



# The Sword

*The Newsletter of the Anglican Diocese of the South*

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February 2010

## Proposed Mission Statement

The Anglican Diocese of the South exists to equip clergy and congregations to fulfill the Great Commandment (Mark 12:29-31) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) by leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ through personal discipleship, evangelism, and the nurturing and planting of congregations.



Holy Cross Anglican Church, Loganville, Georgia will be the site of the Anglican Diocese of the South's inaugural Synod April 30-May 1



## New Diocese in Formation

With the formation of the Anglican Church of North America (ACNA) in 2009, Anglicans throughout the country have been joining together in new diocesan structures to enhance opportunities for cooperative ministry and mutual support.

Bp. David Anderson of the American Anglican Council convened a meeting with representatives from congregations of the Convocation of Anglicans in North America, the churches associated with the Diocese of Bolivia and the Province of the Southern Cone and several other congregations under other Anglican jurisdic-

tions in December of 2009. The purpose of the meeting was to gauge interest in forming a new diocese consisting of Anglican congregations within about a 3-hour's drive of Atlanta. The attendees, representing a large enough group to form a diocese under the ACNA's guidelines, were unanimous in their support to begin the process of establishing a new diocese.

A steering committee has now been formed and work has begun on the many tasks involved in creating a diocese. Information will be going out to parishes in early March



so that congregations and vestries can discern whether they are ready to join the new diocese as it begins to take shape.

An inaugural Diocesan Synod is scheduled for April 30-May 1 at Holy Cross Anglican Church, Loganville, Georgia.

## What's in a Name?

The steering committee for the diocese in formation is using the "Anglican Diocese of the South" as a working title. Anglican Churches in Florida and Southern Georgia have already formed themselves as the "Gulf Atlan-

tic Diocese" which was officially recognized by the ACNA in December of 2009. The "Diocese of the Southeast" is also taken within the ACNA by a diocese of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

The Anglican Church in North America is now online at [anglicanchurch.net](http://anglicanchurch.net)



**All Saints Anglican Church, Peachtree City, GA meets in this Methodist Church youth facility**

## Prayer Committee

The Rev Steven Saul of Trinity Church, Douglasville is heading up our sub-committee on prayer. Prayer teams will be available both as intercessors during our inaugural Synod as well as to pray for individuals during the conference. Members of the diocese in formation are encouraged to pray the collect on the right as part of their devotions.

Almighty God, creator of all things and the cornerstone of the Church: Grant this diocese *in formation* the ears to hear your voice and the discernment to respond to the mission opportunities before us. Build in us a foundation for fellowship, discipleship, and a renewed conviction to step forward to share your Gospel message which brings hope to the world. Fill your church with spiritual power to live fully as living witnesses of Jesus our Lord. Create in us the will to listen and the desire to respond to your Holy Word in obedience and sacrifice. In the days ahead lead our Worship, Service, and Witness as part of the Anglican Church in North America to build and strengthen the Body of Christ. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, AMEN.



**The Rev. Dr. Foley Beach is Rector of Holy Cross Anglican Church, Loganville, Georgia**

## Application Committee

Part of the process in becoming a new Diocese within the ACNA is to put together all the pieces for the application. The Rev. Dr. Foley Beach of Holy Cross, Loganville is heading our efforts on this front.

Asked to comment on the new diocese, Foley+

said, “We don’t need another bureaucracy, although structure is necessary. It is my hope that our new diocese can function to assist clergy and congregations in reaching our communities with the Good News of Jesus. We have an incredible amount of talent and giftedness in our lay persons

and clergy within our midst! Imagine what could happen if we strategically worked together to reach our friends, neighbors, and business associates for Jesus Christ. I believe Anglicanism can be an effective tool to reach and impact others in a positive way for the Lord.”



**The Rev. Alfred Sawyer celebrates Communion at Christ Church of Atlanta**

## Budget Committee

“We’re not doing it the way they used to,” says the Rev. Michael Fry, Rector of All Saints, Peachtree City, GA who heads up the budget committee.

A budget reflects ministry priorities and many assumptions go into the crafting of the budget. Some of the working as-

sumptions the budget committee is utilizing are: **1)** We all have ties to other jurisdictions right now so it will probably be 3-5 years before congregations can pledge their full tithe to the diocesan budget; **2)** The parish is the primary place that ministry takes place—the diocese exists to support

and enable ministries at the parish level (not the other way around); **3)** For the foreseeable future, we will only have a part-time bishop; **4)** It is built into the ACNA Constitution that the parish owns the property and the diocese can not and never will have a claim on it.

## Constitution and Canons Committee

The new diocese will be set up as its own 501(c)(3) corporation and will have its own set of Constitution and Canons. We are blessed to have The Rev. Phil Ashey who helped draft the ACNA Canons head up our own effort.

