ENCOURAGE ✦ STRENGTHEN ✦ LOVE

One Another

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

3:30 - 5 PM **Check In** *Center for the Arts at College of Coastal Georgia, 7 Mariner Way, Brunswick, GA 31520*

Dinner with your delegation on your own

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

8-9 AM **Continental Breakfast provided**
Check In *Center for the Arts at College of Coastal Georgia, 7 Mariner Way, Brunswick, GA 31520*

9 AM **Morning Devotions**
Welcome and Consent Agenda *The Rt. Rev. Frank S. Logue*
If, when called for, there is no motion and second to call for a vote to remove any item from the consent agenda, all of the following are passed with a single vote:

- The Convention Agenda as printed in the booklet
- Maggie Lyons to be made Secretary of Convention.
- Canon Austin and Liz Williams to be made Assistants to the Secretary
- Rules of Order for debate

Morning Business Session

See the convention website
https://gaepiscopal.org/convention2026
for the latest presentations, reports, and updated information.

10:40 AM **Break**

Business Session

Noonday Devotions

12 Noon **Lunch**

1 PM **Afternoon Business Session**

5:00 PM **Convention Eucharist** *St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 900 Gloucester Street, Brunswick, GA*
Celebrant & Preacher *The Rt. Rev. Frank S. Logue*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

7:30 AM **Eucharist** *Center for the Arts at College of Coastal Georgia, 7 Mariner Way, Brunswick, GA 31520*

8-9 AM **Continental Breakfast provided**

8 - 9 AM **Clergy Spouse Breakfast**

9 AM **Morning Devotions**

Business Session

11:45 AM **Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

An Invitation from Racial Justice Georgia

Racial Justice Georgia invites members of St. Athanasius, Brunswick; St. Cyprian's, Darien; Good Shepherd, Pennick; Good Shepherd, Thomasville; St. John and St. Mark's, Albany; St. Mary's, Augusta; and St. Matthew's, Savannah to a Black church summit--a facilitated discussion about hopes and concerns of the diocese's historically Black churches.
Please fill up a lunch plate and join us Friday at noon in the second floor lobby.

BOARD OF THE CORPORATION

The Board of Officers of the Corporation is charged with the oversight of the investments and disbursements of those funds entrusted to it through wills, deeds, and other trust instruments. The board meets quarterly. The person elected at Convention 2026 will serve through the Convention in 2033. *Elect one lay person.*



Scott Marcus
St. Paul's, Albany

Scott Marcus would like to serve as his professional experience prepared him for the tasks associated with this position. He retired in 2025 after working in the securities industry for 33 years. During his time of registration in that industry Scott served as a Financial Advisor, Managing Director and Registered Principal. He has experience working with endowments and their investments as well as trusts and individual securities management. Scott is no longer registered in that industry.
He has been a member of the Episcopal Church his entire life. He was a young man at St. James Episcopal Church in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and since August of 1974 he has been a parishioner at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Albany. Scott's experience in serving his local parish started in the summer of 1978. On college break he served that summer as the parish janitor. Since that time Scott has served as an usher and lay reader. Scott is currently serving his first of a three year term on the Vestry of St. Paul's. He has been looking for a way to become involved in the business affairs of the Church and Diocese.
This position appears to be one that he may be able to use my training and experience to make a difference.

CHURCH DISCIPLINARY BOARD

Previously known and "The Ecclesiastical Trial Court," the Disciplinary Board of the Diocese of Georgia is vested with jurisdiction to hear and determine all proceedings in which a priest or deacon has been charged with one or more offenses specified in the canons of the Episcopal Church. It meets only when necessary. The 2 lay persons and 2 clergy persons elected will serve a three-year term through Convention 2029. *Elect two lay persons and two clergy persons.*



The Rev. Susan Gage
St. Barnabas', Valdosta

The Rev. Susan Gage is a lifelong Episcopalian and blessed to be a priest in this diocese serving the people of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Valdosta for nearly five years. She has been a member of the diocesan Liturgical Commission, Racial Justice Georgia, and has served a three year term on the Disciplinary Board. Susan has been elected to be Deputy for our diocese at the 82nd General Convention. As a bivocational priest, she conducts her ministry out in the world as a licensed massage therapist in Florida. Susan enjoys following her New England sports teams, working with a cabaret theater troupe, reading and writing, cooking with her wife and being a humble servant to their cat, Romeo.



Peter Kastner
St. Peter's, Savannah

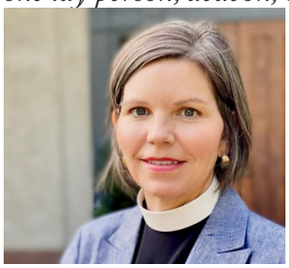
Peter S. Kastner seeks a second term on the Church Disciplinary Board, where he currently serves as president. He would be honored to serve a second term.
He is a cradle Episcopalian. His local parish for the past ten years is St. Peter's, Savannah where he is treasurer and chair of the endowment committee, and has served two terms as senior warden. He has been a delegate

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to three Georgia diocesan conventions. In prior parishes, he was senior warden in two and made six outreach trips to Haiti.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Council's responsibilities are to carry out the polices, programs, and directions of Convention; to deal with contingencies as they arise; and to assist the bishop in developing the ministry of the diocese. It carries out the duties of Convention between Conventions. Council generally has four meetings a year, two in person and two online including one or two overnight meetings a year in various parts of the diocese. The person elected will serve a three-year term through Convention 2029. *Elect one lay person, deacon, or priest.*



The Rev. Shayna Cranford
Trinity, Cochran

The Rev. Shayna Cranford is a lifelong resident of Cochran, Georgia, where she currently serves as Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church. Shayna was ordained to the priesthood in 2023 after completing theological formation through the ACTS program at Sewanee's School of Theology. Before entering ordained ministry, she earned a degree in Consumer Journalism from the University of Georgia and later became a registered nurse. Shayna's involvement in the Diocese of Georgia has been a meaningful part of her ministry, providing opportunities to serve, build relationships, and support the wider Church.

She currently serves on the Diocesan Cursillo Commission, the Convocational Discernment Committee, and the Honey Creek Commission, including its Sustainability Committee. Shayna has also served as Spiritual Director for Cursillo weekends and summer camp at Honey Creek. This past summer, she had the opportunity to participate in our diocesan mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

Serving a small parish has given Shayna a deep appreciation for the faithfulness, generosity, and commitment of congregations of every size.

