

*“We have a compulsion
to testify and spread
the Gospel”*

*-Bishop Ray R. Sutton
Presiding Bishop*



*“And others fell
into the good ground,
and yielded fruit,
growing up
and increasing;”*

Mark 4:8

The FRONT PORCH

**LENT 2024
REC100 NEWS**





The Most Rev. Dr. Ray R. Sutton
Presiding Bishop

REC100 *prayer*

Almighty Lord, Triune God of the harvest, we thank you for the Great Commission of your Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. By His command to spread the Good News, we are led at this time to a particular vision of planting 100 new missions and parishes in the Reformed Episcopal Church. We ask for your favor, grace, and the anointing of the Holy Spirit to fulfill the Gospel call that many might come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We humbly petition you for the workers of the harvest as well as the funding required to support them. Mindful that without your help we can do nothing, we pray for your hand of blessing to be upon us for your glory; in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

And others [seed] fell into the good ground, and yielded fruit, growing up and increasing;” Mark 4:8



The parable of the Sower, and this verse in particular, resonates with my heart as I reflect on the ministry of our planters and plants these past few years. You may recall that at General Council 2017, the seed of church growth and development was freshly sown anew in the Reformed Episcopal Church. That seed has certainly begun to yield fruit and to grow up and increase.

Just a few short weeks ago, I joined Bishop Sutton and the Rev. Michael Vinson, as St. Benedict’s Anglican Church celebrated its own growth from that of a seed, to mission, to full parish. This was a special celebration for us because St. Benedict’s is the first plant to have received direct support from your Lenten Offerings and ministry of REC100. The parish was filled with more than 125 people and, at their annual parish meeting which followed, the vision for their continued mission was evident.

This was just one of many celebrations recently. What started as a single seed in Colorado Springs multiplied and we now have two missions (Holy Cross and Christ Church) that celebrated their commissioning services this past year. Christ the King (Marietta, GA) was planted just a few short years ago and that seed is now resulting in the planting of another new mission in Canton, GA (Incarnation Anglican) as well as our 4th REC Spanish-speaking congregation in the continental US (Christo Rey). Emmanuel Church in Spartanburg, SC continues to grow; St. Mark’s in Waxahachie, TX now has the means and desire to call a full-time Vicar/Rector; St. Mark’s in Rydal, PA has planted the seed of new Chinese ministry; our parish near San Diego (Blessed Trinity) just started a new ministry for the Indian and Pakistani community; Christ the Redeemer mission in Kentucky has ‘come to life’ this past year with substantial growth; and yet another new plant was gifted a building in Darke County, Ohio and started services just a few short



months ago! You will see many of these highlighted in this newsletter. And for the sake of space, it fails to mention all the other works and faithful planters that we've featured in previous issues of this newsletter.

As I remarked to the congregation of St. Benedict's, we have worked towards planting more than 25 new parishes across the country. Unfortunately, there were some that couldn't be planted and others that were planted but did not come to fruition. Yet more seed than not have fallen on good ground and they are growing up and increasing.

It is remarkable to see the work of the Lord in this way, and it is our prayer to continue to equip and support our planters. I've recently been using the great analogy many of us have heard at one point or another, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for life." Church planting and church growth are much the same way. While our main focus in the Church is that of faithfully proclaiming the Word of God written while always leading people to the Word of God Incarnate, there are many tools which can equip our planters as they faithfully step out into the harvest-field of the Lord. It is our desire, as REC100, to provide those tools and to be the support structure which will best meet the needs of church planting in our denomination.

Your offerings are vital to accomplish this. We ask that you contribute your \$100 during Lent so we can continue planting 100 parishes. Please continue in prayer for us, but most importantly, continue to pray for all of our church planters. The Lord has given increase, and I am confident that He will continue to bless the seed which falls upon the good ground.

God bless,
Canon Jason Grote
National Canon Missioner



In this issue...

