

November 2022
Vol.1 Num.1

Anglican Diocese of the Southwest

The Anglican Church in North America

NEWS

+FOUR GREAT
INITIATIVES FOR
OUR DIOCESE

Page 6

+DIOCESAN
YOUTH
EVENTS!

Page 9



Newsletter

Anglican Diocese of the Southwest

Vol. 1 Num. 1 ENGLISH
Available in 2 languages

PO Box 3247
El Paso, Texas, 79923
(505) 312-8877

www.anglicansw.org

The mission of this Diocese is to support our Congregations in extending the Kingdom of God by Presenting Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit through proclaiming the Gospel and making disciples. We seek to support each other and be unified through prayer, Bible study, education, worship, church planting, revitalization, youth ministry, and fellowship.



CONTENTS

-
- 3 Bishop's Corner
-
- 4 New ADSW Anglican School of Ministry
-
- 5 The ACNA Provincial Council
-
- 6 4 INITIATIVES
-
- 7 Anglicanism Its Heritage in Music
-
- 8 The Sangre de Cristo Anglican Fellowship
-
- 9 Diocesan Youth Events!
-
- 10 Vacation Bible School at Iglesia del Gran Pastor
-
- 12 Piedra Angular Confirmations
-
- 13 Marcos Farhid Adabache's Instalation as Rector at Good Shepherd at Hill
-
- 14 Women's Book Group and Field Trip
-
- 16 ADSW Congregations
-



ANGELICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

www.anglicanchurch.net/



Bishop's Corner

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus!

I am very excited to write this letter for what I hope will be a regular newsletter for the diocese. I've felt like one of the things that we need to work on this year is our diocesan communications, and I'm very grateful to the One Diocese Together Team and everyone else who has contributed to this first newsletter for making it a reality.

I want in these letters to set the stage for what I believe is the mission that God has given us to reach the 100 million people within the million square miles of our diocese with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

It's a huge job. But what I want to talk about in this letter is the fact that it's not out of line with what God has been asking of Anglicans for over five hundred years.

Anglicans are a missionary people. From the foundation of the Anglican Church over five hundred years ago, the story of Anglicanism has been a story of sacrifice for the sake of the mission of the Gospel. Anglican missionaries have planted churches, schools, and hospitals in almost every part of the known world, and Anglican missionaries have given up their lives for the Gospel on almost every continent on the planet. This is an exciting story, and I want to make sure that we know enough of the story to understand that it's our story and that we have a part.

Permit me a quick history lesson.

The Church of Jesus first took root in the British islands in the first century after its founding. We don't know how the Gospel got to the Island or who the first missionaries to carry the Gospel there were, but we do know that many of the early Christians were Romans, and that a large part of the British Islands was ruled by Rome, with Roman law and Roman roads and so would have been accessible to early Christians. We also have historical records of the names of bishops from England as early as the 300's.

Around 600 AD the Church in Britain decided to become part of the Roman Catholic Church. This partnership lasted for almost 1000 years. It came to an end because of abuses by the leadership of the Roman Church, and influenced by Martin Luther's Reformation in Europe, the English Church decided to become independent again.

The theological conflict that sparked that separation was over the priority of Scripture. The Roman Church at that time said that the Church could overrule the Bible. The Anglican Church proclaimed that the Bible held authority, even over the Church.

The Anglican Church that exploded out of this conflict was solidly Biblical, but still connected to the rich history, art, and heroes of the early church. It was also passionately missionary and sent missionaries to every continent of the world, starting churches in Asia, North and South America and throughout Africa. Today there are almost 100 million people who follow Jesus as Anglicans.

So our diocesan mission, reaching our hundred million people, is right in line with the missionary DNA of our Anglican ancestors. We are a missionary people.

I close praying Paul's prayer from Ephesians 3 for you: that God may strengthen you through His Spirit, so that you may have the power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ and to know this love that surpasses all knowledge.