She believes our diocese's strength lies in the relationships we build, the ministries we share, and our willingness to support one another as we seek to follow Christ.

She and her husband, Dave have three children. The Diocese of Georgia has blessed her family through many ministries, particularly Honey Creek, Cursillo, and our youth programs.

Shayna would be honored to serve on Diocesan Council, bringing the perspective of a small parish priest, a commitment to thoughtful stewardship, and a desire to strengthen the connections that make us one Church.



Edie Wakevainen
Holy Nativity,
St. Simons Island

Edie Wakevainen moved to the Diocese of Georgia two years ago, and would like to share her experience and knowledge in support of the mission and ministry of her new diocesan home. Considering herself a true church nerd, she serves in the Secretariat at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church. In the past, she was the Secretary of the Province V Executive Board. She served as Secretary of Diocesan Council in the Diocese of Michigan for ten years. She is standing for election to Diocesan Council because of the opportunity to work with other lay people and clergy to support the work of the Diocese between conventions. Edie is a member of the vestry of Holy Nativity on St. Simons Island. She retired as Emeritus Professor of Psychology from Macomb Community College outside of Detroit and still teaches online for Chatham University in Pittsburgh. She volunteers at Southeast Georgia Health System in Brunswick in outpatient surgery and also supports Gracehouse in Brunswick.

TRUSTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

The board meets in Sewanee, TN, early in October each year. The two laypersons and one priest who serve on the board from the Diocese of Georgia are to represent the university to the diocese. One clergy person will be elected for a three-year term to serve through Convention 2029. *Elect one clergy person.*



The Very Rev. Tom Purdy
Christ Church Frederica, St. Simons Island

The Very Rev. Tom Purdy would be honored to serve another term, if elected, as a Sewanee Trustee on behalf of the Diocese of Georgia. He has enjoyed being a small part of the University's leadership structures and has a great deal of hope for her mission and her future. He is a proud alumnus of Sewanee, a current student in the Advanced Degree program, has one child enrolled at Sewanee, and may have a second child attending in the fall of 2027. He has been active in the Episcopal church at all levels since his childhood. He has served as the Rector at Christ Church, Frederica on St. Simons Island since 2013. Previously he served as an Associate Rector for three years in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, and as Rector in the Diocese of Washington for five years. Within the Diocese of GA he currently serves as Dean of the Southeast Convocation, Co-Chair of the Clergy Cottage Task Force, and as a General Convention Deputy. In previous dioceses he has served on Diocesan Council, Diocesan Youth Commission (chair), Diocesan HR Committee (chair), and various task forces. In a previous diocese he served as a CDI and Shape of the Parish trainer. He continues to champion causes of justice and equality in Glynn County through various organizations, including serving on the Burroughs Molette School Council and as a founding board member of Just Love, a Brunswick-based non-profit promoting racial reconiliation.

STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee is the Bishop's Council of Advice. In the absence of a bishop, the Standing Committee acts as the Ecclesiastical Authority for those purposes declared by General Convention. The Standing Committee must approve all ordinations, consent to the election of bishops in other dioceses, approve any financial indebtedness of parishes, and the purchase, sale, encumbrance, or disposition of real property. It usually meets monthly via videoconference and two times a year jointly with the Commission on Ministry at Honey Creek to consider those in the ordination process. These meetings typically are scheduled Thursday through Saturday. Other in-person meetings are held as needed in various locations throughout the diocese, usually 1-2 times per year on a weekday. Customarily, during the fourth year of service, the senior clergy person is elected president and the senior lay person is elected secretary. One lay person will fulfill a one year term. The persons elected will serve a four-year term through Convention 2030.

Elect one lay person for a one year term, and one lay person and one priest for the four year term.



Sean Hendley
St. Paul's, Albany

Sean Hendley grew up Southern Baptist outside Savannah, GA. He graduated from Georgia Southern University in 1997 with a BBA in accounting and minor in finance and moved to Albany, GA for a job with CPA firm. His career has been focused on providing accounting and consulting services in healthcare and craft brewing for the last 28+ years. He married a local girl in 2004 (Anna Hilsman) who was a cradle Episcopalian, and he was confirmed at St. Paul's in Albany in 2006.

Sean feels very deeply about giving back and being involved in his community, including his church. Over the

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past 19 years, he has served as Treasurer, finance committee chair/member, Vestry member, stewardship committee, Rector search committee, welcoming committee, usher, lector, and is currently the Sr. Warden of the Vestry for St. Paul's. He also currently serves on the Diocesan finance committee. He recently "graduated" from Cursillo #132.

His community involvement has also been extensive and included Big Brothers Big Sister board member (and Big Brother), Artesian City Sertoma Club (Treasurer and Social Chair), Ducks Unlimited Committee, Cub Scouts (Treasurer and Den Leader), Boy Scouts of America (Treasurer), Leadership Albany, UGA Small Business Development Advisory Board, and Chehaw Park and Zoo board member (Board Chair and Treasurer). Sean has two "little boys" who were baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's. Hilsman (19), who is a freshman at Berry College and Rust (16) who is a sophomore at Deerfield Windsor high school.



Elise Miller
Calvary, Americus

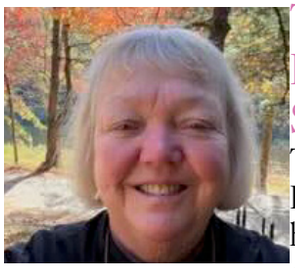
Elise Miller served on the Standing Committee for 4 years and found it to be one of the most meaningful experiences of her life. She has been asked to complete the term of someone with whom she worked on this committee; she cannot fill her shoes, but she is dear to Elise, and she wants to finish what her friend cannot. Although Elise has been a confirmed Episcopalian 48 years, her roots go back to her Episcopal high school in Virginia. She has been a member of Calvary since she moved to Americus 21 years ago. Elise currently serves on the Altar Guild, Outreach committee, Parish Life, and Mustard Seed Thrift store. She has served on vestry twice, Finance committee, Lay Reading, Flower Guild, Search committee as well as numerous projects such as Game nights, Art shows, and Grace camp. In the community Elise has served as the Theatre and Cultural Authority chair, Americus Literacy Inc member as well as a volunteer reading tutor for Americus Literacy and the third grade. Elise has been a delegate to diocesan convention, attended CDI, worked Cursillo, and served on the Standing Committee.