1	Letter from Canon Jason Grote
3	Christ Church, Colorado Springs, CO
4	Holy Cross, Colorado Springs, CO
5	Saint Mark's, Rydal, PA
7	Darke County Anglican Mission, OH
8	Christ the Redeemer, Owensboro, KY
9	Incarnation Anglican, Canton, GA
10	Cristo Rey, Marietta, GA

You can Give through your Local Parish During Lent

Lenten offering



As we observe this Lenten season, we ask all adults to give \$100 in order to help REC100 reach its goals of growing and establishing 100 new parishes and missions.

If you can't give through your local parish, you can donate online or mail a check payable to REC100



ATTN: REC100
Church of the Holy Communion Cathedral
17405 Muirfield Drive
Dallas, Texas 75287

www.rec100.org/donate



In 2020 Stephen and Erica Boonzaaijer began to open their home for Christian fellowship and encouragement. By the fall of that year, Bishop Sutton gave his blessing for the beginning of an REC church plant in the city of Colorado Springs. The Boonzaaijer's began meeting with several other families on Sunday evenings for dinner and Evening Prayer.



By the summer of 2021 they began meeting on Sundays for Morning Prayer and had monthly visits from the late Very Rev. Jerry Kistler and occasionally Fr. Marvin Moncrief who took pastoral oversight of the fledgling work. In early January 2022, two major shifts took place. First, as a result of Father Kistler's cancer diagnosis, Good Shepherd REC in Tyler, Texas took pastoral oversight of the extension work. Second, the work sent several of its families to assist in the launch of Holy Cross Anglican Mission in the southern part of the city under Fr. Jesse Barkalow. However, under the bishop's direction, the Boonzaaijer's continued meeting on the north side, and brought in several new families.



In May of 2023 the work was ready to move from its status as extension work to a mission. It took the name Christ Church Anglican, and in June, Fr. Tait Deems was appointed vicar of the new mission. The Deems family moved to Colorado Springs in August where they eagerly invested themselves in the full church life which had already been largely established.

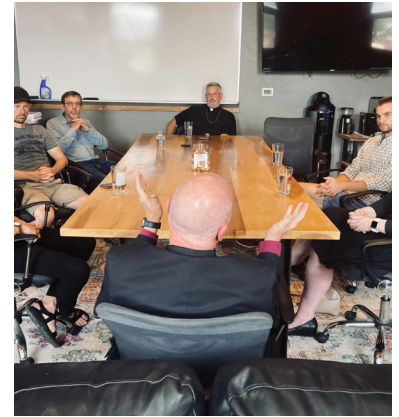


Christ Church started a homeschool co-op with 10 students that fall. The church hosts an Anglican poetry study on Wednesday evenings, as well as both men's and women's book study groups. Sundays remain full with service and catechesis in the morning, and dinner and evensong ongoing in the evening. The church also stays busy with all manner of delightful events, from Saint's day celebrations and hymn sings to dances and gingerbread house decorating. The Christ Church families are deliberately building their lives around the church and its worship, with all the fellowship and fun such a life entails.

The church continues to grow with three confirmations and three baptisms in the last year. Next steps include securing a building for public worship and bringing more people into the healthy worshipping life of the community. We thank God for everything he has accomplished already and pray that he will keep us faithful in stewarding this ministry.

In Christ,
Fr. Tait





Dear Brothers and Sisters of the REC,

It's amazing to think that just two years ago this May, Holy Cross started meeting on Sunday mornings to celebrate Holy Communion. Since then, it's been a challenging and fruitful season. The Barkalow family has grown with the birth of our third child, Sophia, who came a few weeks after our first service. She brings great joy to our family and to Holy Cross and she has taught us all about the wisdom of God (which is what Sophia means). This past September, while we were in the children's hospital with her, she was diagnosed with Williams Syndrome. The diagnosis has helped us immensely to understand what she is going through and why her development is not the same as other children. She is a witness to our family and the whole Church of God's faithfulness and provision.



