott Trotter PO Box 29 Bon Secour AL 36511

July 26—St James (tr)

Garrick Velarde PO Box 953 Bloomfield NM 87413

July 27

Mrs Nancy Viggers PO Box 834 Prairie City OR 97869-0834

July 28

Rev Roy C Walworth 216 Southridge Rd Evanston WY 82930-4638

July 29

Rev D Delos Wampler 5 Union St #3 Schenectady NY 12305-1715

July 30

Ven Michael Watkins PO Box 1486 Kamloops British Columbia V2C 6L8

July 31

Rev Suzanne Watson Episcopal Church Center 815 2nd Ave New York NY 10017-4510

August 1—Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ms Cathy Weber 42751 Rd 732 Arapahoe NE 68922

August 2

Rev Gail Wheatley St Andrew's Church 510 Park Ave Port Angeles WA 98362

August 3

Dave & Alice Williams PO Box 306 Kimberling City MO 65686

August 4

Rev Jim Wilson 7619 Beech Spring Ct Louisville KY 40241-6410

August 5

Ms LaDonna Wind 4434 Buttonbush Glen Dr Louisville KY 40241-4189

August 6—Transfiguration of Our Lord

Rev Daniel O Worthington Jr PO Box 83 Gloucester VA 23061

August 7

Mrs Elizabeth York 350 Allview Rd Westerville OH 43081

August 8—Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Chaplain Jim Adams 404 Hiawatha Tr Pineville LA 71360

August 9

Rev Jerry Adinolfi 613 Elm St Coffeetown KS 67337

August 10

Rev Jami Anderson 516 Tilden St Holdrege NE 68949

August 11

Rev Paul Baker E 750 Turnpike Rd Eagle Bridge NY 12057-2612

August 12

Rev Richard Bamforth PO Box 5068 Augusta ME 04332-5068

August 13

Charles H Bardenwerper DDS 910 Whitewater Av Ft Atkinson WI  
53538

August 14

Ms Jennifer Bartos 2311 State Hwy 113 Waubun MN 56589

August 15—Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev Chris Beebe PO Box 212 Paragould AR 72451-0212

August 16—St. Mary the Virgin

Rev James Benbrook PO Box 251 Ruston LA 71273

August 17

Rev Joseph A Bordelon 5704 Monroe Hwy Ball LA 71405-3359

August 18

Rt Rev Frederick H Borsch Retired Bishop of Los Angeles 2930  
Corda Ln Los Angeles CA 90049

August 19

Netha Brada 345 Lincoln Av Iowa Falls IA 50126-1936

August 20

Dr Francis M Bradley 427 Timberlake Dr Melbourne FL 32940-  
7741

August 21

John Brooks PO Box 6885 San Antonio TX 78209

August 22—Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev Allen Brown Jr 3625 SE 17th Pl Cape Coral FL 33904-5070

August 23

Canon Basil J Buckland 857 Main St Unit 2 Sussex NB E4E 2M8  
CANADA

August 24—St Bartholomew

Rev Martha Byer 3907 Ivanhoe Blvd Columbia MO 65203-0491

August 25

Rev Kathryn S Campbell 106 3rd Ave Charles City IA 50616

August 26

Rev Leslie Campbell PO Box 533 Waubay SD 57273

August 27

Rev Larry Carver 18 E 28th Av Hutchinson KS 67502-2402

August 28

Charlie Chitwood PO Box 307 Jefferson TX 75657

August 29—Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ven Frank N Cohoon 900 SW 31st St Apt 224 Topeka KS 66611-  
2195

August 30

Rev Patricia Cook PO Box 85 Bluff UT 84512

August 31

**Rev Joseph Moore (d. 8/31/1983) First Director of Unit of  
Research and Survey for Episcopal Church**

September 1

Rev B Shepard Crim 357 SW Butterfield Pl Corvallis OR 97333

September 2

Rev Stephen Cuff 5238 Crested Owl Ct Morrow OH 45152-8005

September 3

William & Sarah N Cummings PO Box 940 Green River WY  
82935-0940

September 4

\* Rev Jeunee Cunningham 903 Edmunds St Farmville VA 23901-  
2020

September 5—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev Bob Davidson 1005 Cimмерon Dr Loveland Co 80537-4315

September 6

Mary (Mrs William) Davidson Lakeview Commons Loveland CO  
80538 (Died April 1)

