

Diocese of the Central States News

Volume III, Issue 4: Trinity 2014



News from the Colvins in the Philippines

The new school year at Faith Academy classes began August 5th, and Fr. Matt is teaching church history and another round of Epic Literature. The birth clinic, and Sora, have said farewell to one class of graduating student midwives, who took their board exams in August. A new class arrived on August 19th.

Matters of Praise:

- We rejoice that the Colvins have i-Cards that are valid until May 2016.
- Faith International Academy was able to find teachers to cover the classes it needed.
- The Badjao neighborhood that was ravaged by fire in April is slowly being rebuilt (see photo below.) Sora's friends and ministry partners in Isla Verde report that since the fire, the small neighborhood church — now without a building, and holding open air services in a nearby park on Sunday mornings — has seen a huge increase in attendance with many new believers.



Matters of Prayer:

- The tenants who are renting the Colvins' house in Cincinnati will be moving out at the end of September. Please pray that new tenants will be found to take their place.
- Pray for all who have been affected by the outbreak of dengue fever, that God would provide quick recovery for the sick and protection for all others.

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

Diocese of the Central States

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Send submissions for the next issue by 22 November 2014 to Dss. Teresa Johnson at newsletter@recdss.org.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

<i>Parish/Mission</i>	<i>Date</i>
St. Andrew's, Signal Mtn, TN	08/31/14
Trinity, Evansville, IN	09/07/14
St. Paul's, Greenfield, IN	09/14/14
St. James, Memphis, TN	09/21/14
Holy Trinity, Fairfax, VA	09/28/14
Redeemer, Wilson, NC	10/05/14
St. Jude's, Richmond, VA	10/12/14
Christ Our Hope, Dayton, OH	10/19/14
St. Lazarus, Dayton, OH	10/26/14
St. Nicholas, Owensboro, KY	11/02/14
St. John's of Mt Laurel, Birmingham, AL	11/09/14
New Covenant School & All Saints Mission, Lynchburg, VA	11/16/14
Covenant, Roanoke, VA	11/23/14
St. Andrew's Appomattox, Appomattox, VA	11/30/14

Building Project at Trinity, Evansville

By Father David Straw

In April of this year Trinity Anglican Church in Evansville, IN, finally purchased property after searching seven long years for a permanent home. Our plans are to convert an already existing structure into a church that will both honor God and reflect our heritage as Anglican-Christians. Both Bishop Dan and Bishop Peter have been helpful in regards to offering suggestions in the planning and design of our new building. Numerous individuals from our congregation have put many hours into the logistical planning, designing, and raising funds for our new building. We plan to offer many new ministries once our building projected is completed.

Through a great amount of effort Deacon Mike Spieth secured for our congregation a set of ten windows from a now closed Episcopal Church in Olney, IL. These windows were created originally for St. Alban's Episcopal Church in 1902 and plans have been made to have the windows refurbished. A large part of the design of our future building is being based around these beautiful and historic windows.



Marianne Morse, Bishop Daniel Morse, Fr. David Straw



Fr. David Straw and Deacon Mike Spieth

Groundbreaking at All Saints, Raleigh, NC

By The Rev. Ian H. MacGregor

Raleigh North Carolina All Saints' Groundbreaking Ceremony had to be scheduled for late July or early August – we were expecting final site plan approval from the city any day, and the day after that approval was issued the bulldozers were going to begin pushing dirt.

Given the likely heat and humidity this time of year we were concerned about having folks out for a long ceremony...and so we planned things for late Sunday morning on August 3rd, right after morning worship, and made sure we could keep it relatively short – no more than 20 minutes or so. By August 1st the weather forecast confirmed our worst fears – Sunday was expected to be the hottest day of the year with temperatures of 98-100 degrees, along with high summer humidity.

And then, as Marty Matthews later said, "God had mercy on us and answered our prayers for relief from the heat....he sent us rain instead."