In the Love of Jesus,
Steven

New ADSW Anglican School of Ministry Church of the Good Shepherd, San Angelo, TX

By Luke and Lizzy Grant

My wife and I recently began classes through the Anglican Diocese of the Southwest School of Ministry, a certificate program for second-career professionals who are interested in becoming ordained in some capacity in the church or who just want a deeper understanding of their faith and ministry within the Anglican tradition. Our family is new to the Anglican Church (our first time attending a service was this past spring) and we're still figuring out "the Anglican Way," but we wanted to grow in our knowledge of the faith and these classes have been a great way to learn and to plug up some holes in our theology and knowledge of the Church.

You may have reservations to join the classes for several reasons. We ourselves were initially hesitant at the thought of committing to a two-year program; however, even in the first two weeks, it has already proven to be a blessing to our family. We've seen how it's made us better stewards of our time. There is a substantial amount of reading each week before gathering as a class on Zoom, so we've had to prioritize the important things in our day to get our reading done in time. My job takes up most of my work week and Lizzy is a busy homeschooling mom of four, so our Netflix time has taken a hit.

It has also fostered some great conversations between Lizzy and me on our beliefs and has spurred us on to wrestle with our theology alongside one another. Our relationship has benefited from spending time together in the evenings discussing something more than just whose turn it is to brush the boys' teeth or read to the girls at bedtime.

Another valuable aspect of this course has been learning more about the history of the church and to be freshly reminded that, while the Church has faced attacks from without and within since the beginning, God has been – and will continue to be - faithful to His Bride through it all. On that note, we've enjoyed getting to know fellow believers within our Diocese a bit as we've been learning and studying together and we hope to eventually meet in person those who are in long distance sister churches.

A final unexpected yet nonetheless significant blessing has been witnessing our daughters Katy (10) and Grace (8) wanting to attend the Zoom classes and how they're learning right alongside us. We've been amazed at what they pick up just listening to the discussion and they now look forward to the classes as much as we do. All that said, Lizzy and I hope you'll consider participating in the classes in the future. It does take time, but we guarantee it will be a blessing as you will grow in your faith and be more prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.



Class on Zoom



The ACNA Provincial Council

By Bert Shrecengost

This year's Provincial Council was held from 14 to 16 June at the Falls Church Anglican Church in Falls Church, Virginia. The Anglican Diocese of the Southwest was represented by Bishop Stephen Tighe, The Honorable Mr. Gus Haddad, Ms. Meredith Omland, and Mr. Bert Shrecengost.

As with previous Councils, this one opened with a report from Archbishop Foley Beach (which can be seen on the ACNA Webpage at <https://subspla.sh/jkb6kjpg>).

The business of the Council included passing the 2022-2023 annual budget, electing new Executive Council members to the Provincial council, introducing three new Bishops, and numerous informational meetings for the attendees. Also presented were reports from the Congregational Report and updates on Canonical Changes. Further information can be found on the ACNA website at <https://anglicanchurch.net/a-summary-of-provincial-council-2022>

FOUR GREAT INITIATIVES FOR OUR DIOCESE



The mission of this Diocese is to support our Congregations in extending the Kingdom of God by Presenting Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit through proclaiming the Gospel and making disciples. We seek to support each other and be unified through prayer, Bible study, education, worship, church planting, revitalization, youth ministry, and fellowship.

Contact Us
Let us know how we can help you.

Tim@anglicansw.org
Gus@anglicansw.org
(505) 312-8877

PO Box 3247
El Paso, TX 79923



Church Planting

Within the bounds of our diocese, we have about 1 million square miles containing about 100 million people. To reach those people with the transforming love of Jesus, we need a huge number of churches. The job of this mission team is to create and manage the structures that will allow us to effectively plant churches in both Mexico and the United States.



Church Revitalization

One of our greatest strengths is the wealth of wisdom and experience of the great saints who have led our churches since our formation. The mission of this team is to come alongside these leaders and their congregations as they start to think about what happens next in the lives of their churches.



