

#### CONTENTS



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#### **New Offices!**

Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic 14851 Gideon Drive Woodbridge, VA 22192

p. 703.590.5470 f. 703.590.3269

Please make note of this change.

October 6, 2011

Dear Friends,

As I've been reading the Old Testament readings appointed in the Daily Lectionary this week, I've been struck yet again by the life and leadership of King Josiah in 7th century B.C. Jerusalem.

Josiah was just 8 years old when he became king. When he was 15, he began to seek God. When he was 19 and still a teenager he began to cleanse the land of all the false gods and the altars where human sacrifices of children were offered (see 2 Kings 22-23 and 2 Chronicles 34-35). He led a powerful reform movement, bringing the people back from idolatry and false worship to faithfulness to the one true God.

Josiah cleansed and repaired the Temple, which had not been used for pagan worship during the apostasy of his father and grandfather. During this work, the Book of the Law was found. This was either the Book of Deuteronomy or perhaps it was all five books of Genesis through Deuteronomy. When the Book was brought and read to him, he tore his robes in grief and repentance. He said, "For great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us" (2 Kings 22:13).

Josiah then had the Word of God read to the people and he renewed the covenant of the people with the Lord. He destroyed the idols and altars and spiritual practices of the false gods.

Josiah's significance is expressed in 2 Kings 23:25: "Never before or after Josiah was there a King like him who turned to the Lord as he did, with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength."

In the experience of Josiah, I see at least three key learnings for us:

- Renewal arose out of a rediscovery of the Word of God. We must make the reading and study of Scripture central to our life of our churches and our families.
- Renewal spread as people repented. We must turn away from our sins, our ungodly beliefs and false spiritual practices, and turn our hearts to the true and living God. There is no revival without genuine repentance.
- 3. Renewal was led by a young person. We must give far greater priority to reaching the next generations. I'm told that nearly every major revival in the history of the Christian church was sparked by young people who got radical about following Jesus.

May we, like Josiah, seek and follow the Lord with all our heart and soul and strength.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. John A. M. Guernsey

Read and share this story online.

# Relationship Central Conference: The Way of Grace Before Truth

By Tory Baucum

At our parish retreat, our teacher Jeff Black, reminded us that we are called to exhibit both

grace and truth in our ministries. Jesus seldom preached the truth first. As John wrote "grace and truth came through Jesus Christ" (1:17). According to the other gospel writers, grace preceded truth. Jesus would heal the blind man, feed the hungry, exorcise the demoniac THEN tell them the good news of the kingdom. This is the Jesus' Way of evangelism: Grace and Truth. Grace BEFORE Truth. As sinners, we all need openness to truth. Grace opens us to truth.

As we ask God to show us how to share His love with those who don't know it, we must be open to demonstrating grace in people's point of need and pain. There is seldom a site of pain and need greater in people, than in their families and marriages.

Our conference this fall on relationships is designed to equip us (and other churches) with ministries of grace that can bear the weight of truth. As we minister to people in the difficulties of making their marriages work and helping them to be better parents, we are earning a hearing for the Gospel.

### Read more and register.

Publicity announcement for use on your website or in materials: RELATIONSHIPS!! It's what God is about. It's what we are about. But how well do we do "relationships"? Come to the upcoming Relationship Central Conference to be held Saturday, October 22 from 8:30am -5:00pm at Truro Church. This conference is going to be life changing!! Invite all your neighbors, friends, family, the person in front of you in the grocery line and any one else you see. The children's program for ages 4-16 (4-5, 6-9, 10-12, 13-16) is really going to phenomenal!!! Give your kids skills that will change their relationships and their lives!

## Annual Synod: Register by Nov. 4

The Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic Fall 2011 Synod will be held November 18-19, 2011 at All Saints' Anglican Church in Woodbridge. Please register by November 4 at <a href="https://www.anglicandistrictofvirginia.org/synod2011">www.anglicandistrictofvirginia.org/synod2011</a>.

#### Location:

The Synod will be held at the new All Saints' Church building in Woodbridge, VA: 14851 Gideon Drive Woodbridge, VA 22192

#### **Accommodations:**

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Wytestone Suites, less than half a mile from All Saints' Church.

14525 Gideon Drive Woodbridge, VA 22192 (703) 490-4100

You will need to reserve your own accommodations. Be sure to identify yourself with the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic to get the \$88/night rate. This price includes a full hot

breakfast and WiFi. Deadline for registration is November 4<sup>th</sup>. Hotel Details.

If you would prefer to stay in a private home, please email Heather Adams or call her at 703-590-5470 (Diocesan office) or 703-850-8236 (cell). This offer is subject to availability of host homes.

