



The South Carolina Anglican Communion Network

◆ Proclaiming the Gospel ◆ Preserving the Faith Once Delivered ◆ Reclaiming Our Anglican Heritage ◆

Statement from the South Carolina Anglican Communion Network Steering Committee

Upon first reading the headlines that a “Covenant Statement” had been issued by ECUSA during the House of Bishops meeting at Camp Allen, Texas, we were excited and hopeful. However, by the time we finished reading the “Covenant,” the reality began to dawn that we may be at the very same place where we had started in August 2003. For over one and a half years the Anglican Communion has moved forward with great deliberation, patience, and understanding in an attempt to prevent parts of the communion from deciding to “walk apart.” Despite extraordinary patience and understanding, the calls and requests of our brothers and sisters in the Anglican Communion have once again been put on hold or side tracked by the House of Bishops.

Where do we go from here? What can we expect? We can expect there will be another wave of laity departures from ECUSA, particularly among those who believe that ECUSA's unilateral actions were wrong in August of 2003 and see the covenant as another stall and delay tactic.

For those who decide to see this fight through to its conclusion and remain faithful to the historical traditions of the Church, prayer and action are a necessary component to survival. And through prayer, and actions premised upon and inspired by prayer, anything is possible. The South Carolina Anglican Communion Network (SC-ACN) will continue to organize efforts to support our fellow parishioners, not only those within our Diocese, but as importantly, those outside of our diocese. We communicate daily with our fellow parishioners in North Carolina, Alabama, Maryland, and beyond and although they feel totally marginalized by the past and current actions of ECUSA, we all know through our fellowship there is hope.

Also via this letter, we request that the Archbishop of Canterbury move forward, through the recently formed panel of reference and with a renewed sense of urgency, to review the adequacy of pastoral oversight within ECUSA.

As for our faithful orthodox brothers and sisters in South Carolina and beyond, we urge that you remain faithful and true to our great commission. Do not give up on the hope and promise that orthodox Anglicanism will survive and flourish in North America.

May God bless us, keep us, and preserve us all.