Holy Cross has also grown since we started worshipping together. Our beloved Bishop, Ray Sutton, commissioned us as a mission to Colorado Springs last August in a beautiful service. We were honored to have Canon Jason Grote and Canon Tony Melton with us for the service, who have both made significant contributions to the development of Holy Cross as Canons and as friends. Over eighty people showed up for the service to celebrate with us, and we had thirty adults sign the charter and many children sign our children's charter!



Currently, we meet every Sunday morning in a local high school theater for Holy Communion. After the liturgy we share a meal and then split up into various classes for catechesis. We also have several fellowships that meet throughout the week for men and women. We continue to pray and wait on God for a permanent space in which to worship, fellowship, and offer the hospitality of the Church to our neighbors.



Thank you all for your support, prayer, and fellowship as we pursue our Lord's mission together in the power of the Holy Spirit and to the Glory of God.

In Christ,
Fr. Jesse





Saint Mark's Church is experiencing the extraordinary blessing and great honor of establishing a new church in the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. In what follows I would like to tell you the story of how God has been at work in our parish these past several months, to raise up an incredible team of planters who are eager to share the gospel and establish a new work.

Our story begins with the remarkable calling that God has given to John and Lillian Liu, Christians of Chinese origin. John and Lillian first became acquainted with us when, six years ago, they enrolled their four-year-old daughter in our parish's classical school.

After he graduated seminary, John served as an assistant pastor at an independent (non-denominational) Chinese church in northeast Philadelphia. His preaching, teaching, evangelism, and pastoral care helped the church to grow over a period of years. Lillian, right at his side, began a ministry to college students and young adults that grew enormously. Clearly the Lord was blessing their ministry. In the midst of all this fruitfulness, however, the Lord was beginning to prepare John and Lillian for something new. They felt that God was calling them into the work of church planting, and this led them to speculate as to whether an independent and non-denominational church was the most biblical ecclesial expression for this new work.

My wife Sara and I didn't know any of that when we wondered out loud to each other about whether John and Lillian might consider joining us in The Reformed Episcopal Church, so as to church plant out of St. Mark's.

In late June I met with John and asked him: "John, this might seem like a crazy idea to you, but would you and Lillian ever consider joining us in the REC?" I was more than a little surprised when John smiled and replied "Lillian and I have been talking and praying about that very thing." (He went on to explain that worshipping here with us (on "School Sundays" over the years), as well as his theological studies, had led

him to desire the liturgical worship, sacramental theology, and church government of the Reformed Episcopal Church.)

We agreed that to help us gain greater clarity as to next steps, we would pray daily over the course of the month of July – asking God to either confirm or correct this emerging idea.

When the four of us met again in early August, all were in agreement – we believed that God was calling us to work together through St. Mark's to plant a new parish of the diocese. After Bishop Gillin gave us his permission and blessing, John resigned from his church position and he and his family began to worship with us here on Sunday mornings. Since that time more and more people have joined us, desiring both to join our church and also to be a part of a church plant sometime in the future. (Even though there is a significant language barrier for a majority of the adults that desire to be a part of our parish, I have encouraged as many as possible to worship with us as often as they are able so that they can become increasingly acquainted with prayerbook worship, which is to say a reformed-catholic approach to liturgy, preaching, and the sacraments.)

One of the commitments that John and I share is for all involved (whether English or Chinese speakers) to regard themselves as being members of just one congregation. In other words, what we are envisioning is very different from a scenario in which St. Mark's is simply the host/landlord to some other church that rents space and has their own service at some other time. In that scenario, you really have two distinct entities that have no relation to each other. That is not what we're going for here! The phrase that I have been using with John and his group is: "Before you can go out, you have to come fully in." What I mean by this is that before being sent out to plant a church in our diocese, the entire group must first be fully incorporated into the community of this parish, and learn to live in keeping with a prayerbook rule of life.



To accomplish this, John and his family and most of the “launch team” attend our English language service at 10 am, after which the children (all of whom understand English very well) attend Sunday School with the rest of the parish children. So as to promote fellowship and unity, the entire mixed-language group often then share a meal, before John leads a Chinese-language service each Sunday afternoon.

