



### St. Alban's, Arlington, welcomes new priest

The Rev. Kevin Johnson, rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, in Washington,

NC, has been called as the new priest-in-charge of St. Alban's,

Arlington, meeting in Theatre Arlington.



It is a homecoming for Johnson. He grew up in Arlington, was confirmed at St. Alban's, and graduated from Nolan High School. He graduated from the University of Texas, served in the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, and worked as an assistant professor of ROTC at Texas State University. In 2000 he entered Virginia Theological Seminary. After seminary, he became a curate at St. Francis, San Antonio. In 2007 he became rector of St. Peter's. He is fluent in Spanish. He and his wife Sandy are moving back to Texas and plan to be here by the end of April.

### For Lent, take something on

Rayford B. High, Jr.

I don't know about you, but it seems to me that 2015 is moving along very quickly.

Ash Wednesday is February 18! Lent, with all its blessings, is upon us.

Over my years in ministry, I have found spiritual growth and value in using Lent to spend less time worrying about me and instead focusing on others, especially those who have not been given the opportunities I have as an Episcopalian in this country. How about instead of giving up something,



think about taking on something, such giving to some ministry or group who is making a difference in the lives of those less fortunate?

Here's one suggestion - the 2009 General Convention designated Lent as a time to encourage the church "to remember and support the life-saving work of Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD)."

The first Sunday in Lent is the “official” day, but certainly congregations may observe Episcopal Relief & Development Day on any Sunday



during the Lenten season, or indeed, any Sunday of the year.

You can order the 2015 Lenten Meditation booklets at [episcopalrelief.org/lent](http://episcopalrelief.org/lent) or by calling 1-866-937-2772. You also can sign up to receive daily meditations by email.

This year’s meditations were written by a diverse group of Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion leaders and focus on the five “I Believe” statements at the core of ERD’s 75th Anniversary efforts:

- *I believe that everyone should have access to clean water.*
- *I believe that no one should go hungry.*
- *I believe that all children and families deserve a healthy start in life.*
- *I believe that no one should live in poverty.*
- *I believe that together we can heal a hurting world.*

These five ‘I Believe’ statements describe ERD’s commitment to those living without the basics for life. Lent can be a time for us in our diocese to reflect on Jesus’ call in Matthew 25 to care for those in need. How can our lives mirror the teachings of Jesus? Our congregations are doing excellent

outreach in their neighborhoods – and some far beyond their neighborhoods. ERD further connects us to needs beyond our borders and offers us the opportunity to engage with the work of easing those needs in a deeper way.

I urge our congregations to consider joining with others across The Episcopal Church for Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday. On that day, Episcopalians are invited to pray for those living in poverty and dedicate a special offering for where help is most needed, through ERD’s 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund.

**Observe  
Lent in our  
hearts and  
in the  
world.**

And let the Rev. Janet Nocher, diocesan ERD coordinator, know about your plans.

Most of all, my prayer is that all of us will find a way to observe a holy Lent, both in our hearts and in the wider world.

### **Visit ERD’s photo exhibit in Dallas or online**

Learn more about ERD’s 75 years of worldwide work by visiting their traveling anniversary photo exhibit, which will be at the Episcopal School of Dallas, 4100 Merrell Rd., Dallas, 75229, March 19 to April 2, noon to 7 p.m. Or visit it online at <http://bit.ly/15gob3F>.



Photo by Katie Sherrod

## General Convention meets this summer in Salt Lake City

The Rt. Rev. Rayford B. High, Jr., and lay and clergy deputies from the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth will be taking part in the General Convention of The Episcopal Church June 25 to July 3 in Salt Lake City.

The General Convention is the governing body of The Episcopal Church. It meets every three years as a bi-cameral legislature that includes the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops., which are made up of deputies and bishops representing each diocese of the church.

Our deputies and alternates were elected at the 2013 diocesan Convention. Lay deputies are Marti Fagley, St. Francis, Willow Park; Kathleen Wells, Trinity, Fort Worth; Katie Sherrod, St. Luke's in the Meadow, Fort Worth; and Brent Walker, the Episcopal Church of Wichita Falls.

Clergy deputies are Carlye Hughes, Trinity, Fort Worth; Curt Norman, St. Luke's, Stephenville; David Madison, All Saints' Episcopal School; and Hope Benko, All Saints' Episcopal School.

It is important to note that these elected representatives are deputies, not delegates. They each are expected to use prayerful discernment in making decisions and casting

votes, rather than simply follow instructions from their dioceses or bishops. Openness to the working of the Holy Spirit is a necessary attribute of a deputy.



This General Convention will deal with recommendations of the Task Force to Reimagine the Church (TREC) as well as resolutions from the

commissions, committees, agencies, and boards (CCABs) of The Episcopal Church, diocesan conventions, and individual bishops and deputies. Most resolutions can be found in the Blue Book reports of the various bodies of the church. Both the TREC report and the Blue Book are at [generalconvention.org](http://generalconvention.org).

This convention also will elect the next presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church. Nominees for presiding bishop will be announced in early May. The House of Bishops elects and the House of Deputies confirms the election. The closing Eucharist of convention on July 3 will be a service of welcome for the new presiding bishop, who will be formally seated in office at the National Cathedral in November.

Follow events leading up to and during General Convention at our diocesan website, [episcopaldiocesefortworth.org](http://episcopaldiocesefortworth.org).

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# COMMON PURPOSE

## SHARING GOD'S MISSION



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