The Rev. Eric Biddy
Saint Paul's, Augusta

The Rev. Eric Biddy would be honored to serve on the Standing Committee as the Diocese of Georgia continues to engage creatively with the ever-changing environment for the church's mission. He has previously served on the Standing Committee in another diocese, and found his faith and vocation enriched by the whole portfolio of the Standing Committee's work: from work with those in the ordination process to discerning with parishes about debt and property to consenting to elections to, perhaps especially, thinking and praying alongside the Bishop as part of a Council of Advice (why don't we call that a "Council of Counsel?"). The challenges and opportunities the Church is currently facing in Georgia make it an especially exciting time to be working on these issues.

Eric was baptized at St. James, Marietta in 2006 and ordained in the Diocese of Chicago in 2014. There, he served on the Standing Committee and was a regional dean. Eric came to Saint Paul's, Augusta in 2021 and has served on the Disciplinary Board and the Commission on Ministry. He has also served on a few boards of local organizations that are adjacent to the church's mission.



The Very Rev. Leslie Dellenbarger
St. John's, Bainbridge

The Very Reverend Leslie Dellenbarger would be honored to serve as a member of the Standing Committee. Leslie currently serves as the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Bainbridge, Georgia. She has continued to enjoy serving this vibrant family sized church since 2019. Leslie was ordained in 2017 as a priest, and thereafter began serving as a bi-vocational priest. She currently serves as

Dean for the Southwest Convocation, as Chair for the Southwest Convocational Discernment Committee, as an EfM mentor, as well as a co-leader for recent Being With groups. Leslie has also served as a member of the Diocese of Georgia's Liturgical Commission, as a member of the Clergy Cottage task force, and as a field placement supervisor. During the 2025 Diocese of Georgia convention she was elected as first alternate Clergy Deputy for the upcoming General Convention in 2027. Leslie is a member of the Lion's Club, a Girl Scout co-leader, the representative for St. John's with the local Chamber of Commerce., and is in the process of becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate volunteer (CASA). She also enjoys reading, participating in book studies, spending time with her wife, Alta, and their four legged family members, as well as gardening and spending time in nature. Again, Leslie would be honored, if elected, to serve the Diocese of Georgia as a member of the Standing Committee.



The Rev. Kevin Kelly Christ Church, Valdosta

The Rev. Kevin Kelly was raised up for ministry in the Diocese of Georgia and is currently serving as rector of Christ Church, Valdosta, his home parish, where he was married in 1993 and ordained in 1994. Since being ordained he has served on Diocesan Council, Commission on Ministry, and Standing Committee and twice been elected as Deputy to The General Convention. Kevin came back home to the Diocese of Georgia in 2014. He served on the Standing Committee here from 2017-2021 and also served on the Nominating Committee for the 11th Bishop of Georgia during that time.
Kevin enjoys the work of the Standing Committee, particularly its role in discernment and formation for those seeking Holy Orders. Those are areas of ministry he is passionate about. He would be grateful for the opportunity to serve the diocese and the Church in this way.

CONVENTION REPORTS

BOARD OF THE CORPORATION

The Board of the Corporation oversees 39 individual funds established and invested for many of our parishes, and various purposes in the Diocese of Georgia. They are managed through the Private Bank of Bank of America. The Diocesan Convention elects the members of the BOC for a 7-year term. The Board reviews the portfolio performance and sets a recommended spend rate to preserve long-term assets and encourage using income for growth and ministry in the Diocese. The portfolio experienced continued growth in 2025. The closing portfolio value was $16,307,268, up from $15,025,661 in December of 2024 or a year-to-date gain of 8.5% net of fees. Looking across the longer-term performance of the portfolio, the board voted to maintain a 4% spend rate for 2026 based on the more modest long-term average growth of 7% and in view of the five-year average of 10% growth, all net of fees. The board, with the support of the Diocesan staff, continues to look at ways to promote use of investing in the portfolio, as well as encouraging use of the funds for ministry and property management.

Canon Andrew Austin
Canon for Administration

CHANCELLOR

During 2025, I served the Diocesan Convention as Parliamentarian and Chancellor to the Bishop. I also attended some of the meetings of Diocesan Council held since that Convention in November 2025. The Vice Chancellor and I provided general legal advice and counsel to Bishop Logue, the Standing Committee and the Diocesan Staff on an as needed basis. I also provided legal advice to a number of parishes in the Diocese regarding routine legal matters and bylaws revisions and also consulted with a number of parish clergy and vestries regarding matters of concern to them under the Constitutions and Canons of The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Georgia.

The Rev. Jim Elliott
Chancellor

CONVENTION REPORTS

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The 2026 Commission on Ministry (COM) was composed of ten people from across the diocese. We welcomed the Rev. Rita Spalding (St. Mark's, Brunswick) to the Interview Committee. Continuing members of the Interview Committee included the Rev. Terri Degenhardt (St. Augustine of Canterbury, Augusta), the Rev. Samantha McKean (Christ Church, Savannah), Ken Taft (Grace, Waycross), and Elizabeth Varner (St. Thomas, Savannah). The Rev. Eric Biddy (St. Paul's, Augusta) and Dr. Drew Keane (St. John's, Savannah) continued as both Interview Committee members and as an Examining Chaplains. Other continuing members of the Examining Chaplains included the Rev. Ian Lasch (St. Francis of the Islands, Savannah), the Rev. Kelly Steele (St. Peter's, Savannah), and the Rev. David Wantland (St. Peter's, Savannah).

In January, an orientation was held for the COM and the Standing Committee via Zoom. This meeting offered an introduction to the roles for the Commission on Ministry and Standing Committee as related to the discernment process, and an overview of The Episcopal Church canons on ministry and ordination processes. We also discussed a draft of group norms for the COM and Standing Committee's work together, which was later finalized at the March meeting. These norms emphasize a high level of trust, assumption of good will, and awareness of personal biases as vital components for our shared work of discernment. They also set expectations around meeting attendance and provide guidance around potential conflicts of interest and confidentiality.

In March, the COM joined with members of the Standing Committee at Honey Creek for a weekend of candidacy and ordination interviews. At this meeting, the COM recommended to the Bishop that the following postulants be made candidates: Mary Painter (St. Paul's, Augusta), and John Trinh (St. Luke's, Rincon), both for the priesthood. We also certified to the Bishop and members of the Standing Committee that the following candidates had met the canonical requirements for Holy Orders and recommended they be ordained: Ethan White (Christ Church, Savannah), Ben Jones (St. Peter's, Savannah), and Pierce Withers (St. Thomas, Thomasville), all as transitional deacons (in the process for the priesthood).

