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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Anne's, De Pere calls Rector

Appleton, WI – August 11, 2010 – A new priest will soon be serving as Rector of St. Anne's Episcopal Church in De Pere, Wisconsin. The Rev. **Eric C. Mills** has accepted the call to serve as Rector, an ecclesiastical term meaning a priest that is in charge of meeting the pastoral needs of a congregation. The call to serve was made by the Vestry, the governing board of the church, and affirmed by the Rt. Rev. Russell E. Jacobus, Bishop of the Diocese of Fond du Lac.



Fr. Mills comes to St. Anne's from the Diocese of Southwest Florida where he has served as Associate Rector at Christ Church, Bradenton, Florida. He has also served St. Vincent's Pro-Cathedral of the Diocese of Fort Worth; Vicar of St. Alban's, Kaiserslauten Germany of the American Convocation of Churches in Europe and as a Chaplain in the U.S. Air Force.

He obtained a Masters of Divinity degree from Nashotah House Theological Seminary in Nashotah, Wisconsin in 1998 and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Texas, San Antonio.

Fr. Mills was ordained as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church in 1998 and as a Priest in 1999. Prior to ordination, he served as an analyst for the Air Force with the Department of Defense.

"God has called me to provide ministry through preaching, teaching, counseling, visitation, and enabling laity to ministry," Fr. Mills stated on his Church Deployment profile, adding that "Jesus Christ must be first and last in all we say and do."

St. Anne's traces its historic roots to as early as 1849 with the current congregation being organized in 1927. It moved from Mission to Parish status in 1961 and due to growth of the congregation, in 1985 moved to its current location on De Pere's east side. It's vision is to "participate whole-heartedly in the on-going ministry of Jesus by being an Episcopal parish devoted to worship, evangelism, pastoral care, Christian education and spiritual formation, and by sincere caring and responding to the needs of those in and beyond our immediate community."

Fr. Mills is married to Sue and has two teenage daughters, Katie and Rachel. He will begin his official duties on September 5th, 2010.

The Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac is composed of over 6,000 baptized members worshipping in 38 locations covering the northeast third of the State of Wisconsin.

For information diofdl.org
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