September 7

Rev Kathryn Dawson-Puckett 26376 Legion Rd Langsville OH  
45741-9746

September 8

Pat & Larry Dickerson 4000 Judd Rd Amelia OH 45102-0138

September 9

Rev John Drymon 106 S 5th St Batesville AR 72501

September 10

Rt Rev Philip Duncan Bishop of the Central Gulf Coast PO Box  
13330 Pensacola FL 32591-3330

September 11

Shirley Dunne 414 Ranchwood Dr Leesburg FL 34748-8126

September 12—Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

East Arkansas Episcopal Ministries c/o Holy Cross Church 209  
Park Dr West Memphis 72301-3055

September 13

Sandy M Elledge PO Box 51931 Knoxville TN 37950-1931

September 14—Holy Cross Day

Ven C Russell Elliot 4 Westwood Av Apt 1 Wolfville NS B4P 1X9  
CANADA

September 15

Rev William M Fay 955 Mendocino Av Berkeley CA 94707-1924

September 16

**Rt Rev Henry Benjamin Whipple (d. 9/16/1901) Active in local  
and national Church; Bishop of Minnesota from 1859  
until his death.**

September 17

Rev Michael B Ferguson PO Box 387 Appomattox VA 24522-0387

September 18

Rt Rev Douglas A Ford 128 Hawkstone Manor NW Calgary AB  
T3G 3X2 CANADA

September 19—Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev Katharine Foster 7919 N Coolville Ridge Rd Athens OH  
45701

September 20

\* Rev Warren Frelund 510 Long Ln Casper WY 82609-2406

September 21—St. Matthew

\* Rev Dennis Gilhousen 6501 Maple Drive Mission KS 66202

September 22

Grace in the Desert Ch Attn Joan Stein 2004 Spring Gate Ln Las  
Vegas NV 89135

September 23

Rev Robert T Gribbon PO Box 157 Church Creek MD 21622-0157

September 24

Rev Susan Grimm St Timothy's Episcopal Church 111 6th St  
Clarksville VA 23927

September 25

Most Rev Frank T Griswold III Presiding Bishop (Rtd)

September 26—Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rt Rev Sanford Z K Hampton 2211 Cascade Ct Anacortes WA  
98221-7403

September 27

Rev Inez Hannett 4626 49th St Olds AB T4H 1E2 CANADA

September 28

Ms Mary Hassell 2180 Hartford Av St Paul MN 55116-1010

September 29—St. Michael and All Angels

James & Betty Heathcote 4824 Goose Run Rd Georgetown OH  
45121-8216

September 30

Rev J Robert Hector 409 High St Mineral Point WI 53565-1220

**MARY ERNESTINE DAVIDSON**

Mary Ernestine Shoemaker Davidson, age 91, died peacefully April 1, 2010 in Loveland, Colorado.

Mary was born in Helena, Montana, January 17, 1919, the second of five children of Frida (Erickson) and Edgar M. Shoemaker. Excelling in sports, academics, and social activities throughout high school, she attended Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota. She then spent six years as a secretary and administrator for the National Youth Administration and the Federal Reserve Bank, in Butte and Helena, Montana. Her skills as a secretary, particularly short hand and typing, were assets all her life for later professional and volunteer opportunities. Mary loved writing letters regularly to her family and friends.

She married William Davidson, June 3, 1942 in Helena in a double wedding ceremony with her sister, Joanna. Thus began her love and dedication to her husband, an Episcopal priest who later became the Episcopal bishop of Western Kansas. Following his career, Mary lived in Montana, Connecticut, North Dakota, Kansas, and Ohio before retiring to Loveland, Colorado in 1987.

She was very active in all phases of family and church life, including All Saints Episcopal Church, Loveland. She also volunteered for many civic organizations including Meals-on-Wheels, Food Bank, Blood Bank and Habitat for Humanity. She served several



times as president of her P.E.O. chapters in Kansas and Colorado, and always enjoyed playing bridge and being in a book club. Mary was instrumental in creating a prayer list for the spouses of Episcopal bishops in the US and its territories. Family and friends were Mary's life, and she cherished every relationship. Her hobbies included keeping picture albums and scrapbooks, being a faithful correspondent, a great hostess, and visiting her family.