Also at the March meeting, the COM met with the Bishop to discuss our diaconal formation program. Bishop Logue shared his hope to retain the heart of our current deacon formation program by having cohorts gather together in community, while exploring new options that will bolster its formational components. He also conveyed an inter-diocesan interest in better supporting diaconal formation programs (a topic at the upcoming House of Bishops meeting later that March). The Rev. Deb Luginbuhl (Christ Church Frederica, Saint Simon's Island), a recent ordinand to the vocational diaconate, was tasked with researching various schools' offerings for diaconal formation.

Throughout the months of June and July, the Rev. Deb Luginbuhl carried out extensive research into two main programs of study: the Iona Collaborative group from Seminary of the Southwest, and the Deacons Formation Collaborative from Bexley Seabury. A subcommittee consisting of COM Co-Chairs the Rev. Samantha McKean and Elizabeth Varner, Bishop Logue, and the Rev. Deb Luginbuhl met virtually with these schools' representatives.

After discussion, the subcommittee identified the Deacons Formation Collaborative from Bexley Seabury as the best fit for the Diocese of Georgia. Its frequently scheduled in-person gatherings retain the great strength of our current program. Its asynchronous online format provides opportunity for robust formation. Built-in mentorships to foster further meaningful support. The subcommittee presented their findings to the rest of the COM during its October meeting, and

after discussion, a task force was formed to facilitate the deacon school transition. Members of this task force include the Rev. Rita Spalding, the Rev. David Wantland, the Rev. Deb Luginbuhl, and the Rev. Samantha McKean.

At October's meeting, the COM conducted postulancy interviews with the Standing Committee at Honey Creek. At this meeting the COM recommended to the Bishop that the following nominees be made postulants: Ricky Day (St. Anne's, Tifton), Lauri Fulford (Grace, Waycross), Emily Rogers (Christ the King, Valdosta), and David "Sandy" Sandbach (Christ Church, Valdosta) to the vocational diaconate; and Jeff Chandler (St. Paul's, Jesup), Kelley Norris (Good Shepherd, Augusta), and Wyatt Poe (St. John's, Bainbridge) to the priesthood. The COM also certified to the Bishop and members of the Standing Committee that the following candidates had met the canonical requirements for Holy Orders and recommended they be ordained: John Trinh (St. Luke's, Rincon) to the transitional diaconate, and Ben Jones (St. Peter's, Savannah), Jim Strickland (St. Luke's, Hawkinsville), Ethan White (Christ Church, Savannah), and Pierce Withers (St. Thomas, Thomasville) to the priesthood.

Two members have concluded their time on the COM during this year. In August, the Rev. Ian Lasch followed a call to serve as the Missioner for Formation for the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis. In October, Elizabeth Varner chose to conclude her time after twelve faithful years of service. This leaves the COM currently with eight members serving.

The Commission on Ministry would like to thank the members of the Regional Discernment Committees for the important work that they do as a part of the diocesan discernment process, and Maggie Lyons and Bishop Frank Logue for their support. We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to former Co-Chair Elizabeth Varner for her work over many years on the COM, and especially in the past year as Co-Chair. Her skilled and thoughtful attention to detail, along with an extraordinary amount of administrative oversight, has left the COM with a clarity of purpose that will strengthen it for years to come.

The Rev. Samantha McKean
Chair, Commission on Ministry

COMPANION DIOCESE

Two Countries, One Church –
New Opportunities With Our Amigos and Compañeros in the Episcopal Diocese of the Dominican Republic

Bishop Logue put an exclamation point this year on the special relationship between Episcopalians in Georgia and the Dominican Republic. The Bishop and his wife led an exploration trip in July, 2026, that visited churches and schools throughout the country and also did some work – painting the inside and outside of the school at Iglesia Cristo Salvador. The Georgia archdiocese mission team included lay leaders, students and Rev. Shayna Cranford of Trinity Episcopal Church in Cochran and Rev. Nathan Wilson of St. Anne's in Tifton, which has a long history of work at Espiritu Santo in Las Carrerras west of the capital city.

The Church in the Dominican Republic – Yesterday and Today

The first Episcopalians arrived from St. Croix to work the sugar cane fields around San Pedro de Macoris 150 years ago and quickly organized their worship. They established a diocese in 1897. In 1922, they organized their first school, el Colegio de San Esteban in San Pedro de Macoris. It is still thriving at age 100 as a K-12 school today.

The Diocese of the Dominican Republic is a member of The Episcopal Church's Province IX along with the Dioceses of Colombia, Central Ecuador, Litoral Ecuador, Honduras, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela. Mission teams from the United States working alongside Episcopal congregations in the

CONVENTION REPORTS

Dominican Republic have helped to build and fund many of the ongoing construction projects, social welfare centers, and school programs of the Dominican diocese. The Rt. Rev. Moises Quezada Mota became bishop of the diocese in 2018. He has announced his plans to retire, and the search for his replacement is approaching its final selection.

The Georgia diocese's 26-year relationship as a companion diocese with Episcopalians in the Dominican Republic has provided both physical and spiritual growth for all. Mission teams from Georgia have helped build and furnish churches and schools, they've painted and landscaped school and church properties, updated campgrounds, conducted vacation bible school in English and Spanish, provided health care, built water purification systems and a bakery, led farming projects and improved the vision of families, children and the elderly. During the COVID pandemic, Georgia Diocesan churches collected and distributed 14,000 masks to the Dominican Republic. In 2024, the Georgia Diocese sent scrub uniforms and hospital gowns to San Pedro de Macoris hospitals and clinics, provided a student scholarships. In the past two years, St. Peter's parishioners have raised funds for an operating room at La Clinica de Esperanza y Caridad and started a scholarship fund for Georgia optometry students who accompany the Gift of Sight team.

The Diocese of Georgia maintains a special vantage point, stemming from the Companion relationship we in Georgia have had with Episcopalians in the Dominican Republic for 26 years — a period of both physical and spiritual growth for all. After the global COVID-19 pandemic struck both countries, churches, schools and mission teams were forced to cancel most mission trips from early 2020 to last year. U.S. Mission activity has gradually resumed. There were 25 teams in 2025 and 2026. Currently, there are 20 mission trips tentatively scheduled for 2027. They come from South Carolina, Florida, Nebraska, Virginia, Michigan, Connecticut, South Carolina and Louisiana as well as Georgia.