Diocesan School

The challenges of our ministry in the Southwest require innovative approaches to education. The mission of this group is the development of education for ministers joining the Anglican Church from other traditions, second career clergy, and our deacons, as well as continuing education for existing clergy.



Unity

We are a diocese of about 25 churches spread over a million square miles in two different countries speaking two different languages. The mission of this team is to help build relationships between our congregations and teach us how to support one another in ministry.

Anglicanism

Its Heritage in Music

By Elías Rosales



Photograph by: Andrés Vargas -Catedral Anglicana St Paul's

The first time I stepped into an Anglican church was during the procession of the Holy Eucharist. I remember that what especially impressed me was the solemnity of the hymn they were singing. Music has always been present in the Church, as St. Paul tells us: "Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart". (Ephesians 5:19 ESV). Since the Protestant Reformation hymns have been an important part of the liturgy of each denomination. There are hymns that have broken down denominational barriers, being known by all, although many times their authors have been forgotten.

One of the best known hymns is "Amazing Grace", which has been translated into many languages. John Newton was the writer of this hymn. In the first stanza we read: "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!" In this line we can see the deep gratitude Newton had for God. Before hearing the gospel and being transformed by God, he was a person who trafficked slaves, and after his conversion he dedicated his life to preach the gospel with great fervor and zeal.

Another famous hymn is "Rock of Ages". Its composer was Augustus Toplady, a

clergyman who was very well prepared academically. However, his conversion took place in a pretty interesting way. When he was sixteen years old, he was visiting Ireland and God touched him in the least expected place, in a meeting in a barn in Codrington. The preacher was an illiterate layman, but God used to him reach Toplady.

Another author of a very famous hymn was Bishop Reginald Heber. He composed "Holy, Holy, Holy!" One of his greatest ministries was the work in the Diocese of Calcutta in India. Such was his work and dedication as a bishop that after only three years he died of a stroke, when he was only forty years old.

These three famous hymns were not the only ones these composers composed, but these are ones that are sung in many congregations of different denominations. I must add that Newton, Toplady, and Heber have something in common in that all three were Anglicans. This is a just a small sample of the great variety of hymns that exist thanks to the inspiration of Anglican clergy and laity, who through music transmitted devotion and doctrine that has inspired many generations.

The Sangre de Cristo Anglican Fellowship

By Joan Eng



Fr. John Price

The Sangre de Cristo Anglican Fellowship is an exclusively online Anglican congregation originating in Raton, N.M., with Fr. John Price, but broadcast, through the miracle of internet, all over.

Fr. Price made a “video studio” in his basement from which he does the service. His deacon, Joan Eng, who lives in Colorado Springs, records the readings and prayers on Photo Booth, an app on her Mac, and sends them during the week to Fr. Price. He has recorded his part of the service by then, and splices in the readings and prayers, and then puts it on the church's website, <http://www.sangredecristo-af.org> sometime late Saturday morning or early Saturday afternoon. Right now, at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, there have already been 60 views! Our viewership runs from 60 to 150 and more! And that doesn't count the viewers who watch as a couple, only recording one “view” but actually two people watching. If that holds true for even half the “views”, there could be between 90 and 250 actually watching!

Since Fr. Price has posted his phone number and Internet address on the website, if people are interested in contacting him, they can, and frequently do! Some have even asked how to “join” the congregation. Although we don't

have a regular congregation, Fr. Price does have an email list to which he sends the service on Saturdays, but we have no idea where the other viewers are. It's kind of fun preaching to an unknown destination!

Fr. Price uses the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, and preaches a solidly Biblical sermon, always on the lessons for the day and including something about the love of God for His people. The service lasts about 45 minutes, and has music at the appropriate times in the service. The nice thing about the service online is that people can access it any time they want, late, early, or the next week. If the sermon really touches one, it is easy to “rewind” the service back to the sermon and listen again!

Next time the weather is bad or you've got a bug, join us at the Sangre de Cristo Anglican Fellowship, online!



Diocesan Youth Events!

