

# Diocese of the Central States News

Volume II, Issue 4: Trinity 2013



## News from St. Jude's, Richmond, VA

By Fr. W. Scott Thompson, Rector

The big news from St. Jude's in Richmond, VA, is that as of August 2, 2013, St. Jude's is no longer a Mission but a Church. The week prior, St. Jude's received the transfer letter for the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> communicant members of voting age. St. Jude's has over 40 members since we are blessed with so many youth. But those of voting age finally hit the mark. Bishop Morse declared St. Jude's a church, and appointed Fr. Scott Thompson as Rector.

This graduation from Mission to Church is a significant milestone for St. Jude's. Since beginning services in a parishioner's home on September 12, 2010, God has granted steady growth and a growing presence in the community. Church status will announce to the Richmond community that the REC is established in Richmond and here to stay. It positions the REC as a viable voice in the local ecumenical fabric.

As part of our growing footprint in the community, the men of St. Jude's recently participated in a local outreach project. Our Seminarian, Mr. Ken Mills, headed up the effort. Ken arranged for St. Jude's to participate in Renew Crew, which builds handicap ramps for needy people who are literally imprisoned in their homes because they can't afford a ramp. Renew Crew provided materials, tools, and supervision, and our guys provided the brawn.



Bishop Morse issued an important instruction to Fr. Scott in the email establishing St. Jude's Anglican Church. The Bishop wrote: "Now get busy and start another one." St. Jude's plans to do just that. We are also working hard to get ready for the Diocesan Synod here in Richmond in October, which will be another statement to the Richmond community that the REC offers an orthodox alternative to the influence of post-modernism in the church. Fr. Scott says: "Welcome to Richmond. St. Jude's is honored to host you. And by the way, please go on the Diocesan web site and register. Blessings."

Visit the parish website at <http://stjudesrec.org>

## Diocese of the Central States

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Submissions for the next issue  
are due November 22 and  
should be sent to  
[newsletter@recdss.org](mailto:newsletter@recdss.org).

## Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Parish/Mission	Date
All Saints, Lynchburg, VA	8/25/13
Covenant, Roanoke, VA	9/01/13
St. Andrews, Appomattox, VA	9/08/13
St. Andrew's, Asheboro, TN	9/15/13
Christ Our Hope, Westpoint, TN	9/22/13
Trinity, Mason, OH	9/29/13
All Saints, Raleigh, NC	10/06/13
Resurrection, Shalimar, FL	10/13/13
Christ the King, Dayton, OH	10/20/13
St. Andrew's, Signal M'tain, TN	10/27/13
Trinity, Evansville, IN	11/03/13
St. Paul's, Greenfield, IN	11/10/13
St. James, Memphis, TN	11/17/13
Holy Trinity, Fairfax, VA	11/24/13

Synod information is available at <http://rec-mdcs.org/invitation-to-the-2013-diocesan-synod>

# News from Christ the King, Dayton, OH

By Amanda McGill, Parish Administrator

Christ the King has been in the midst of multiple large building projects this summer. Due to an anonymous donor, the church was able to replace the ceiling and light fixtures of the sanctuary. During this significant renovation, the congregation met in the church's basement. Because Fr. Wayne was in the midst of his July sabbatical, Fr. Dorino Cozzini acted as the celebrant; the congregation was so thankful for his service to us.

In addition to the ceiling, the church received a grant from the Physician's Charitable of the Miami Valley in order to develop the back lot of the church into a multi-use court and green space for the neighborhood refugee children. The grant includes programming for nutrition and fitness education. We were so very thankful to receive full funding. The church is also extremely grateful for the work of the youth ministry LeaderTreks in building the multi-use court. In the months of June and July, youth groups from all over the Midwest came for a week to help slowly build the court. We are looking forward to the construction finishing by the time school begins!



On June 30th, the church held its annual Independence Day Fireworks Tailgate Party. Before walking to the fireworks in downtown Dayton, we spent time eating and talking in the church parking lot. The highlight of the evening was the music circle—joined by those of all ages and various levels of musical experience--playing well-known folk tunes.



During July, Jon McGill led a Sunday School called "I Will Give You Rest: Sabbath and Leisure in the Life of the Church." The study went through a Biblical theology of the Sabbath and then discussed its implications in modern life.

Dominion Academy is gearing up for the 2013-2014 school year. One highlight of the summer was learning that **100% of our students passed their AP tests!** We are impressed with the hard work of our teachers and students. This was great encouragement in our endeavor to provide an excellent education at Dominion Academy, for the furthering of Christ's Kingdom.

Lastly, Christ the King continues to observe Fridays as days of abstinence/fasting, praying the hours, and study.

Visit the parish website at <http://www.ckrec.org>

For more information about Dominion Academy, visit the website at <http://dominionacademy.org>



# Grandfathers, Baptism, and GOD Winks...

By Deacon Mike Spieth, Trinity Anglican Church, Evansville, IN

*When God winks, He is reaffirming that there is absolutely nothing about us that He does not know—our every hurt, our every desire. And that to me is very comforting.* - Squire Rushnell

The excerpt above and the following excerpt is taken from Squire Rushnell's book, *When God Winks at You*, a collection of true stories demonstrating that God does communicate with us, making incredible things happen in our lives every single day. As you read the riveting accounts of everyday and famous people—including Tim Conway, Rudolph Giuliani, Billy Graham, and Don Knotts—you will begin to recognize the God winks in your own life, both past and present. Through these tangible signposts from God, we receive personalized messages that reassure us, stop us from worrying, chart our path in life, and help us keep the faith.

