

Anglican Community of St Mark (ACM)
Community Coordinator Report
6th Convocation 6 November 2024



This report covers the activity of the ACM Community Coordinator from October 2023 to October 2024.

I would like to thank the Standing Committee, Fraser (its Chair) and Dale for their support and guidance through the year.

The Community Coordinator is a contractor to ACM on the basis of 64 hours per month and we thank the St Johns Trust for grants to enable the educational components of ACM ministry. We will know mid-November if our funding application has been successful for 2025.

Networking

Lynfield Parish became a member of ACM.

A good number of clergy and laity have signed up as Individual Members, including three from Polynesia.

Dale and I attended the installation of Rev Chris Murphy as Vicar of Holy Trinity, Devonport. A welcome was sent to Rev Pete Watson on starting at St Pauls Symonds St, and we attended the Installation of Pas Jonathan Macfarlane as Vicar of Katikati on 30 October.

I have Zoomed or phoned most of the Vicars of ACM parishes and Vicars who are Individual members (at least 20 calls) and had an extended zoom call with +Stephen from Dunedin (prior to his announcing his departure).

Dale and I have had Sunday visits to St Margaret's, Hillsborough, St Mark's, Nawton, Tirau Community Church, St Francis, Hamilton, St George's, Papatoetoe and All Saints, Bryant Park, Hamilton.

Considerable effort has been spent in networking with Tikanga Pakeha (TP) representatives of the TP Conference by email, phone and Zoom in regard to Waikato/Taranaki Diocese's proposal to create an "opt-in" provision for parishes regarding same-gender marriage, something explicitly rejected by GS in 2014. It is on a slow trajectory but we appreciate the work Rev Heather Major is doing to gather people around the issue.

We have experimented with a new format Mailchimp based Newsletter. The first went out in June and the next one will go out ahead of Christmas.

ACM banners are available for all ACM parishes at \$150 each.

Internationally

There is an growing international network of "orthodox stayers" and Fraser and +Steve attended the Communion Partners Conference in Florida in January. There is a desire to continue those international links.

We have received email contact from Bishop Richard Jackson (Bishop of Hereford, UK) who with his wife Deborah will be having a sabbatical in NZ in January-February next year. He is keen to hear about ACM and the NZ situation in advance of that, and we in turn are interested to keep informed on developments in the UK.

Website

Web site updates have become regular, especially in the "News" section. We are indebted to Rev Barbara Noordanus for her skills in keeping our website up to date. Thank you Barbara. Our Web-host was

changed from HUSK to TwoSparrows with minimum impact and we now have much closer operational control.

The REGEN24 Conference

was held at Hillsborough 8-10 May with great speakers and was a great success. Many thanks to Sarah McDermott for managing the delivery of the conference at St Margaret's. A highlight was that as well as almost complete attendance from Vicars of ACM parishes, many Vicars who were neither ACM Individual members nor Vicars of ACM Parishes attended. I saw a great deal of "next-generation" networking happening, which was very encouraging. We intend to upload the talks to our YouTube channel as they become available. REGEN 25 dates will be May 22-24 (Thursday-Saturday).

General Synod

Fraser, Dale and I attended General Synod in Hastings May 19-23 and, through liaison with the GS office, were provided with a most splendid display area for our two banners, hand-outs and food treats (provided by Dale). It proved an excellent opportunity to chat with people to explain ACM and do some recruiting. I am sure it was an encouragement to any "orthodox" members of GS, and we were warmly welcomed by ++Don as Chair of GS.

The "Leadership Pipeline and Pathway to Ordination"

This document was completed, circulated to members, and shared with the Bishops for their consideration. Fraser and I meet with ++Justin and others to hear the result of their consideration late November. We are pleased to report that Holy Trinity, Tauranga has a training programme linked from Bishopdale in Nelson, Tirau parish routinely hosts 20 Interns from a Waikato Bible College, and St Margaret's, Hillsborough has started a Ministry Training Hub in relationship with the Venn Foundation. We recognise that we can prepare theologically orthodox candidates for ministry, at all levels, to a high degree of learning ahead of application to Diocesan Selection processes. We commend to all clergy the benefits of identifying and training leadership within their parishes.

Extraordinary Convocation

A meeting of delegates at an Extraordinary Convocation held 2 October 2024 unanimously agreed to adopt a revised ACM Constitution 2024 which:

- 1) meets the requirement for all Incorporated Societies to re-work their constitutions,
- 2) prepares ACM to apply for charitable status,
- 3) creates a new Associate Membership for groups and parishes, with the same representation at Convocation as Affiliates, but without the protection of requiring their clergy to be members of ACM or subscribe to its beliefs and discipline, and,
- 4) formalises Standing Resolutions.

ACM SC Retreat and "Operational Statement"

The ACM SC Retreat at the end of September reiterated the 2022 "Operational Statement" but strongly felt lead to understand ACM as "a missional community inspired by Mark 1:15, empowering and uniting like-minded church communities and individuals in the proclamation of the gospel around our five foundational values."

Personally, we enjoyed a visit to the Far North, the highlight being a visit to the Marsden Cross memorial at Oihi, Rangihoua Bay, Bay of Islands. Well worth the extended drive and trek at the end and rather strengthening of one's faith and perspectives on all things. Humbling and helpful to recognise the faithfulness and hardships of the original missionaries and to be inspired by their faith and hope.

Blessings

-Paul W

ACM Community Coordinator.

November 2024