Mary will be missed by all who came in touch with her beautiful smile and gentle, sparkling, witty personality. She is survived by her four children: Daughter, Carol (Ronald) Carpenter, Bemidji, Minnesota; Sons, Thomas (Lillian Shirley), Portland, Oregon, George (Sally), Centennial, Colorado; and The Rev. Robert (Linda) Davidson, Loveland, Colorado; ten grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, William, one brother and two sisters, and her parents. Her ashes will be interred in the columbarium at All Saints, Loveland next to her husband. Memorials are preferred to All Saints Episcopal Church, 3448 North Taft Avenue, Loveland Colorado 80538 ([www.all-saintsloveland.org](http://www.all-saintsloveland.org)).

From obituary, courtesy of Kibbey-Fishburn Funeral Home & Crematory, Loveland CO

Making a difference

.. to the men and women in the armed forces

**On Beads of Prayer**

During a recent conference for military chaplains (I was a guest) I learned about the ministry *On Beads of Prayer*.

Begun in 2005 at St Alban's Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, *On Beads of Prayer* has to date supplied more than 10,000 hand-held prayer beads to our men and women in the armed forces. These beads are prayerfully strung by trained volunteers of all ages in various congregations throughout the diocese and from further afield.

Prayer beads are distributed through Episcopal military chaplains serving either overseas or at U.S. bases. Each chaplain receives his or her own full necklace length set of prayer beads, plus as many hand held sets as she or he needs. The hand held beads are compact and flexible enough to carry in pocket or bag.

Experience shows that individuals who have some grounding in faith generally fare better than those who have none, in and after the stresses of military life, work, and action. For many, prayer beads and brief contact with the chaplain are the only faith-based experience they know. This factor alone reminds me to pray constantly for those in the armed forces, everywhere.

Prayer beads have quickly become popular:

*From a chaplain:* "Please express my thanks to all who had a hand in this wonderful ministry."

*Chaplain in Iraq:* "Please know that those beads are a hit!"

*Others say*

– "I believe it's a 'sacred mystery.'"

– "Call it tactile, call it the need to hold on to something, call it what you will: my soldiers, sailors, and Marines are using the beads.

– "The only thing more popular than the camouflage Bible and "Purpose Driven Life" books is The Anglican Prayer beads!"

Recently, St. James' Episcopal congregation in Eureka Springs, AR become a partner parish, joining some fifteen congregations with groups making prayer bead sets for *On Beads of Prayer*.

Prayer beads, as necklaces or hand-held (pocket-or-purse size) sets are offered on line—with sales proceeds helping to support this donation-based ministry. that touches so many thousands of men and women

[www.onbeadsofprayer.org](http://www.onbeadsofprayer.org)

Jane Helmer

## Churches help prom dreams come true

Girls typically view their high school proms with an equal measure of excitement and nervous anticipation. But for many families, affording the cost of a frothy dress puts prom season beyond reach.

Some Episcopal parishes help teens who otherwise would have trouble affording a prom dress, showing them that there are people who care about their lives.

The fourth annual Silver Lining Prom Dress Expo, a ministry of **St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fairfield, CT**, gave away 400 of the 700 dresses it had available in early April. Volunteers, recruited from the church and from a women's club, have received dresses and accessories from other civic groups over time, since the program began in 2006. **St. John's Episcopal Church in Bridgeport, CT**, is a major partner in this annual event, donating the use of its ornate parish hall.

**St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Monmouth Junction, NJ**, held "Hope's Chest" giveaways of donated dresses on two Saturdays in April.

When her parish spread the word about its prom dress plans, the members found that there are "really great people in the world," said Wanda Garrin. They include a man who listed the event on a recycling website and Boy and Girl Scout troops and members of



Jenna Thompson (L) and Luisa Maria Gutierrez-Hill, youth group members at St. Barnabas Church, Monmouth Jct., NJ, were personal shopping assistants and helped young ladies try on dresses and accessories during the prom dress giveaway.

Photo/Wanda Garrin

*SHORELINE*, from page 1

construction work, Dave Wilson of The Eastern Shore Resource Conservation & Development Council oversaw the project and Nancy Baxter Hastings (hastings@cavehill.com) served as the project manager for Old Trinity Church.