Bishop Moises Quezada Moto reports that the 56 churches across the nation are resuming activities delayed during the pandemic and that the 23 schools have enrolled nearly 8,000 students. The Diocese also manages two conference centers and a two-year-old home for the elderly. The pandemic proved the value of its health clinic. The Clinic has also had an important role softening the impact of lost funds and services with the closing of the United States' USAID program.

Recent History: Review and Revitalize

Georgia mission teams include people of all ages -- teenagers from across the Diocese and retirees. It is a rich relationship that has brought parishioners and churches in Georgia and the Dominican Republic especially close.

During the pandemic-related pause, which forced most churches, schools and mission teams to cancel most mission trips in 2023 and 2024, a specially appointed committee assessed the value and future of Georgia's relationship. The committee recommended that the relationship be continued, but with these caveats: there will be a review of the program periodically and that there be immediate emphasis on enriching and expanding the relationship, particularly in ways that enhance the understanding in Georgia of the people and the church in the Dominican Republic. Since then, Bishop Logue led the 2026 exploratory team, and Mary Grace Wynn is discussing a possible summer mission trip by Diocesan youth. Further, the DDG's executive director, Christy Wallace, has moved to Augusta and is a parishioner at Holy Comforter in Martinez. The DDG also added another Georgian to its board, Katie Grant of Augusta.

The Diocese of Georgia again allocated $10,000 in its 2026 budget to support the work of the Dominican Development Group (DDG). Bishop Logue and his designated representative are members of the DDG Board of Directors. The DDG is a consortium of the ten dioceses (Central Gulf Coast, Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan, Georgia, Nebraska, Northwest Texas, The Episcopal Church in South Carolina, Southeast Florida, Southwest Florida and Western Louisiana) with companion relationships with the Diocese of the Dominican Republic. The DDG is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization within the Episcopal Church that coordinates the work of all of the companion dioceses to help the Diocese of the Dominican Republic strengthen its programs and maintain financial self-sufficiency.

The DDG assists the U.S. mission teams traveling to the Dominican Republic and raises funds for the DR diocesan endowment. Beyond that, costs of our dynamic relationship with our Dominican Episcopal partners are borne by parishes and individuals that choose to contribute their time and labor and/or their financial resources to projects chosen for mission teams.

After their trip, both Bishop Logue and team member Jackson Evans, a University of Georgia sophomore, looked back on their travel as a very special time:

"Everyone I have spoken with who has made the trip to our Companion Diocese returns both with a sense that serving alongside Dominicans in their churches mattered as we foster bonds with another part of the Body of Christ and found themselves inspired by the faithfulness they experienced," said Bishop Logue, who was making his third DR mission trip. "Putting together a trip for your congregation or a group of churches in your convocation or the Diocese is easier than you might imagine. We have great connections with Bishop Moises Quezada Mota and the diocesan staff in the DR."

To that, Evans added, "I hope to always carry the memories of my experience in the Dominican Republic with me and that they will serve as a reminder to always be aware of the voiced and unvoiced needs of others in my immediate community."

Be inspired anew by the words of former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry: "Now is our time to go. To go into the world to share the good news of God and Jesus Christ. To go into the world and help to be agents and instruments of God's reconciliation. To go into the world, let the world know that theirs is a God who loves us, a God who will not let us go, and that that love can set us all free." The Dominican Development Group has reduced that to four words: "Learn. Pray. Give. Go."

Importantly, the search for new teams to join this effort is ongoing. Opportunities are limited only by our imaginations, but already range from scholarships and a "Walk for Water" to construction of new churches. Check out the new website: theddg.org. If you or your church has an interest, consider joining one of the exploratory, week-long trips nset for January, March, May and December. Contact Christy Wallace at the Dominican Development Group (cwallacedominicandevelopmentgroup.org).

Haydee and Jim Toedtman
Companion Diocese Commission Co-chairs

Dos Países, Una Iglesia – Nuevas Oportunidades con Nuestros Amigos y Compañeros en la Diócesis Episcopal de la República Dominicana

El obispo Logue subrayó este año la relación especial entre los episcopalianos en Georgia y la República Dominicana. El obispo y su esposa lideraron un viaje de exploración en julio de 2026, que incluyó visitas a iglesias y escuelas en todo el país y también realizaron algunos trabajos: pintaron por dentro y por fuera la escuela de la Iglesia Cristo Salvador. El equipo misionero de la arquidiócesis de Georgia incluía líderes laicos, estudiantes y la reverenda

NOMINATIONS

Shayna Cranford de la Iglesia Episcopal Trinity en Cochran y el reverendo Nathan Wilson de St. Anne's en Tifton, que tiene una larga historia de trabajo en Espiritu Santo en Las Carrerras, al oeste de la ciudad capital.

La Iglesia en la República Dominicana – Ayer y Hoy

Los primeros episcopales llegaron desde St. Croix para trabajar en los campos de caña de azúcar alrededor de San Pedro de Macorís hace 150 años y rápidamente organizaron sus servicios de adoración. Establecieron una diócesis en 1897. En 1922, organizaron su primera escuela, el Colegio de San Esteban en San Pedro de Macorís. Hoy, a sus 100 años, sigue funcionando como una escuela de K-12.

La Diócesis de la República Dominicana es miembro de la Provincia IX de la Iglesia Episcopal junto con las Diócesis de Colombia, Ecuador Central, Ecuador Litoral, Honduras, Puerto Rico y Venezuela. Equipos misioneros de Estados Unidos que trabajan junto a las congregaciones episcopales en la República Dominicana han ayudado a construir y financiar muchos de los proyectos de construcción en curso, centros de bienestar social y programas escolares de la diócesis dominicana. El Rt. Rev. Moisés Quezada Mota se convirtió en obispo de la diócesis en 2018. Ha anunciado sus planes de retirarse, y la búsqueda de su reemplazo está acercándose a la selección final.

La relación de 26 años de la diócesis de Georgia como diócesis compañera con los episcopales en la República Dominicana ha proporcionado crecimiento tanto físico como espiritual para todos. Los equipos misioneros de Georgia han ayudado a construir y equipar iglesias y escuelas, han pintado y acondicionado las propiedades de escuelas e iglesias, actualizado campamentos, realizado escuelas bíblicas de vacaciones en inglés y español, proporcionado atención médica, construido sistemas de purificación de agua y una panadería, liderado proyectos de agricultura y mejorado la visión de familias, niños y ancianos. Durante la pandemia de COVID, las iglesias diocesanas de Georgia recolectaron y distribuyeron 14,000 mascarillas a la República Dominicana. En 2024, la Diócesis de Georgia envió uniformes médicos y batas de hospital a los hospitales y clínicas de San Pedro de Macorís, y proporcionó becas estudiantiles. En los últimos dos años, los feligreses de la parroquia de San Pedro han recaudado fondos para una sala de operaciones en La Clínica de Esperanza y Caridad y han iniciado un fondo de becas para estudiantes de optometría de Georgia que acompañan al equipo de Regalo de la Vista.