Bibles and hymnals in Chinese have been placed in our pews, and on a few occasions bulletins printed in both English and Chinese have facilitated mixed-language services. Our Christmas Day service of Holy Communion was one such service. Parts of the service were in Chinese, others were in English, and some were in both. The sermon was in both languages, but the most glorious aspect was the congregational singing. Well-known tunes to classic Christmas carols and hymns facilitated a joyful and robust mingling of languages, as voices were lifted in praise to God and in celebration of our Lord's nativity.

Another highlight of this ministry took place in late Epiphany. After several months of evangelism and catechesis, we had the great honor of seeing the Kingdom of God grow through the ministration of Holy Baptism and the rite of Confirmation. During a Saturday evening Choral Evensong, eighteen adults and children professed their faith in Christ and were baptized into His Church. Their ages ranged from adults in their seventies, to a five-year-old youth (and everything in-between). Where had they come from? Some had been believers for a while but had never been baptized – but half of the group had come to faith in the past months as a result of God using the evangelistic efforts of John and Lillian's new group. Praise be to God!

On the following day (Sunday), we regathered for worship and Confirmation with Bishop Gillin. Forty-two people (thirty of our Chinese brethren and twelve from the English group) received the laying on of hands, and were admitted to the Lord's Table.

What's next? Over the course of the next year (or so), St. Mark's will continue to incubate and catechize this wonderful and ever-expanding group of believers, praying that God would continue to add to the number of those who are being saved (cf. Acts 2:47). As John studies within St. Mark's Fellow Program, is trained as a lay-reader, takes classes at the Reformed Episcopal Seminary, and progresses through his postulancy process – our goal will be to help him and those whom he will be pastoring establish a solid identity as Reformed Episcopalians, along with a deepening vision for outreach and planting. Your prayers for this fledgling and growing work would be greatly appreciated.

Fr. Patterson (D. Min) is the Rector of St. Mark's Church in Rydal, PA and the founding Headmaster of St. Mark's Classical Academy. He is the Dean of the Convocation of Pennsylvania and Chair of the Pastoral Theology Department at The Reformed Episcopal Seminary.



The Lord be with you. 主與你同在。
And with thy spirit. 也與你的靈同在。
 Lift up your hearts. 敞開你們的心扉。
We lift them up unto the Lord. 我們向主敞開心扉。





DARKE COUNTY ANGLICAN CHURCH

Dear Friends,

Some of you have been following my and Heather’s journey to plant a church in our town and I wanted to give an update on what the end of 2023 has held. By the end of November, I (Andrew) had been ordained to the priesthood, the church I was an interim at had called a fulltime rector (pastor), and things looked right to introduce Anglican worship to northern Darke County. So, we picked December 3, 2023, as our start date. That date was the first Sunday in Advent which kicks off the new year in the church calendar.

Since starting services, we have solidified those who would want to join us in this adventure, we have seen quite a few supportive friends come visit, and we have met a new family that would like to join us in planting this church. We have held weekly communion services, we had a “Christmas Eve” styled service a week before, and we held our Christmas day Eucharist at the Village Green, a local rehabilitation community near our house. Through all this God has helped solidify those who would want to be part of the early launch team, and even brought a new family to us who are excited about Anglican worship in their community.

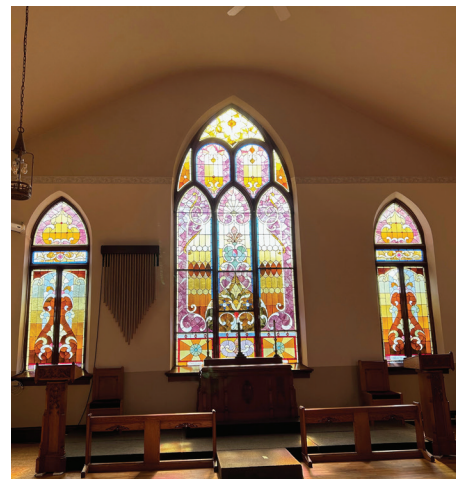
January 2024 will kick off a season of gathering and fundraising. We are looking for monthly supporters. We are hoping that God would gather to us 12 committed folks to join our launch team and get us to an attendance of 30 by the end of next year. 50 by the end of 2025. This will mean a new year filled with phone calls, coffee meeting, and dinner invites (don’t be shocked if you get one).