Using Environmental Concern's design, a stone sill was constructed 1.5 feet above mean low water level, 35 feet from the edge of the existing bank. The area between the bank and the sill was filled with 1,600 cubic yards of sand at a 16:1 slope. After the stone sill was built and the area was graded, over 50 volunteers from the church, the community and Vision Quest, planted more than 15,000 plants, which came from the nursery at Environmental Concern and Water's Edge Nursery in Federalsburg. The volunteers planted spartina alterniflora (smooth cordgrass) from the sill up to the mean high tide level, spartina patens (salt meadow

nearby St. Cecelia's Roman Catholic parish, who donated dresses and accessories.

In all, the parish received at least 600 dresses. "We stopped counting," Garrin said.

Turnout for the first Saturday of the giveaway was low, Garrin said, so she prayed the next morning and heard a voice telling her, "It's not about you." When she realized she had to turn her efforts over to God's will, she said, "I was so calm."

She then tried various ways to get out the word about the next Saturday's giveaway and "learned the power of advertising" as the event was mentioned on local radio stations and even more people donated dresses.

There were so many dresses that 80 girls who came to Hope's Chest were invited to take extra dresses for themselves and for friends or relations who couldn't come. It also became clear to Garrin that there were other ways to distribute the dresses.

Other New Jersey organizations came calling for dresses. A Roman Catholic parish in Trenton, New Jersey, for instance, took 70, as did an African Methodist Episcopal church in Eatontown.

A women's shelter in Camden asked for 30 gowns, and a friend of a Newark high school girls track team picked up 15.

In the end, all but 100 dresses found homes. The remainder will be split between schools in Trenton and a ministry serving women in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

*From June 26, 2009 Episcopal Life article by Mary Frances Schjonberg, national correspondent of Episcopal News Service.*

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or call 800-903-5544

## .. in the Environment

hay) above the mean high tide line, and salt tolerant panicum (switch grass) on the bank. Seeds cut from salt meadow hay in the fall were used to generate 125,000 to 150,000 new plants.

The total project cost \$222,000. Old Trinity was fortunate to receive two \$50,000 grants: one from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and NOAA, and the other from the Maryland Department of the Environment's mitigation fund pool. In addition, the church received a \$10,000 grant from the MD Department of Agriculture for the plants. Finally, the Old Trinity Foundation contributed \$80,000 to the project and the congregation paid the rest.

*Submitted by the Rev Bob Gribbon, Old Trinity Church*

DELTA, from page 1

Now we can move forward together.” Positive stories of welcome and incorporation were shared.

A young family from one congregation told about their welcome in the Episcopal Church. Their two small children were noisy and energetic during the service. Afterwards the mother received a call from a parishioner telling her how much they enjoyed the sounds of children in the service, and asked if she had any needs with which the church could help. The mother said she'd like to go to church sometime and worship without the distraction of child care. Within a week arrangements were

made for a nursery—she felt like someone cared about her spiritual needs as a young mother.

Another young family described the baptism of their six-year old daughter. “Everyone in the congregation brought her a present at her baptism,” her

Comparing the congregations' time-line charts. Submitted photo



BOARD, from page 1

Brada has capably taken on the tasks of presidency and membership, and has brought to life the nominations resulting from last September's meeting in Cody, WY.

Although planned telephone conferences have not taken place, the board is now back on track and will be holding email elections in late June/early July. The 2010 face-to-face meeting is set for August 25-28, at Todd Hall in Columbia, IL.

The board extends its thanks to LaDonna who, during a relatively short tenure began to breathe new life into the board; and to Steve for six years of handling membership and mailing list work with the addition of accepting the election to vice-president in more recent years. The foundations set by both are invaluable to the future of Rural Ministries Network.

*Thank you!*

father said. “We were so moved that people we hardly knew could care so much.”

On Saturday morning the congregations listened to my presentation about small churches' orientation toward outreach and how that can result in vitality.

Follow up will continue with the diocesan staff and others working with individual congregations to help them move forward in taking responsibility for their own mission and ministry. Several attendees expressed pleasure, saying this was the first time in many years that the diocese had taken any interest in the life and future of their congregations.

*The Rev Ben E. Helmer, Eureka Springs AR*

Episcopal Life Online offers weekly bulletin inserts for congregations. Downloads are in more than one printer-friendly format, bringing to your congregation news, timely remembrances, and more about the Episcopal Church, its mission and ministry. See bulletin inserts at [www.episcopalchurch.org/95270\\_11765\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/95270_11765_ENG_HTML.htm)

AMAZING, from page 12

Making a difference

the Anglican Church of Canada, in her opening narration.