Schedule: November 18-19, 2011

#### **Friday**

**Registration** will be from 4:00-7:30 in the atrium of All Saint' Church.

Light refreshments will be available.

**Opening Eucharist** will begin at 7:30. This service is open to the public.

Clergy are asked to vest. (Green stoles.)

Childcare is provided for children 5 and under. If you require childcare, please indicate that on your registration form.

### Saturday

Registration opens at 8:00 am.

Coffee, and breakfast snacks will be available.

The Synod begins with worship at 8:45 am.

Lunch is included in your registration fee.

Our Diocesan Offices will be blessed following lunch.

Synod concludes at 4:00 pm

## Nominations Reqested: Constitution and Canons Committee and Ecclesiastical Trial Court

The Committee on Nominations is actively seeking nominations (due Oct. 10) for the following Diocesan positions as called for in our new Constitution and Canons, to be elected at our Diocesan Synod, November 18-19, 2011.

**Ecclesiastical Trial Court:** Nine persons will be elected—four lay persons and five clergy—for staggered three-year terms.

**Constitution and Canons Committee:** Nine persons will be elected for staggered three-year terms.

**Provincial Council:** Three persons will be elected—one clergy and two lay persons.

**Provincial Assembly:** Twenty persons will be elected—seven clergy, seven lay persons, and six youth (aged 16-26 years old).

Youth Delegates: Four youth delegates needed for Nov. 16-22.

Note that for all of these bodies, persons from all walks of life and with a variety of gifts and experience are needed.

Please submit your nominations **by Oct. 10** to James Guthrie at the Diocesan Office, james.guthrie@anglicandistrictofvirginia.org. The Committee on Nominations will publish the list of nominees, along with their biographical information and other material, on or about November 1.

# **Community Celebration as All Saints' Opens New Facility in Woodbridge**



**Location:** All Saints' Church, 14851 Gideon Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22192 **Dates:** 6:00 pm on Friday, October 7 through 10:00 pm on Saturday, October 8

Church information: www.allsaintsdalecity.org

Main Phone: 703-670-0093

**Details:** All Saints' Church is celebrating its move to Gideon Drive in Woodbridge with a weekend-long community celebration. The festivities start at 6:00 pm on Friday, October 7 and continue until 10:00 pm on Saturday, October 8 with events and activities for the entire family. There will be moon bounces for the children, food concessions, a classic car show, and a Christian music concert on the lawn. The concert will feature All Saints' own "Embrace the Flood," "The Sister Brother Band," "Dan Morgan and Friends," and our headliner for Friday night, "Addison Road."

On Saturday morning, October 8, there will be a dedication and consecration service to celebrate the church's new space that will take place at 10:00 am and will be officiated by Bishop John Guernsey of the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic. Immediately following the dedication ceremony, there will be a reception for those in attendance.

At 2:00 pm, the celebration continues with another Christian music concert on the lawn. Performers for Saturday are "Fervency," "5 on Fire," "Revely," "Rebekah McLeod," "Deep Space Network" and our feature act for Saturday night, the Shane and Shane Tour with "Freely," "Bethany Dillon" and "Shane and Shane." The concert and celebration will conclude at 10:00 pm.

View full schedule of events.



## 40 Days of Life

Volunteers are needed to pray peacefully outside of abortion clinics, as Christians around the world join together for 40 days of simultaneous prayer and fasting for an end to abortion.

So far these campaigns have been the direct result of over 4300 babies' lives saved, 15 abortion clinics closing, and 53 abortion workers quitting their jobs -- and these are just the ones that we know about! The "40 Days for Life" campaign runs from September 28th to November 6th, and it includes three components:

- 1. Prayer and fasting for an end to abortion
- 2. Peaceful prayer vigil at the site where abortions are taking place
- 3. Educational outreach to the community

Please consider participating in this important event. For more information, please contact Jacinta at 540-692-0480 or Mary Ellen at 703-780-2922. You may also check out these websites: www.40daysforlife.com and www.40daysforlife.com/Alexandria.

### **Upcoming Events**

10.7 - 10.9

Church Dedication and Celebration
All Saints' Church
Info Link

10.22

Relationship Central Conference

Truro Church
Info Link

10.28 - 10.29

Discipleship Conference with
Robert Coleman

Contact: Brian Klotz
Info Link

11.4 - 11.6

Men's Retreat

Anglican Church of the Redeemer

Contact: Craig
(craigstephans@gmail.com) or

Dennis (dadudley@yahoo.com)

Info Link

11.18 - 11.19

Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic Annual
Synod
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The <u>Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic</u> is a regional diocese of the Anglican Church in North America dedicated to reaching North America with the transforming love of Jesus Christ. The Diocese consists of 35 member congregations.