My God wink happened this past Easter at Trinity Anglican Church. It was at that Easter Mass that I, along with the assistance of Father David, baptized my grandsons Emery and Lynden.



I shall always remember the joy in my heart as I watched each grandson step on a small platform and reverently bow his head over the baptismal font. I remember the trembling as I placed my left hand on their back and took the blessed Water into my right hand. Indeed it is hard to describe the joy that welled up inside as I spoke into their ear the

words, "I baptize thee Emery Michael and I baptize thee Lynden Evan in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." I shall also always remember when Father David, making the sign of the cross, anointed their forehead with Holy Chrism marking them as Christ's own forever! What a great day it was. God has richly blessed my life.



You see, it was 50 years ago on Easter that my own grandfather, Reverend Earl C. Zetsche, baptized me at First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, Olney, Illinois. I remember walking forward after Easter morning service and making my profession of faith. That evening I returned to the Church where I was to be baptized. Descending wide-eyed down the steps into the baptistery, my grandfather told me to walk slowly to him. I was instructed to turn my back to him and place my hands over my nose. He then immersed me "in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Reflecting on my own baptism and being able, by the grace of God, to baptize my own grandchildren struck me as having one of those 'God winks' as Rushnell describes in his book. It is with a grateful heart that I give thanks to Almighty God for allowing my years to increase; so that I may celebrate, and sometimes be a part of, life's greatest moments with my family and friends.

My cup runneth over.

Visit the parish website at <http://www.tacrec.org>

# What You Can Learn from a Simple Spreadsheet

By Deaconess Candy Jacques, Christ Our Hope, Dayton, OH

Ephesians 4:12 says, “to equip the saints for the work of the ministry, for building up the Body of Christ.” We have recently begun using a very simple tool for gauging how well we are doing this – a spreadsheet! Below is a sample of what it looks like:

NAME	MEMBER	YOUTH/ ADULT	BAPTIZED	CONFIRMED	SUNDAY SCHOOL	MINISTRIES
Sally Smith	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Altar Guild, Women's Group, Helps
John Smith	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Chalice Bearer, Lector, Building
Mike Jones	N	A	Y	N	N	

In this way, our Parish Council can readily see where there is involvement, where there are possible needs for encouragement to be confirmed or to attend Sunday School, etc. We can use the spreadsheet in a variety of ways and it helps us seek ways to assimilate new people coming into the parish or those who have perhaps “pulled back” a little.

We were tremendously encouraged to see that about 90% of our parish is engaged in some form of ministry—including sound, lector, chalice bearer, Men’s or Women’s groups, youth group or VBS, special events, coffee hour, a general category of “helps.” building and grounds, Altar Guild, greeters, creating our bulletin, music, and teaching.

It took a couple of hours to put it together the first time, but is very easy to keep updated. I am a cradle Anglican and have been in numerous parishes during my life. Never have I seen a congregation with such a high level of involvement. Usually, the 80-20 Rule is working, with 20% of the people doing 80% of the work. I believe our growth can be attributed, in part, to Fr. Harry Mathis’ desire to see everyone equipped and enabled to use their gifts in the Body of Christ. This spreadsheet has been extremely helpful in ‘plotting a course’ to do just that and to involve everyone in ministry.”

Visit the parish website: <http://daytonchurch.org>

## Reminder: Synod 2013

**When:** October 24-25

**Where:** St. Jude’s Anglican Mission, Richmond, VA

**Hotel:** Hyatt Place, Glen Allen, VA (<http://www.hyattplacerichmondinnsbrook.com/>)

**Registration Deadline:** August 25

For more information, visit the Diocesan website, or contact Fr. Scott Thompson by email at [frsthompson@icloud.com](mailto:frsthompson@icloud.com) or by phone at 703-395-3423.

# News from Matt and Sora Colvin, The Philippines

By The Rev. Deacon Matt Colvin

Matt and Sora Colvin are busy at work in Davao City, Philippines. The birth clinic just welcomed a new class of student midwives from North America and Europe. Sora continues to minister to mothers and babies here in Davao, and goes on outreach visits to bring midwifery care to patients who can't come to the clinic (link: <http://receivewithmeekness.wordpress.com/2013/08/08/isla-verde-outreach/>).

After a two month summer vacation, Matt has just resumed teaching at Faith Academy, where he offers New Testament to 10th graders and an Epic Literature elective. His church history class at the Reformed Institute of Ministry will be wrapping up in September. Three of the Colvins' children have now enrolled in Faith Academy, and are doing well.

**Sora (2nd from left) with other members of the clinic team, doing prenatal checkups in the Isla Verde region of Davao**



**Kids in Isla Verde clowning for the camera during Sora's outreach visit**

Keep up with news from the Colvins at <http://receivewithmeekness.wordpress.com>