.. in the World

And now, the documentary of Anglicans singing Amazing Grace has won the Special Jury Award at the 43rd WorldFest Houston Independent International Film Festival. It is the highest award for creative excellence in the festival's ethics/spirituality category.

Amazing Together is available on YouTube, where it has been viewed more than 3,000 times.

An initiative of the communications and information resources committee of General Synod, the project invited Anglicans across Canada to sing the hymn Amazing Grace, videotape it, and then send videos to the national church office in Toronto. [Each participant was asked to give at least a toonie (\$2) toward the work of the Council of the North.] In all, there were over 500 submissions and the project raised over \$100,000 for a suicide prevention program.

*From article by Marites N. Sison, staff writer, The Anglican Journal, May 1, 2010*

**Sign me up, please!**

**Membership application/renewal**

Yes! Add me as a new member of the Rural Ministries Network, which includes the quarterly Crossroads and the RMN Website at [www.ruralministriesnetwork.org](http://www.ruralministriesnetwork.org)

Please **RENEW** my RMN [formerly RWF] membership

Membership was **already renewed** on \_\_\_/\_\_\_(mo/yr)

(name) \_\_\_\_\_

(address) \_\_\_\_\_

(e-mail) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \_\_\_ Annual Membership \$40

\_\_\_ Annual Patronship \$100

**In the United States**, mail form and dues to  
**RMN Membership Chairperson Netha Brada**  
345 Lincoln Avenue, Iowa Falls, IA 50126-1936

**In Canada**, mail to  
**Mike Watkins**, P.O. Box 1486, Kamloops,  
British Columbia V2C 6L8, Canada

**Officers of the  
Rural Ministries Network**

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*Vice-President (vacant)*

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Michael Watkins  
P.O. Box 1486  
Kamloops BC V2C 6L8 Canada

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Michael Maloney '10  
Patsy Barham '11  
Warren Frelund '11  
Sue Norton '12

*Ad Hoc Members*

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Program Officer-Episcopal*  
M. Jane Helmer, *Editor*

*Prayer Cycle Coordinators*

Limuel & Laura Parks  
Batesville AR 72501-9228

*Treasurer*

Sandra Elledge  
5204 Vandardo Way  
Knoxville TN 37912

**Coming events—2010**

**August 13–15**

The Common Ground Project  
Spoken Word Young Adult  
Conference at McCormick  
Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL.  
For more information, contact: The  
Common Ground Project, Email:  
commonground@mccormick.edu

**August 25–28**

RMN Board meeting with training at  
Todd Hall in Columbia IL

**September 1**

Roanridge Trust Award application  
deadline. For more information,  
forms in English or Spanish, go to  
[www.episcopalchurch.org/109389\\_121108\\_ENG\\_HTM.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109389_121108_ENG_HTM.htm) or contact Office  
of Congregational Vitality at 815 2nd  
Ave., New York, NY 10017

**September 20–26**

International Rural Church  
Association at Academy Altenkirchen  
in Germany. More information on-  
line at [www.irca.net.nz](http://www.irca.net.nz)

**October 8–9**

Mountain Grace VII: 'Building the  
Body of Christ through Community  
in Appalachia' Conference on  
Appalachian Ministry, Washington  
State Community College,  
Marietta OH ↗

**Amazing Grace Project  
raised \$100k+**

**W**e sang in parishes and parking  
lots, on beaches and in fields,  
we sang it in Kandahar, Keewatin  
and even in prison. It became our



song, our prayer, together," says  
Lynne Samways-Hiltz, spouse of  
Archbishop Fred Hiltz, primate of

See *AMAZING* on page 11

**November 14–17**

Nuevo Amanecer: Nuestra Visión,  
Nuestra Misión en Acción, at  
Kanuga Conference Center,  
Hendersonville, NC

Contact: The Rev. Anthony Guillén

Email: [aguillen@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:aguillen@episcopalchurch.org)

Registration and more information at  
<http://www.kanuga.org/conferences/2010/latino-eng.shtml>

En Español, visite: <http://www.kanuga.org/conferences/2010/latino-esp.shtml>

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