La Diócesis de Georgia mantiene un punto de vista especial, derivado de la relación de Compañeros que hemos tenido en Georgia con los episcopales en la República Dominicana durante 26 años, un período de crecimiento tanto físico como espiritual para todos. Después de que la pandemia global de COVID-19 afectara ambos países, iglesias, escuelas y equipos de misión se vieron obligados a cancelar la mayoría de los viajes misioneros desde principios de 2020 hasta el año pasado. La actividad misionera en EE. UU. ha vuelto a reanudarse gradualmente. Hubo 25 equipos en 2025 y 2026. Actualmente, hay 20 viajes misioneros tentativamente programados para 2027. Vienen de Carolina del Sur, Florida, Nebraska, Virginia, Michigan, Connecticut, Carolina del Sur y Luisiana, así como de Georgia.

El obispo Moisés Quezada Moto informa que las 56 iglesias en todo el país están reanudando las actividades que se retrasaron durante la pandemia y que las 23 escuelas han inscrito a casi 8,000 estudiantes. La Diócesis también administra dos centros de conferencias y un hogar para ancianos de dos años. La pandemia demostró el valor de su clínica de salud. La clínica también ha tenido un papel importante para mitigar el impacto de los fondos y servicios perdidos con el cierre del programa USAID de Estados Unidos.

Historia Reciente: Revisar y Revitalizar

Los equipos de misión de Georgia incluyen personas de todas las edades: adolescentes de toda la Diócesis y jubilados. Es una relación rica que ha acercado especialmente a los feligreses y las iglesias de Georgia y la República Dominicana. Durante la pausa relacionada con la pandemia, que obligó a la mayoría de las iglesias, escuelas y equipos de misión a cancelar la mayoría de los viajes misioneros en 2023 y 2024, un comité especialmente designado evaluó el valor y el futuro de la relación de Georgia. El comité recomendó que la relación continúe, pero con estas advertencias: habrá una revisión periódica del programa y se hará un énfasis inmediato en enriquecer y ampliar la relación, particularmente de maneras que aumenten la comprensión en Georgia de las personas y la iglesia en la República Dominicana. Desde entonces, el obispo Logue lideró el equipo exploratorio de 2026, y Mary Grace Wynn está discutiendo un posible viaje misionero de verano por los jóvenes de la Diócesis. Además, la directora ejecutiva del DDG, Christy Wallace, se ha mudado a Augusta y es feligresa de Holy Comforter en Martinez. El DDG también añadió a otra persona de Georgia a su junta, Katie Grant de Augusta.

La Diócesis de Georgia nuevamente asignó $10,000 en su presupuesto de 2026 para apoyar el trabajo del Dominican Development Group (DDG). El obispo Logue y su representante designado son miembros de la Junta Directiva del DDG. El DDG es un consorcio de diez diócesis (Central Gulf Coast, Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan, Georgia, Nebraska, Northwest Texas, The Episcopal Church en South Carolina, Southeast Florida, Southwest Florida y Western Louisiana) con relaciones de compañerismo con la Diócesis de la República Dominicana. El DDG es una organización sin fines de lucro 501(c)(3) dentro de la Iglesia Episcopal que coordina el trabajo de todas las diócesis compañeras para ayudar a la Diócesis de la República Dominicana a fortalecer sus programas y mantener la autosuficiencia financiera. El DDG ayuda a los EE.UU.

El DDG ayuda a los equipos de misión de Estados Unidos que viajan a la República Dominicana y recauda fondos para el fondo diocesano de la RD. Más allá de eso, los costos de nuestra relación dinámica con nuestros socios episcopales dominicanos son asumidos por las parroquias y los individuos que eligen contribuir con su tiempo y trabajo y/o sus recursos financieros a los proyectos elegidos para los equipos de misión.

Después de su viaje, tanto el obispo Logue como el miembro del equipo Jackson Evans, estudiante de segundo año de la Universidad de Georgia, recordaron su viaje como un momento muy e special:

“Todos con los que he hablado que han hecho el viaje a nuestra Diócesis Compañera regresan con la sensación de que servir junto a los dominicanos en sus iglesias importaba mientras fomentamos lazos con otra parte del Cuerpo de Cristo y se sienten inspirados por la fidelidad que experimentaron”, dijo el obispo Logue, quien hacía su tercer viaje de misión a la RD. “Organizar un viaje para tu congregación o un grupo de iglesias en tu convocatoria o la Diócesis es más fácil de lo que podrías imaginar. Tenemos excelentes conexiones con el Obispo Moisés Quezada Mota y el personal diocesano en la República Dominicana.”

A eso, Evans agregó, “Espero siempre llevar conmigo los recuerdos de mi experiencia en la República Dominicana y que sirvan como un recordatorio de estar siempre atento a las necesidades expresadas y no expresadas de los demás en mi comunidad inmediata.”

Inspírate de nuevo con las palabras del ex Obispo Presidente Michael Curry: “Ahora es nuestro momento de ir. Ir al mundo a compartir las buenas noticias de Dios y de Jesucristo. Ir al mundo y ayudar a ser agentes e instrumentos de la reconciliación de Dios. Ir al mundo,

dejar que el mundo sepa que tienen un Dios que nos ama, un Dios que no nos dejará ir, y que ese amor puede liberarnos a todos." El Grupo de Desarrollo Dominicano lo ha resumido en cuatro palabras: "Aprende. Ora. Da. Ve."

Lo importante es que la búsqueda de nuevos equipos para unirse a este esfuerzo sigue en marcha. Las oportunidades solo están limitadas por nuestra imaginación, pero ya incluyen desde becas y una "Caminata por el Agua" hasta la construcción de nuevas iglesias. Echa un vistazo al nuevo sitio web: theddg.org. Si tú o tu iglesia tienen interés, considera unirte a uno de los viajes exploratorios de una semana que se realizarán en enero, marzo, mayo y diciembre. Contacta a Christy Wallace en el Dominican Development Group (cwallace@dominicandevelopmentgroup.org).

