



## **Desert Call Ministries Welcomes Fr. Austin Mansfield**

Fr. Austin Mansfield joins Desert Call Ministries as Director of Operations which will allow the ministry to expand and reach more people with the healing power of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Austin is an Anglican Priest who started his ministry and ordination process in San Diego. As he began his last assignment in the U.S. Navy as a senior chief mass communication specialist, he felt a strong calling from the Lord in a conversion experience during a mountain-top Cursillo retreat. Fr. Austin entered Bethel Seminary shortly afterward, in March 2002, taking classes at night and graduating magna cum laude in June 2006 with a Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained a deacon in January 2007 in San Diego as part of the Diocese of Bolivia, and retired from the Navy. He started a church plant the next month, and began leading a second congregation as well. Eight months later, in September, he was ordained a priest. In addition to his priestly duties, Fr. Austin works for the Marine Corps Recruit Depot as their media/community relations officer. He holds a master's degree in international relations and a bachelor's in management.

Fr. Austin replaces Debbie Sawtelle who is "retiring" to return to classroom teaching.

## **Registration Underway for Disciples of Healing Training**



The Disciples in Healing mentoring program is offering an early sign up time for the Fall season. Between June 1st and 30th, anyone can register for the Fall semester entitled "The Acts of the Holy Spirit." This semester will run from Sept. 1st through Dec. 31st. Fr. Josh will offer 2 sessions of teachings that include a guide/workbook and CD for each session, plus 2 six hour gathering meetings located in the San Diego, CA and Dallas, TX areas. The gathering dates for San Diego are: Sept. 19 & Nov. 7 and for Dallas are: Sept. 26 and Nov. 21. Along with the teachings, Fr. Josh will be available via his email to personally answer any questions and offer

guidance. For additional information and special rates for these training sessions please contact Carolyn Burns at [carol.burns@earthlink.net](mailto:carol.burns@earthlink.net) or visit [www.desertcall.org](http://www.desertcall.org)

## Desert Call Ministries Testimony

All healing comes from God, but sometimes he likes to sign his handiwork to make sure we remember it.

As the new director of Desert Call Ministries, I'd like to share a recent healing experience with you that affected me personally



My stepson, John, and his wife, Kim, came to San Diego to stay with us in September last year. John had developed a tumor inside his skull and outside his brain. The tumor was benign but it was causing grand mal seizures so severe that nearly all his molars had shattered from his jaw clamping so tightly. His heart rate would skyrocket to the 240 range.

His surgery in October resulted in full removal of the tumor, with a good prognosis for recovery. However, he kept having seizures and could barely stand or walk unaccompanied. Numerous times, we had to call an ambulance to take him to the emergency room when the seizures wouldn't stop. One trip resulted in a 30-day stay in the hospital.

John is on multiple anti-seizure medications, which had made him lethargic. On a very good day, he could walk a few blocks, slowly, with Kim right beside him, helping him stay balanced. He could not go up or down the stairs in our house by himself. Kim had to be with him every moment in case he fell or had a seizure.

John's eyes were usually unfocused and drowsy looking. He slouched, and his head hung down as though his neck was too weak to support his head. Doctors hadn't found anything wrong on his MRI, and they attributed it mostly to his medications.

While not a very good quality of life, it was still a tremendous improvement over his pre-surgery condition.

I had arranged with Fr. Josh for a Healing Mission in San Diego May 1-2 at Rancho Hills Church. Mary and I brought John and Kim with us, hoping that the Holy Spirit would ease some of John's discomfort.

Friday night went well, but Saturday morning brought overcast skies and imminent rain. The change in barometric pressure on overcast days made John prone to headaches and seizures.

During the Saturday morning session, John felt really bad and had to lie down. We placed him on his side, and covered him with his prayer quilt. Some of the prayer ministers from Desert Call Ministries prayed over him and, after a half-hour or so, John felt a little better and was able to sit up. He finished the day and enjoyed the rest of the healing mission.

Sunday morning, when I got back home after our morning service, John was standing up straight, eyes wide open and sparkling with that light that tells you that the person inside is awake and coherent. And he was smiling. It's the first time we'd seen him really smile since he'd been with us, and Kim couldn't recall him looking that well since he'd been diagnosed in August of last year.

The cane that John had been using for support is now mostly a fashion accessory for him. Tuesday morning, while Kim was still asleep, John came downstairs on his own, poured water in the coffee maker and made coffee. He then poured a mug for his mom and brought it to her in the living room as a surprise. It worked - that simple task was well beyond our expectations for John when we started the weekend.

