



Mission Trip Renewal



This fall, I will be on Sabbatical for Clergy Renewal. Mary and I will be spending the majority of our time in one of the countries of the new Anglican Diocese of North Africa, the newest diocese in the Anglican Communion. We will observe, partner, and participate in ministry in this predominately Muslim portion of the world, and will have the opportunity to attend the Diocese of North Africa's **first** Synod meeting with

clergy from Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, and Djibouti. Archbishop Samy Fawzy will preside. After attending the New Wineskins for Global Missions Conference, Mary and I will fly to North Africa on September 28th and stay for just under seven weeks.

For the past few months, I have been working out the details, so everything will go smoothly here at Faith in my time away. Our Parish Council, staff, and many faithful lay leaders are prepared and looking forward to spreading their wings in my absence.

If you have questions, comments, or words of encouragement, please plan to visit with us after worship on September 4th. We will be sharing details of our Sahara Sojourn which we are unable to put in print.

Clergy Renewal Sabbatical FAQs

(Originally developed by Dr. Bill Zachry in 2014 and update by Dr. Jill Amos)

1. What is the biblical basis of a "Clergy Renewal Sabbatical?"

A Clergy Renewal Sabbatical is a period of time a congregation sets aside for their pastor to receive spiritual refreshment, to study, and to experience ministry in a different setting.

An extended "time apart" for renewal appears in the lives of several Biblical leaders. The book *Clergy Renewal* states, "Jesus' forty days in the wilderness marked a turning point in his ministry. Moses' time spent tending sheep helped change his perspective on life so he could hear God's call. David, too, tended sheep and thereby learned valuable lessons about God's care and provision. Paul, struck down on the road to Damascus, disappeared into the desert of Arabia for three years and emerged with a new vision. By stepping completely out of our current ministry situation, we are freed to embark on a holy trek."

Continued on next pages

Our Path of Christian Maturity

Worship  Grow  Serve

The Faith Flash

Are you receiving our email newsletter, *The Faith Flash*? *The Faith Flash* comes out weekly with timely information and reminders. Sign up today by going to our website (www.faithanglicanchurch.org), or calling the church office (755-4848).

2. How often do clergy usually take a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical?

Following the Biblical model of the Sabbath, the rest for the land, and the Jubilee Year, it is customary for congregations to offer a sabbatical to their pastor every five to seven years. Father Herb's letter of agreement provides for a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical every seven years. By this standard, the time is right at Faith Anglican Church for a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical – as Fr. Herb took his last full Sabbatical eight (8) years ago, and took a partial one two years ago.

3. Why is it important for clergy to take a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical?

A dedicated pastor is never really off-duty. He is available 24/7 to address the needs of parishioners. By striving to meet the demands made on them, many pastors become exhausted and lose their effectiveness after a number of years. A period of rest, study, travel, and reflection can rejuvenate pastors so that they return with energy, enthusiasm, and spiritual strength. A Clerical Renewal Sabbatical is not a vacation, but an opportunity to be all that God calls us to be.

4. When will Fr. Herb's Clergy Renewal Sabbatical begin and end?

The Clergy Renewal Sabbatical will begin on September 19th and end on November 27th. This is a period of ten weeks, including nine weeks of sabbatical and one week of vacation.

5. How is a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical funded?

During the course of the sabbatical, Fr. Herb receives his normal salary. Additional expenses for travel, education, etc. are partially funded by donations. If you would like to donate to Fr. Herb's Clergy Renewal Sabbatical experience, write a check to Faith Anglican Church, for "North Africa Mission" or via the Tithe.ly App. The other expense during this time is for supply clergy for preaching and pastoral care. The Parish Council has funded the supply clergy budget.

6. What if I would like to get in touch with Father Herb?

Though parishioners are not normally in contact with their pastor during their sabbatical, contact may be made under the following circumstances: 1. The death of a parishioner or 2. The loss of a key staff member. Our Senior Warden, Dr. Jill Amos, is our point of contact with Father Herb under those circumstances. Father Frederic and Father Noland will be available to help with pastoral needs.

7. Who will carry on Father Herb's duties while he is gone?

Planning and Administration Done ahead of time by Fr. Herb
Chairmanship of the Parish Council Dr. Jill Amos
Pastoral Care and Crisis Fr. Noland and Fr. Frederic
Sunday Sermons Priests and Deacons from our Diocese
Monthly Music Review Becky Conner
Weekly Bulletin Review Candi Brown

8. Why is it important for the congregation to support a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical?

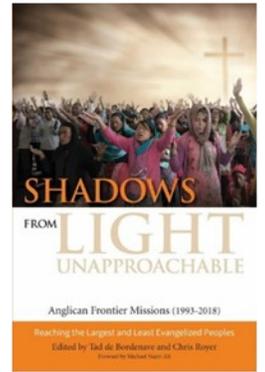
When a pastor takes a Clergy Renewal Sabbatical the congregation will benefit from the opportunity to reflect on its mission and ministry, experience different gifts of the Spirit, and build new relationships. It is common for congregations to see ministry primarily as the responsibility of the paid clergy, and congregations that become overly dependent on clergy are clearly more vulnerable than those that have developed the capacity to manage the needs of ministry for several months at a time in the absence of their pastoral leader.