By Kristina Cossel
Diocesan youth co-leader

This summer we had **one** of our first diocesan youth events! We went to a Lifeway camp called Centrifuge in Glorieta, New Mexico. We had nine students attend this camp, eight of them from St. Clement and one from Dalhart! It was a five day camp and the theme was the “Matchless One”. Every day we talked about different themes about Jesus and the sacrifice He made for us. Three students decided to recommit themselves to the Lord and every student walked away from this camp feeling close to the Lord. There were four seniors who had just graduated and one of them felt a call to stay at youth group and become an intern in our program. We had such a variety of students on this trip and the most exciting part was seeing how connected all of them were, regardless of age gaps.

weekend. The feedback we got from our students at the end of the weekend was that this retreat tackled a lot of the issues that they are struggling with and that this content was coming to them at a time where they were ready to start working on it. We obviously had a lot of fun with doing a zipline and participating in the fun games our student leaders planned, but we also had beautiful and intentional conversations and ministry opportunities throughout the weekend. We love being able to do these events like camp and retreats for our students because of how much God always blesses them. We would love it if your own students would be available to join us for any upcoming events in 2023! Please reach out if you are interested in getting this information; the more we emphasize our students connecting, the more unity we will get to see in our diocese.

In October we had our fall retreat for the high school students at St. Clement and focused on “Making Your Faith Your Own” the entire

Kristina Cossel
youthministry@stclements.com



Vacation Bible School at Iglesia del Gran Pastor

By Meredith Omland

*What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?
Romans 8:31*

“God is for me!” was our theme for this year's VBS, held at the end of July. With so much uncertainty over the past couple years, we wanted to remind the children that if they love and follow Jesus, no one and nothing can ever come between them and Him.



We journeyed through three stories from the book of Acts, emphasizing God's love and power. We walked with the Apostle Peter as he and John offered a lame man healing in Jesus' name (Acts 3:1-10), then as he prayed for Dorcas to be raised from the dead (Acts 9:36-43), and finally as he was miraculously freed from prison by an angel of the Lord (Acts 12:1-19). We sang about the Lord's goodness and praised Him for His faithfulness.

