

Northern Son



A pastoral newsletter for the Anglican Church of St George - Fairbanks, Alaska

Patronal Festival: April 23

Vol 1 No 1

Sunday Service: 11am
currently meeting at the Masonic Lodge
402 11th Street, Fairbanks

Bible Study: tba

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Tentative Schedule:

Trinity 9	August 9
Trinity 10	August 16
Trinity 14	September 13

Transition

Since it's inception, Fr Paul Bachman has served this congregation with love and has provided a wonderful start to the mission of St George in Fairbanks. I want to thank him for his service and his devotion to this flock. He is my brother in Christ and it is my humble honor to accept the position of Vicar, serving at the pleasure of the Bishop... but as importantly with the blessings of Fr Bachman.

I wish Fr Bachman well on this next assignment and hope that he will be able to visit us again in the future. May his ministry be blessed where ever he shall go. Our prayers go with him.

Although it may be a while before I can permanently relocate to Fairbanks with my family, I do expect to be visiting there regularly. The schedule is yet to be set, but I'll let you know as soon as we've worked out the details. In the mean time I will be actively looking for housing, a "day" job, and means/support for the move. As all of you who already live in the Fairbanks area know, it's no small endeavor to move there... at least not with a family. I expect to be relocating my wife of 28 years, my daughter, and my grandson with me... as well as a couple of small dogs which may be a bit challenged by the upcoming winter.

I suppose that a little bit of my background is in order...



In late 1998 I began my studies with the Cramner Anglican Seminary (now called the St Andrew's Theological College and Seminary). After completing the courses prescribed by my bishop, The Rt Rev Reg Hammond, I continued to study under him and took Holy Orders in 2001. I served as the bishop's chaplain and Deacon at St George's in Ventura for 2½ years where I was then ordained Priest in 2003. In 2005, Rev Bob Hammond of St Augustine's in Hollister and I were received into the Diocese of the West, and I planting the Dayspring mission in Fillmore. I have shared that altar with Fr Hammond (since his retirement from public education) for a couple of years now. Since coming to the DOW/ACA I have made several visits here to Fairbanks, many visits to

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I'm sending this online version of the pastoral letter because I think you may be interested in occasional updates from your pastor at the **Anglican Church of St George** - Fairbanks. If you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter, [click here](#). If you are not the person addressed in this email we apologize for any inconvenience. Please email me at mail@stgeo-fairbanks.org, call us at (866) 542-5297 so I can update my records.

St Augustine's, and have participated as much as possible in diocesan events: synods, mission retreats, clericus, ordinations, etc.

Following the end of my seminary training, I felt the need to learn more about scripture, so I enrolled in a Master's program in Biblical Studies at the Channel Island Bible College and Seminary in nearby Oxnard, California. After completing the program with an emphasis on Old Testament I graduate Valdicatorian and was invited to teach there which I did for the next 5 semesters. Along the way I began a dissertation on "The Life & Times of Myles Coverdale" which is still a work in progress and may get completed someday. This probably isn't that important, but might shed some light into my theological perspective.

Coverdale was a proto-puritan and the man responsible for compiling the first complete English language Holy Bible in 1535. He was also responsible for the first Anglican hymnal in English called "Ghostly Psalms and Spiritual Songs" about that same time. There were only 41 hymns in his little book, but that was quite an accomplishment for the time... compare that to the hundreds of hymns we have in our hymnal today and the thousand others that are out there and in use today. He is a strong influence on me.

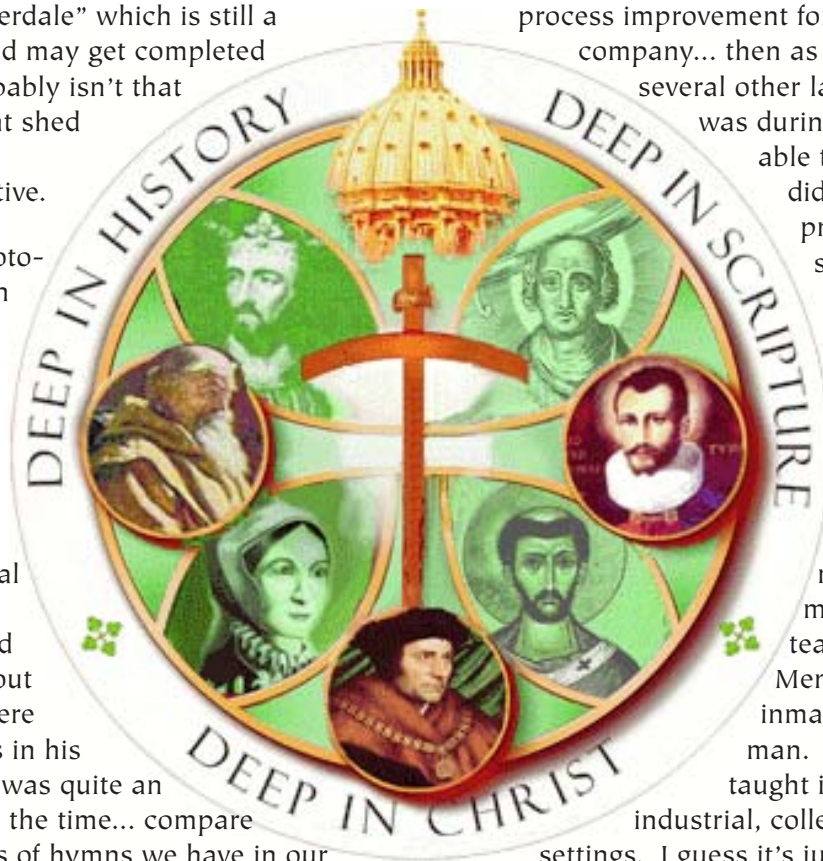
Other things that I have done...

Over the course of the years, I have led a rather eclectic life. After high school I was recruited by the LA County Sheriff's Department and stayed with them almost 5 years. During that time I was drafted 3 times and finally decided to enlist in the Army in 1973. I spent 5 1/2 years on active duty and then served in the active and inactive reserve for a total of 18 years.

After leaving the service, I began a career in the diving industry. First as a commercial and salvage diver. Then spent 6 years on Catalina Island, eventually running the hyperbaric treatment facility there while my daughter attended the one room school at the isthmus. At the end of this chapter of my life, I set up and ran the environmental test laboratory for ScubaPro, Firewire, and several other brands of sporting equipment for Johnson.

A new chapter began for me in the IT world. I took training as a system engineer and spent the next decade working doing project manager and process improvement for a bio-tech company... then as a consultant to several other large companies. It was during this time that I was able to grow in Christ and did my clerical preparation and service.

During all of this some portion of my duties always had me either teaching or preparing instructional material. I had cut my teeth as a trainer teaching Positive Mental Attitude to jail inmates as a very young man. Since then I have taught in post-secondary, industrial, college, and university settings. I guess it's just something I do.



All that being said...

I hope that this sheds a little light on who I am and where I come from. This is certainly not complete, but a smattering of things I thought you might find interesting. And, that it may spark opportunities for extended conversation.

I come to you as a clergyman of 10 years and a husband of almost 29 years. My family and I look forward to becoming part of the community here and serving you as God will have it. May He ever be present in our midst and pour His Grace and Blessings over all that we do. ✠