Effective congregations exhibit a good balance between clergy and lay leadership. Granting sabbatical leave is a great way for congregants to once again claim certain roles within a congregation that correspond with the gifts they have been given by God. When a pastor returns from sabbatical-leave the congregation will also have a much better understanding of how the needs of the congregation are met on an ongoing basis and their gifts for ministry.

So considering your gifts and interests, in what area of ministry might you become involved? How might you become more engaged in the life of the church?

9. How can I help this Clergy Renewal Sabbatical period be a success?

- Be in prayer for Fr. Herb, and Fr. Noland and Fr. Frederic (Pastoral Care), our guest clergy, and our congregation.
- During the sabbatical period read *Shadows From Light Unapproachable* by Tad de Bordenave, a book about “reaching the largest and least evangelized peoples.”
- Follow Fr. Herb and Mary’s Sahara Sojourn on FaceBook.
- Donate to Faith Anglican Church, “North Africa Mission.”
- Host a guest priest or deacons in your home.



10. How will we celebrate the beginning and end of the Clergy Renewal Sabbatical?

Leave-taking and return are significant moments, appropriately marked in worship. In the worship service immediately preceding the sabbatical we will acknowledge the upcoming mission in prayer, in litany, and through the exchange of symbols. Upon return, the congregation will welcome Fr. Herb and Mary back through prayer, litany, and the exchange of symbols. We have also planned for a “re-entry” period of a few weeks after Fr. Herb’s return to help him catch up on what has happened in his absence.

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

In the Lord’s Prayer we pray, “Give us this day our daily bread.” This prayer echoes back 1500 years, to God providing daily bread (Manna) from heaven in the Sinai Wilderness after the Exodus from Egypt. The Israelites tangibly knew that God was their provider! When they entered the Promised Land God continued to provide for His people, but not through raining down Manna. God provided fields, flocks, and vineyard, and the strength and intelligence to work. The Lord reminds us that, “it is he who gives you power to get wealth” (Deuteronomy 8:18). When you pray, “Give us this day our daily bread,” you are: 1) Remembering that ultimately the Lord is your provider. 2) Actively asking Him for your provision.

Events to Look Forward to in October

October 2nd — Evangelism Classes Begin

October 8th — Blessing of the Beasts

October 20-22 — Prayer Conference in Marion, AR at Trinity in the Fields

October 23rd — Chili cook-Off



AUTUMN BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 22nd

All articles for The Vine are due in the office the *second Monday* of the month, send to: laqueta@faithanglicanchurch.org

Service Times:
Sunday:
 Sunday Worship 10:00am
 Holy Communion every Sunday

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Grow Group Ministries

Do you belong to any of the small groups at Faith? If not, why not? Small group participation increases your faith and your sense of connection to others in the church. You develop friendships, find prayer partners, and have a ready-made support group. Currently at Faith, there are several groups for adults - Sunday morning adult Sunday school at 9:00 a.m., Monday night ladies Bible study (via Zoom) at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday morning men's Bible study (via Zoom) at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday morning ladies Bible study at 10:00 a.m. at the church, Tuesday night monthly prayer group, and Daughters of the Holy Cross monthly on the 2nd Saturday at 10:30 a.m. For children there is Children's Church on Sunday morning and AWANA on Sunday night. For the youth there is Sunday School on Sunday morning and Youth Group on Sunday night. If none of these groups fit your needs or your schedule, you might consider forming a new group. You can meet at the church, in a home, at a restaurant, or via Zoom. There is always room for more. If you would like to start a new group, contact Fr. Herb or Sudy Fisher. Blessings abound when two or more are gathered in His name.



Fellowship Events

We will have our **Fall Fellowship Back to School Breakfast** at 8:30 on Sunday before service on September 11th. The Theme will be old school: Wear your school activities attire or whatever interests you had or have back in school. Cheerleader, Pom, Letter jackets or Sweaters as well as horns, pickleball paddles and pictures can be displayed on the tables in the Narthex. We will have a light brunch with egg casseroles, fruit, and bread to enjoy. This should be a fun event.

Our 8th Street dinner will be on Sept. 15 and we bring bulk items as well. More later.

Esco Satchfield