Haydee y Jim Toedtman
Copresidentes de la Comisión de Diócesis Compañeras

CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY

Over the past year, I have been privileged to make 32 visits to different congregations across our Diocese. And as I encounter each of these congregations, I am reminded over and over again of the way that the Holy Spirit works through us to bring new life and new hope to places and people that desperately need it. The work of the people of the Diocese of Georgia is inspiring, and I am deeply grateful for the chance to experience it. When I come to congregations, I usually preach and celebrate the Eucharist. In addition, I am available to teach and to meet with Vestries or Wardens and Clergy. I also enjoy getting to know people in different congregations and learning about their life and their circumstances.

In addition to being with congregations on Sundays, I have also coordinated and led multiple retreats intended to support and train congregational leaders. These have included our Vestry Retreat which took place last February, our Lay Ministers' Conference in March, our Lay Worship Leaders' Retreat at the end of August, our Spring and Fall Clergy Conferences and several in-person trainings for our Safe Church, Safe Communities program. At each of these, the formation of community and the connections between people from different congregations has been one of the most heartening things in which I have participated.

As we look toward 2027, we will continue to offer the retreats and conferences mentioned above, including two separate Vestry Retreats this year in January and February, so that more Vestries will be able to participate. In addition, I will once again be going to different congregations many Sundays. I would love to come and spend time with your church. Please reach out to me with scheduling questions, questions about our retreats, questions about Safe Church, or anything else.

Canon Joshua Varner
Canon for Congregational Vitality

CURSILLO COMMISSION

The Cursillo Commission has continued to meet quarterly via Zoom, allowing our Commission members to stay connected and conduct business efficiently while saving travel time and expenses.

Our 2026 Spring Cursillo weekend, Cursillo #132, was held April 16 – 19 2026, with Andrew Austin serving as Lay Rector. The weekend was filled with grace and renewal for 18 participants. At the time of this writing, preparations are underway for Cursillo #133, scheduled for October 15–19, 2026, with Robin Bailie serving as Lay Rector. We look forward to another inspiring weekend of faith, fellowship, and renewal at Honey Creek.

The Commission continues to work diligently to ensure that Cursillo weekends are offered twice a year—each spring and fall—so that more people across the Diocese may experience this transformative ministry. Our budget remains healthy, and through the generosity of our community, we are able to offer scholarships to ensure that financial need is never a barrier to attending a Cursillo weekend. We have five commission

members rotating off and we are nominating five persons to add to the commission: Laurie Fulford, Lea Hawkins Gonzalez, James Israel, Nicole Kirksey and Deacon Nancy Sartin. De Colores!

Ned and Mary Newcomb
Cursillo Commission Co-Chairs

DEACONS OF THE DIOCESE OF GEORGIA

As of 28 September 2026, in the Diocese of Georgia there are:

{1} 17 Active Deacons
{2} two Hospital Chaplains
{3} One living assistance Chaplain
{4} Ten retired Deacons
{5} 13 Retired but active in their home church only
{6} four postulants will begin the Deacon School of Ministry starting in January
{7} Three candidates ordinated in 2025 at the 2025 diocese of Georgia convention in Statesboro, GA.
{8} Deacon School of Ministry will be held March 2027

My brothers and Sisters, every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God now calls you to a special ministry of servanthood directly under your bishop. In the name Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely.

Ordination: Deacon BCP 543
Archdeacan Yvette Owens

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Functioning at the diocesan level much like a vestry for a church, council is comprised of clergy and lay representatives from convocations and at-large members, as well as the chancellor, convocation deans, bishop and canons who serve ex officio on the Council. The Council met four times since the 2025 Convention. At each meeting Council members hear reports from the Canon for Administration, the Canon to the Ordinary, the Canon for Congregational Vitality, and Bishop Logue. Other reports are given as needed.

December 9, 2025
Online via Zoom

Bishop Logue reviewd the make up of the diocese - communicants, parishes, etc. He reviewed the roles within the diocese - committees and Council. He went over the canon that describes the role of Diocesan Council. Bishop Logue shows Council the governance map and walks them through the map. He then reviewed the definitions related to attendance, member responsibilities, and the Vice President and Executive Council of Diocesan Council. Bishop Logue goes over the diocesan staff and their roles within the diocese. He then reviewed the outline of the work for the upcoming year - meeting timeline and budget cycle.

Canon Austin showed Council where to find current financial reports, audits, and budgets on the diocesan website. He reviewed the third quarter financial reports that were also available at convention in November.

The Bishop updated Council on parts of the Strategic Plan including the Communications Committee, the resource hub, and the Liturgical Commission. He reported on the work of Canon Varner with the Advent 1Book1Diocese and the Being With cohorts. He encouraged Council to engage with the Strategic Plan and figure out ways to foster community across the diocese. Bishop Logue reminded Council the the more we are able to do things outside of our own communities that we are given the opportunity to grow more in our faith and Church.

He reviewed the list of former task groups that Council has led each year. In the coming year, Bishop Logue was asking for the Clergy Cottage Task Group to continue with their work, as well as the Strategic Planning Committee. Council members who are interested in serving on one of these task groups to email Canon Lasch. Bishop Logue was interested in gathering

a group together to look at AI and to work towards a policy for the use of AI in the diocese.

Slate voted on by acclamation
Vice President of Council - the Rev. Terri Degenhardt
Executive Council - Peggy Hamlin, Sandy Sandbach, and Clara Rowsey-Stewart
Housing Allowances
Bishop Logue - $18,500
Canon Lasch - $0
Canon Varner - $42,000
The Rev. Michael Chaney - $23,999
All approved

March 7, 2026
Episcopal Center, Savannah
This meeting began with a presentation about artificial intelligence(AI) by Katie Allred. She reviewed basic information about AI, how it is used, how it can be used, and answered questions from Council.

Canon for Administration Report
Canon Austin reminded Council that there may be some skewed percentages in the budget as the budget categories continue to change and adjust to our current usage. Income from events has increased as events continue to grow and as we add new events. Canon Austin reviewed the budget versus actuals for January 2026. He reviewed the required reports needed for the budget cycle for the diocese. He gave a brief overview of the Board of the Corporation, including the 4% draw and the positive three year forecast for return. Canon Austin spoke about creating options for processes in place for those parishes who do noturn in a parochial report and/or an annual audit/review. He would like Council to think about potentially creating a policy.