Please continue to pray for us, we know three things for sure, this is God’s work, and we are seeking his will and favor in this. We know that we are his means for this work, and he intends to use our strengths, to show off his power in our weaknesses, and to gather his people. Finally, we know that the devil does not easily give up territory, that this work will come with heartache. Jesus Christ invites us to follow him into his death on the way to sharing with the joy of his resurrection. Pray that we would keep that perspective in the harder times.

In the meantime, thank you to those who have already joined us in visiting, in giving, and in praying. I am thankful to my bishop, Peter Manto and the REC family for their enduring support and I look forward to writing you again soon.

Best regards,
Fr. Andrew Costa
Darke County Anglican Mission



CHRIST *the* REDEEMER

REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Beginning in 2016 as an oratory (while I pursued the diaconate and then the priesthood), we moved from one place to another for worship, growing slowly, meeting on Sunday afternoons for Holy Communion. We prayed fervently that the Lord would bring a family with children so that other families might be encouraged to come. The Lord heard our prayers; now we have many children and teenagers.

We had the opportunity for Sunday morning worship a year ago, but that would require increased funds to make everything happen. We praise the Lord for Bishop Manto's guidance and the help of REC100 to our parish. This past year the Lord has brought us more families and our ASA grew from 24 to 41 in 2023. We have gained mission status. As the REC100 funding will decrease this year, the parish can now make up the difference. We continue to see baptisms and confirmations.

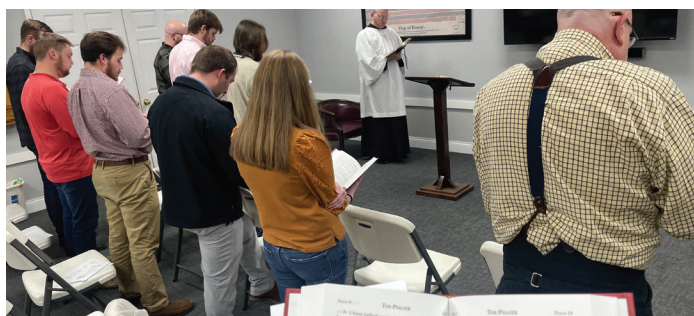
How can I give adequate thanks for all the Lord has done? In addition to our deacon, we now have another young man in seminary. Our week is full: men's and ladies' Bible studies, Wed Evening Prayer, and Fri Morning Prayer. We're starting midweek Holy Communion this month. Another large confirmation class begins this month. We have a monthly hymn sing with the local PCA church. We assist monthly with Mentor Kids.

And we are multiplying! We held our first men's retreat in September, and 30 came, ten from about two hours west of us! Long story short, we now have an oratory started there. Our men assist them three times a month. We look forward to bringing them into the fold of our diocese.

SDG,

David+

Fr. David Goodwin, Vicar



In September of 2022, I moved to Georgia with my wife, Bailey, and sons (Joey, 3, and Peter, 1) to begin my curacy with Fr. Tony Melton at Christ the King Anglican in Marietta, and to prepare to launch a daughter church in Canton, 30 minutes north. I was coming from The Chapel of the Cross in Dallas, Texas, as a young deacon fresh out of seminary with a lot to learn, and the Lord has used these past 18 months to challenge and stretch me in every way. Since arriving, God has faithfully led us all the way to the brink of embarking on this new adventure of church planting, and I can hardly express my excitement. Canton is very much baptist country, dominated by mega-churches, with a startling absence of historic Christianity across the county. And although the population here has boomed in the past decade, the percentage of people involved in a local church has dropped to well less than half. The harvest is indeed plentiful, and I trust that the Lord has called us here at this time for precisely this work.