The next night after dinner, John walked over to where I was sitting and put his cane on the ottoman. He then picked up my dinner plate and bowl, and

brought them into the kitchen.

Walking, sitting up straight, and carrying dishes and a cup of coffee may not seem like major events to the average person. But these everyday activities that we take for granted were well beyond the scope of realistic expectations for John, at least for the foreseeable future.

The immediate, drastic change in John's condition is not explainable by normal healing patterns. It is without a doubt the miraculous intervention of our loving Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I was a hospital corpsman in the U.S. Navy before becoming a journalist and received the same anatomy and physiology training as any medical student. The standard diagnostic paradigms I learned do not even come close to explaining this. God has chosen to reveal himself through his dramatic healing of one of his children so that we can all see that he is still in the miracle business.

And as his priest, it's my business to tell you about it.

In His Amazing Grace,

Fr. Austin



## Praise Report - Campbell, CA

Last Saturday I attended an Order of St Luke mission at the Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in Campbell, CA. The Rev Josh Acton from Desert Call Ministries in Arizona was the guest speaker. At the end of the day I received healing from Fr Josh, the Revs. Michael Ferrito (Vicar) and Kathleen Crowe (Deacon) as well as several other people who were members of the local healing team.

During the past few months I've experienced tears in my retina which required "spot welding" with a laser. This resulted in some big floaters in my eyes and some intermittent hazy vision. I can't safely drive at night and reading or computer work is a chore.

The day after hands were laid on me there was a significant improvement in my vision. A few days later I was checked over by my eye doctor who announced that everything looked okay and that any vision problems were due to some blood remnants which should dissolve in a month or two.

I'm a former medical researcher in the field of wound healing. The odds are stacked against an improvement to have occurred immediately after receiving healing prayer. Believe me, this was not a natural occurrence.

Praise the Lord...

Rev Br John Surinchak  
Santa Venetia Healing

## Christ the Indwelling Healer Conference- April 25, Phoenix, Arizona

Christ Anglican Church was the setting for an awesome time of peaceful healing with the Lord in late April. Approximately sixty people attended the conference with Fr. Josh Acton and Bishop Guernsey. Friendships were formed, relationships renewed and opportunities for cooperation within the healing ministry were explored. Bishop Guernsey and Fr. Josh presented powerful teaching on experiencing the Father's love and



the Holy Spirit was present and healing in our midst!

Praise be to God for a powerful day of teaching, prayer and fellowship in the Holy Spirit!

## Please Pray for Mission to Belize 2009

July 25 - August 2, 2009: Mission to Belize

A mission to the children of Belize with Vacation Bible School entitled "Power for the Children". A day of healing is also planned with Fr. Josh and the clergy of the Diocese of Belize.

For more information or to support the mission financially, please contact Fr. Josh Acton or any of the Desert Call team.

## Conferences, Retreats, Missions and Programs

**July 25 to August 2, 2009**

### **Mission to Belize**

A mission to the children of Belize with Vacation Bible School (VBS) "Power for the Children". Day of Healing also planned for clergy of Diocese of Belize.



**August 28-29 2009: The Spirit Comes in Power (Alpine, TX)**

Contact: Carolyn Burns: [carol.burns@earthlink.net](mailto:carol.burns@earthlink.net)

**October 2-4 2009: Healing Conference (Ontario, Canada)**

Details to follow....

Venue: St Simon's Anglican Church, Ontario, Canada

Contact: Carolyn Burns: [carol.burns@earthlink.net](mailto:carol.burns@earthlink.net)

**October 9-10 2009: Healing Conference (San Diego, CA)**

Details to follow....

Venue: St Dunstan's Church, San Diego, CA

Contact: Carolyn Burns: [carol.burns@earthlink.net](mailto:carol.burns@earthlink.net)

**December 4-5 2009: Healing Conference (San Marcos, CA)**

Details to follow....

Venue: Anglican Church of the Resurrection in San Marcos, CA

Contact: Carolyn Burns: [carol.burns@earthlink.net](mailto:carol.burns@earthlink.net)

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Desert Call Ministries is a non-profit 501c-3 corporation. A primary source of our funding comes from individuals pledging into the ministry. Please consider a tax-deductible monthly pledge sent directly to:

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San Diego, CA 92127-2837

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Thank you for your prayerful support!