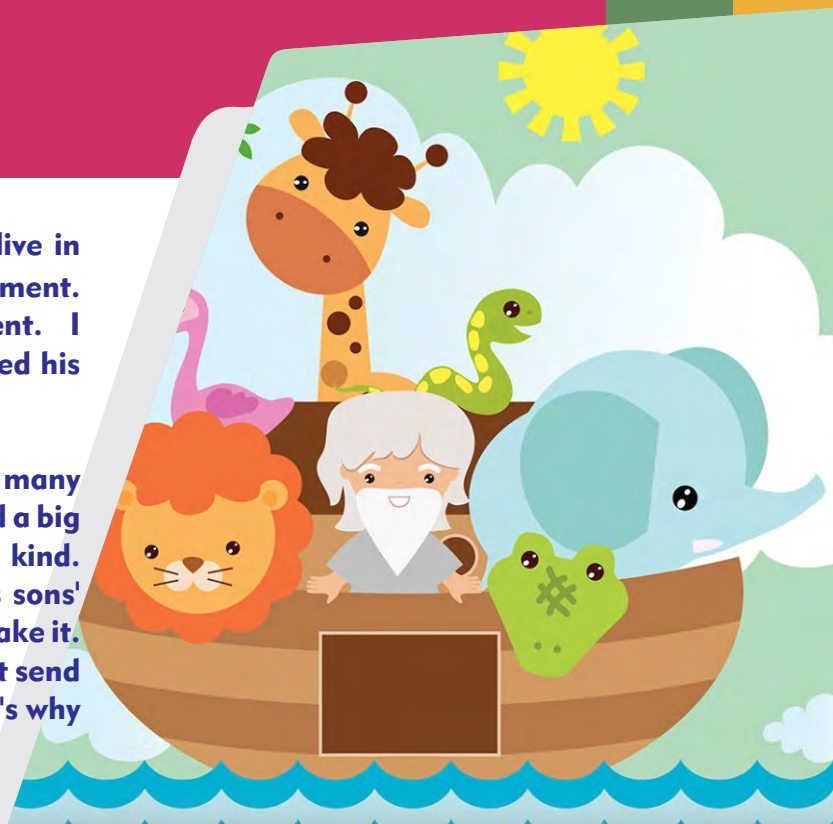




We also had a lot of fun, playing soccer, basketball, and baseball in the morning, and participating in activities such as a moon bounce, facepainting, and bracelet-making in the afternoon. After not being able to hold VBS in person since 2019, we were excited to be back together again this summer. We are excited to continue ministering to these children this year in Kid's Bible Club, which started up again in October. Please pray for us and for the children of Fresnillo!

My name is Danna and I am 10 years old. I live in Mexico. Each Saturday I read part of the New Testament. But I also read some stories from the Old Testament. I remember the story about Cain and Abel. Cain killed his brother, Abel, because he was jealous of him.

I remember another story about Noah. There were many people who did bad things. So God told Noah to build a big boat and to put all the animals in it, two of each kind. Noah and his wife also got in, and his sons and his sons' wives. God sent a flood to destroy the earth and remake it. He made a rainbow, promising Noah that he wouldn't send another flood that big. God doesn't like sin and that's why he sent the flood.



Piedra Angular Confirmations

By Tim Holt

We had a delightful visitation to Piedra Angular led by Heber Gil and Bishop Steven. We met in a beautiful house being built by Ramon, one of the parishioners, in the wilds outside of Juarez. The Spirit was moving in power as most of the church received confirmation from Bishop Steven.

Lunch was excellent and prepared on site during the service. We were certainly blessed by that aroma! We would have to wait on the rattle snake soup that Ramon talked about preparing. The main ingredient was hanging nearby on the fence.



Marcos Farhid Adabache's Instalation as Rector at Good Shepherd at Hill By Marcos Farhid Adabache



I am very grateful for the ways in which God has used me. After waiting two years and talking with my bishop, and above all, after listening to the Lord's voice, I was officially installed as the rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd at Hill in Las Cruces, NM, on September 11th of this year.

There is a lot of work to be done and God is faithful. The whole congregation is very happy with my installation, is my family and I are as well. Thanks be to God, to the diocese, and to all who have supported this part of the Kingdom mission.

Women's Book Group and Field Trip

By Rev. Barbara Brenner

As things quickly shutdown at the beginning of the Covid 19 pandemic, a number of the women from Christ Church in Farmington, New Mexico, began meeting online for fellowship and encouragement. We soon decided that reading a book together would give us something interesting to discuss each Zoom meeting. And so our book club was formed. When two of our members moved out of state, we decided to continuing meeting online despite the decrease in Covid illnesses and loosening of restrictions.

Over the last two and a half years we have read a wide variety of books. We read Willa Cather's *Death Comes to the Archbishop* in which the Roman Catholic bishop in Santa Fe visits many of the pueblos in the surrounding area. Group members suggested we needed to take a field trip and visit some of these sites in person. However, since many Covid restrictions were still in place that field trip never materialized.

Our group also read a number of C.S. Lewis's writings: among them *The Screwtape Letters* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*. This past summer I saw an advertisement for a play based on the C. S. Lewis's book, *The Great Divorce*. The play would be at the Lensic Performing Arts Center in Santa Fe on July 16. It seemed like the perfect opportunity for a "field trip." In the end only one other member of our book group could go and we were joined by two friends from our Community Bible Study group.

The play was an excellent adaptation of the book.

The challenge of whether to accept the invitation to heaven was clear. It was gratifying to see a mostly packed theater. At the end of the play there was an opportunity to ask questions of the producer. We were pleasantly surprised at the insightful questions that were asked. It was wonderful to see such a well-acted and artful presentation of Christian faith within a largely secular environment. The Lensic is only a block away from the main plaza in Santa Fe so we were also able to enjoy a nice meal after the performance.



SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2022 AT 4 PM

C.S. Lewis' The Great Divorce

Lensic Performing Arts Center • ...

[Go To Link](#)

Event by Fellowship for Performing Arts

Lensic Performing Arts Center
211 W San Francisco St, Santa Fe,

Since Farmington is about four hours away from Santa Fe the group decided to spend the night before heading home. The following morning after enjoying a light breakfast at a coffee shop we ventured over to Sunday morning services at Resurrection Anglican Church. Resurrection is a church plant out of the Diocese of the Rocky Mountains. The Rev. Kempton Jackson is the pastor and the Rev. John Linebargar from the Diocese of the Southwest assists him. Fr. Kempton grew up in New Mexico and is part Navajo. Their church community consists of people of many different ethnicities. They utilize parts of the Kenyan Liturgy in their service. One particularly part that had particular impact was the blessing from the Kenyan Rite:

All our problems
We send to the cross of Christ.

All our difficulties
We send to the cross of Christ.

All the devil's works
We send to the cross of Christ.

All our hopes
We set on the risen Christ.

Christ the Sun of Righteousness
shine upon you and scatter the darkness from
before your path:
and the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and
remain with you always.
Amen.

I'm not sure if those were the exact words that they used but the meaning was similar. The congregation was very warm and welcoming, and we all thoroughly enjoyed our visit.

Before I close, I would like to mention one of the last books our book group read: *Through Gates of Splendor*. It is the story of the five missionaries who lost their lives as they tried to reach a stone age tribe in Ecuador. We compared their stories with the story of John Allen Chau. We also reflected on the response of the public in the 1950's to the tragedy in Ecuador and the public and press response to John Allen Chau's death on North Sentinel Island in the Bay of Bengal in

November of 2018. I mention this because the first Sunday of November is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. It is worth reading the story of John Chau and reflecting on the need to reach unreached people groups with the Gospel and to pray for those who live and minister in difficult and hostile areas of the world. You can find his story published by Voice of the M a r t y r s a t <https://www.persecution.com/stories/john-chau/>



ADSW CONGREGATIONS

West Texas Deanery

1. All Saints Anglican Church, Midland
2. St. Paul's Anglican Church
3. Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd
4. St. James' Anglican Church

Midland, Texas
Midland, Texas
San Angelo, Texas
Dalhart, Texas

Albuquerque Deanery

1. Christ Church Four Corners
2. St. Philip the Evangelist Anglican Church
3. Christ the King Anglican Church
4. Church of Our Lord
5. Emmaus Anglican Church
6. Light of Life Ministries
7. Sangre de Cristo Anglican Fellowship
8. St. Stephen's Anglican Church

Farmington, New Mexico
Cortez, Colorado
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Raton, New Mexico
Roswell, New Mexico

El Paso Deanery

1. Church of the Good Shepherd at Hill
2. Church of St. Clement
3. Iglesia Rey de Paz
4. Church of the Epiphany
5. St. Augustine Anglican Church

Las Cruces, New Mexico
El Paso, Texas
El Paso, Texas
Cloudcroft, New Mexico
Deming, New Mexico

Mexico Deanery

1. Iglesia Anglicana Puerto Vallarta
2. Iglesia Anglicana Comunidad de Gracia
3. Iglesia de Jesús—Jesús es la Resurrección
4. Iglesia de Jesús—La Trinidad
5. Iglesia del Gran Pastor
6. Iglesia Piedra Angular
7. Comunidad de Fe, Rey de Justicia
8. Iglesia Anglicana San Pablo del Suroeste

Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco
Xalapa, Veracruz
Aguascalientes, Aguascalientes
Zapopan, Jalisco
Fresnillo, Zacatecas
Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua
Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua
Puebla, Puebla



One Diocese Together Team
Equipo para una Diócesis Unida

Visit Us!



This newsletter is for everyone in the diocese, lay people and clergy alike. We invite you to join us in this effort! If you would like to share something in a future newsletter, please contact us! : odttsw@gmail.com