To that end, in May of 2023 I was ordained as a priest, our launch team was commissioned in October, and we are now set to launch weekly services in March of this year. The past six months especially have been packed with dozens of gathering events, interest meetings, dinners, fellowship events, community outreaches, preview services, and many hundreds of conversations over coffee, sharing the news and the vision of the church plant with new friends in the community. Along the way, our launch team doubled to nearly twenty families, and God also provided us with a fantastic initial meeting space at a local Methodist church. I could not ask for a better team or a better space to launch with, but am daily overwhelmed with gratitude at God's faithfulness.



God has continually answered our prayers, and brought faithful people alongside of us in this mission. Another answer to prayer is the expected arrival of our third child this August. What a year this will be! Please partner with us in this season by keeping Incarnation in your prayers, that the kingdom would grow and God be glorified through this mission!



In Christ,
Fr. Spencer Amaral
Missioner, Incarnation Anglican, Canton, Ga





Fr. Yudel, his wife (Lisandra), and their daughter (Sofia) moved to Christ the King Anglican in Marietta, GA on July 27, 2023. Immediately, Yudel+ began his “planting curacy” with CTK. The plan for his planting curacy has 3 stages. Stage 1 involved getting his feet on the ground in Georgia by figuring out his half-time staff role at CTK, finding a home, a part-time job, and a school for Sofia. He and Lisandra also began English lessons as part of the curacy. Most importantly, they’ve been gaining the trust and friendship of the clergy and laity at Christ the King.

On January 1, 2024, Fr. Yudel entered phase 2 of his planting curacy! The CTK vestry has now granted him a budget for hosting monthly gathering events for Spanish speaking people in the area around his home and the church. (The Perez family live just down the street from CTK.) Yudel+ is planning his first big gathering event in mid-February and a formal interest meeting in mid-March.

After spending April and May doing a lot of networking, outreach, and hosting, he hopes to start a regular fellowship group in June that will be the seed group of a future launch team. He will start a formal launch team when he has gathered 12 households committed to planting Cristo Rey. This will be phase 3 of his planting curacy, at which point he will turn his focus on planting a “church within a church” at Christ the King. Please pray for the Perez family and the Spanish-speaking people in northwest Atlanta!

In Christ,
Fr. Tony Melton





Reformed Episcopal Values



www.REC100.org
rec100@rechurch.org

17405 Muirfield Dr.
Dallas, TX 75287
800-732-3433

Traditional Anglicanism

- Ancient & Historic Model of the Church as expressed through the Formularies of the English Reformation regarding Faith & Order
- Doctrinal Standards of the Reformed Episcopal Church:
 - The Holy Scripture as God's inerrant, infallible & unchangeable Word
 - Book of Common Prayer (REC2003)
 - 39 Articles of Religion
 - Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral
 - Declaration of Principles
 - Jerusalem Declaration

Reverent & liturgical worship with comprehensive churchmanship

- Historic Book of Common Prayer in Elizabethan or Contemporary Language as approved by the Reformed Episcopal Church
- Sacramental Worship with Biblical Preaching
- Customs reflective of varying cultures (African American, Anglo, Latin, etc)
- Comprehensive Churchmanship (low, high, etc)
- Music expressing the beauty and character of God, and the hymnody of the historic church – most especially as contained in the 1940 Hymnal and REC Book of Common Praise 2017

A Biblical world & life view

- Testing all things by Scripture
- Biblical & Traditional views on:
 - Marriage & Family
 - Gender & Sexuality
 - Sanctity of Human Life
 - Morality based on the 10 Commandments and teachings of Jesus

Being an always missional community

- Seeking to provide ways for unbelievers to 'belong' before they 'believe'
- Willing to care for the least, the last, the lost, and the lonely
- Committed to the support of both domestic and foreign mission
- Raising up and equipping Missionaries and Church planters

Discipleship & personal commitments of all members

- Ministry that equips laity to be active in all aspects of the work of the Church
- Ministry that develops future leadership both lay & clergy
- Establishing Christian schools and Christian education at all levels
- Providing Biblical and faithful seminaries
- Encourages the Tithe (10%) as the normative model of giving