



The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Eastern Coachella Valley Mission Project

The Rev. Mark Byers, Church Planter

www.eastvalleyepiscopal.org

October 11, 2006

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

My name is Mark Byers. I am a husband, father of two young daughters, and a newly arrived priest in the Coachella Valley, here to plant a church. For many people, this is a new idea: starting churches is not something that Episcopalians do as frequently as they once did. For this reason, I hope to visit all the Episcopal churches in the valley, hopefully preach, and talk a little bit about how I am going to go about this adventure. Currently, I am scheduled to preach in St. John's, Indio on October 22nd and at St. Margaret's, Palm Desert on October 29th. I hope to have the opportunity to preach in other churches very soon. I will also be holding a series of talks in the eastern valley in coming weeks: more information will be forthcoming shortly.

I remain convinced that the hope of our world is Jesus Christ, and that the way that Christ will be proclaimed to the world is through you and me. It is an amazing mission that God has placed in our hands: to be the vehicle through which the world will come to know Jesus and the Kingdom of God. All of our churches, and this new congregation is no exception, are places from which we embark on this mission. I hope that you will pray for our new church in the Eastern Coachella Valley, for the people whom we hope to reach with the Gospel, and for me, too. I pray for all of you, and pray that God will open you to the possibility of being involved through prayer, financial support, or direct involvement with this project. Please contact me if you would like to hear more: 760 399 2677.

With all my prayers,

Mark Byers+

The Reverend Mark Byers