The Committee will be drawing upon guidelines put together, not only for

the formation of the ACNA, but also for Anglican dioceses and provinces throughout the world. An initial draft has already been completed and revisions are underway. All parishes wishing to be a part of the new diocese will have an opportunity to review and comment on the draft Constitution and Canons prior to voting on them



**The Rev. Phil Ashey is COO of the American Anglican Council**

at our inaugural assembly.

## Nomination and Consent for Bishop Committee

The process of calling a Bishop for our new diocese is a very important task. According to the ACNA canons, we must present a list of two or three nominees to the College of Bishops who will prayerfully select our new Diocesan Bishop from that list. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Fr Charles

Osborne of Light of Christ Church, Marietta, GA, will be working to develop a list of suitable candidates to be presented and voted upon at our Diocesan Synod April 30-May 1. The new diocesan bishop will be expected to serve part-time and continue ministry in his own parish. Biblical passages that set

forth our Lord's requirements for a leader of the flock, include: 1 Peter 5:2-3; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; and Titus 1:6-9.



## Part-Time Administrator for new Diocese



Betty Shanks, a parishioner of Holy Cross Anglican Church, Loganville, GA has been enlisted to

help administrate the diocese in formation. As we currently have no budget, her part-time salary is being provided by some of the parishes involved in the planning process. Betty has been in the Atlanta area for over a decade and previously worked as Church Ad-

ministrator at Holy Cross after a stint in the corporate world. A native of Auburn, AL, Betty is happily married and has one married son and two wonderful grandchildren in Jacksonville, Florida. Betty can be reached via telephone: 770-466-8584 or by Email [AnglicanDioceseoftheSouth@gmail.com](mailto:AnglicanDioceseoftheSouth@gmail.com)

## Please Donate to the Haiti Relief Fund.

Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere, was struck by a magnitude 7.0 earthquake on Tuesday, January 11. The quake was centered southwest of Port-au-Prince, a city of about 2 million inhabitants. Two strong aftershocks sparked fear and panic. There is extensive damage including the collapse of much of the city's infrastructure. Loss of life has been estimated at over 100,000.

The Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF) is working with our partners to respond with assistance to the victims.

You can help Haiti by giving generously. Checks can be sent to: The Anglican Relief and Development Fund PO Box 3830 Pittsburgh, PA 15230-3830 with the word "Haiti" in the memo line.

Or you can donate online at

[anglicanaid.net](http://anglicanaid.net)

**THE ANGLICAN  
DIOCESE OF  
THE SOUTH**

**3836 Oak Grove Rd  
P.O. Box 776  
Loganville, GA  
30052**

**Phone: 770-466-8584**  
*AnglicanDioceseoftheSouth*  
*@gmail.com*

*Behold how good  
and pleasant it  
is when brothers  
dwell in unity!  
It is like the pre-  
cious oil on the  
head running  
down on the  
beard... It is  
like the dew of  
Hermon, which  
falls on the  
mountains of  
Zion! For there  
the Lord has  
commanded the  
blessing...*

*Psalm 133*



**ANGLICAN CHURCH  
IN NORTH AMERICA**

**In the News**

**Church of England Recognizes the ACNA**

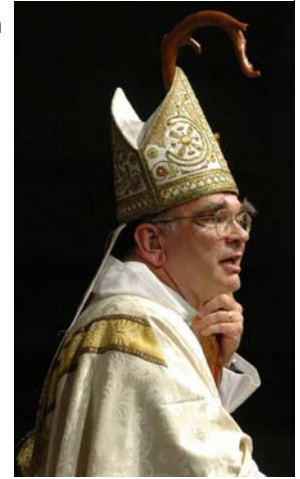
The Church of England Synod gave some official recognition to the Anglican Church in North America on February 10th. A resolution was passed overwhelmingly by all three houses (bishops, clergy and laity) with nearly 80% voting in favor of the following:

“That this Synod aware of the distress caused by recent divisions within the Anglican churches of the United States of America, recognize and affirm the desire of those who have formed the Anglican church in North America (ACNA) to remain within the Anglican family; acknowledge that this aspiration, in respect both of relations with the Church of England and membership of the Anglican Communion, raises issues which the relevant authorities of each need to explore further; and invite the Archbishops to report further to the Synod in 2011.”

Archbishop Robert Duncan, mentioning in particular Mrs. Lorna Ashworth of Chichester who brought the motion before Synod, said: “We are very grateful to Mrs.

Ashworth and the scores of other friends in the Synod of

the Church of England for all they did to give us this opportunity to tell our story to the mother church of the Anglican Communion. It is very encouraging that the synod recognizes and affirms our desire to remain within the Anglican family.”



**The Most Rev.  
Robert Duncan,  
Archbishop of the  
Anglican Church  
in North America**

**Family Photos**



**Church of the Holy Trinity,  
North Augusta, SC Youth**



**Children of Christ Anglican Church,  
Marietta, Georgia**



**Vacation  
Bible School  
at St. Pat-  
rick's Angli-  
can Church,  
Smyrna,  
Tennessee**



**Christ Church,  
Montgomery, AL  
new construction**