And so, while it was a wet ceremony, All Saints celebrated the Groundbreaking for its new Chapel. We abbreviated the service even more to keep people from standing around in the rain too long. But we had Holy Water which had been blessed earlier that morning at our Communion service, and Tom Arrington had marked the site with white paint to outline where the Chapel would sit, including the area where the altar will be. We blessed the altar area by pouring the Holy Water over the ground. We then blessed each member's shovel (and one pick-ax brought by Steve Hegyi!) and the parish went to work!

All Saints has been worshipping in leased/shared space with Jenkins Memorial Methodist church since shortly after our founding in late 2001/early 2002. Over the years we have considered a number of potential buildings as a permanent home, but cost, location, or other issues always thwarted our hopes and plans. Finally, three years ago we stumbled across two acres west of downtown with 2 dilapidated houses and a barn on them. The highly visible location is on a heavily traveled road which serves as one of the primary commuter routes into Downtown Raleigh or the North Carolina State University Campus. We tore down the houses and barn and started design work and fundraising. We now have plans, a builder, most (although still not all!) approvals from the city and a \$250,000 loan commitment from First South Bank. The total project cost is approximately \$1 million and God has provided abundantly. As soon as we get final approval from the City, the bulldozers will start their work.

The facility plan includes at least three stages. The initial Chapel will be small, seating about 60-70 (albeit, without much elbow room) with two classrooms and a Fellowship Hall. Phase two will add additional classrooms and at the same time, by removing the original class space, increase Chapel seating to about 100; we hope to build Phase Two within just a few years. Finally, phase three will be a larger and much nicer permanent sanctuary and nave with seating for 140 or so. We also plan a columbarium and have room for further expansion ideas.



Tom Arrington, Ann Gingell and Ann Davis (standing) watch as Amelia and Jacob, along with mother Becky Merrick, dig in

What You Can Do to Help Christians in Iraq

Guest Article from Anglican Relief & Development Fund (ARDF)



Christians in Iraq have suffered terribly over the last months. Archbishop Foley Beach described the situation in a recent statement:

In Iraq, hundreds of thousands of believers have fled their homes, reducing the Christian population to a quarter of the size it was in 1990. Many took refuge in Syria or Lebanon, while others are internally displaced in the autonomous region of Iraqi Kurdistan, which once provided relative peace and stability. But Iraqi Christian refugees are no longer safe in Syria, as anti-Christian violence threatens all Christians in the country, while Iraqi Kurdistan is now also seeing escalating tensions; Christians also struggle to find work to support themselves there. Recent events in Mosul have seen the city's Christian population totally exterminated by murder or the evacuation of Christians.

Anglican leaders in the region, including ARDF Global Trustee Archbishop Mouneer Hanna Anis, have called for an end to the violence and for prayer and assistance for persecuted Iraqi Christians.

What can you do to help?

Pray

First, please join us in praying for our brothers and sisters suffering displacement and persecution in Iraq. Cry out to God for an end to the violence, comfort for families who have lost loved ones, and hope for those whose lives have been shattered by this conflict. Archbishop Beach offers these suggested prayers,

Heavenly Father, we bring before you today the people of Syria and Iraq, asking you to be their defender and help in their time of need. Walk with

them in their suffering and loss, and give them strength to face the days ahead. We pray for release of the captives and freedom for those held hostage. We pray for your intervention against the violence and evil against your people. We pray for your provision for the hungry, the homeless, and the bereaved. We pray for you to help your people who are called by your Name, Jesus' Name, and it is in His Name we ask these things. Amen.

From the Book of Common Prayer:

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth: deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Edited from the Book of Common Prayer:

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, especially in Syria and Iraq; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Give

Second, consider making a donation to one of the many organizations offering help to refugees.

ARDF is partnering with Archbishop Mouneer and the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East to offer direct aid to refugees who are in dire need of food and shelter through the local Anglican Church.

For more information, go to ARDF's website:
<http://anglicanaid.net/help-iraqi-christians/>



Permission to reprint this article was provided by The Rev. Charles Treichler, ARDF's Communication Manager/ Advocate Coordinator