Bishop's Report
The bishop told Council about the Vestry Retreat and the success of that weekend. He moved towards reporting on what items are in process of the strategic plan. Canon Lasch spoke about the new property grant application for parishes that can assist in property assessments and repairs.Additional updates included the resource hub, website redesign, communication resources, communion by extension, new Youth Missioner, and Honey Creek Sustainability committee.

The Bishop spoke about two events that could continue to bring people together within congregations: 1Faith1Convocation (held once in the Southeast convocation with plans to do again next year), and a convocational Vacation Bible School that is currently being planned for the Savannah Convocation.

Bishop Logue reported on the sale of the E 34th diocesan office building, finally closing in February 2026. He updated Council on the ordination of the Rev. Angela Shelley to the priesthood, the five people who are in the process towards completing formation for the priesthood, and the 10 who are seminarians.

He then told Council about a joint year round program with other denominations and the Diocese of Atlanta - the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the United Methodists - reading the Bible together in a year.
This will begin on Advent 1.

June 4, 2026
Zoom

Canon for Administration Report
Canon Austin reviews the first quarter financial reports. He wants parishes to review church theft policy through CPG and review credit card procedures. Canon Austin moved to the two appeals submitted for review and reported on each ask.

Appeals
St. Margaret of Scotland, Moultrie - $3,895 to $0 - Three year appeal return:
2026: $0, 2027: 5%, 2028: 7.5%, 2029: 10%

St. Philip's, Hinesville - $2000
One year of $2000

Canon to the Ordinary Report
Canon Lasch reviewed recent clergy changes and new calls. She also listed the parishes who are in current search processes. Canon Lasch speaks on the difficulty to provide parishes with clergy in smaller areas and smaller budgets, but highlights that there are many congregations who are thinking creatively in how to have clergy present. It's been a delight to see how these parishes without full time clergy are still finding ways to continue to thrive and serve their community.

Honey Creek Sustainability Report
Bishop Logue reminded Council about his appointing of this committee, and their work is ongoing. Canon Austin reviewed the three concepts of potential outcomes for Honey Creek: continue with the current process knowing that the Diocese would need to continue to provide significant support, sell the entire property and move the funds to an endowment fund, or lease parts of the property. There is a lot of work to be done for any of these options, but this work has helped make the decision making for the future of Honey Creek more clear. There is no immediate crisis, so no need for a quick decision, but plenty of time for discernment and work towards a solution.

Bishop's Report
Bishop Logue spoke about some of the information he shared with clergy during the last clergy conference about church attendance and age distribution in denominations if nothing changes. And yet there are so many positives we're seeing in our parishes - baptisms and confirmations are up. We want to stay faithful to how the Spirit is leading us.

Updates
Hispanic Ministry Commision
Part of the strategic plan is to support parish and convocational vitality, and to create vision in those areas who are ripe for growth. The Rev. Leonel Palanco has agreed to head a new Latino Ministry Commission to assist in growing Hispanic and Latino ministries in the diocese and meet the needs of the Hispanic and Latino members of our community.

The Legacy Society
Bishop Logue has also been reminded about the Legacy Society and talking to parishioners about adding the church into their will. The diocese and multiple parishes have seen the benefits of funds that have been given to parishes and diocese in starting ministries and endowments that have made a significant
difference.

Holy Orders
Bishop Logue updated Council on those who are currently in the process and the annual Postulancy Retreat at Honey Creek. This retreat has proven to be an incredible instrument in the discernment process.

Convention
Dr. Beth-Sarah Wright will be the speaker at our next Convention in Brunswick. She was the leader of the most recent Lay Ministers' Conference held at Honey Creek.

Lay Worship Leaders' Conference
This weekend is geared towards leaders from different parishes to work towards Licensed Lay Worship Leaders. This is for those who want to be licensed to lead worship in the absence of a priest and the first step in working towards using Communion by Extension.

Youth Programs
Bishop Logue reviewed the youth events calendar put forth by Youth Missioner Mary Grace Wynn.

Additional Updates
Dominican Republic Trip
Bishop Logue, Victoria Logue, and Mary Grace Wynn will be going on an exploratory
trip with others in July.

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Reading the Bible in a Year
A plan is forming and news will be released soon.

Strategic Plan & AI Policy
Bishop Logue would like to create a task group from this group to work on the continuation of the strategic plan. This group would work with members from the strategic plan committee to make sure we're staying on task with the goals set forward.

Communications Manager Liz Williams reviewed the work the AI policy committee has done thus far, and what that work looks like moving forward and presenting a policy for Council to review.

Mutual Ministry Review
Bishop Logue would like Council to take up the mutual ministry review that Standing Committee would also give for the bishop.

Voting
Appeals:
St. Margaret of Scotland, Moultrie: approved as presented
St. Philip's, Hinesville: approved as presented
Using the same Mutual Ministry Review with the Standing Committe: Approved as presented

September 12, 2026
Trinity, Statesboro

Canon for Administration Report
Bishop Logue reviewed the financial reports as Canon Austin is out of town. Currently the budget is mostly on track for this time of year in regards to income and expenditures. Bishop Logue reminds Council that Canon Austin has reworked our budget in order to more appropriately describe the work of the diocese. The bishop reviewed the budget cycle and how the budget cycle works.

Bishop Logue reviewed the 2026 budget. The income from the endowment will be moved to 5% in order to adjust for inflation/spending power. Two part time positions have been added to diocesan staff - youth missioner and building manager for the Episcopal Center in Savannah. Health insurance costs will increase by 13% for 2027. The Byllesby Center in Augusta has formed their own board and LLC. This transition's impact on the budget will be $12,000 for 2027. After 2027 that line item is anticipated to be removed from the budget. The 2027 budget just breaks $2 million dollars. He points out specific line items for explanation in variance from year to year.

The Honey Creek budget reflects the low usage of diocesan groups on campus. Outside groups are the main groups that are using the property. There were investments made in the buildings in order to assist in increasing usage. Canon Austin and the bishop are speaking with Dade Brantley to bring in both bookkeeping and groundskeeping assistance for Honey Creek. Many of the expenses for Honey Creek are as needed, but the base costs for the property are harder to meet. The vote on the Honey Creek budget will be online at a later date.

Honey Creek Sustainability Task Force Report
The committee had three options for Honey Creek: continue with the current system of support from the diocese, sell the entire property and put the proceeds into an endowment, or lease about a third of the property to an approved entity that would raise additional capital funds. There have been discussions with two developers for potential projects on the property that could be fruitful. More discussions are planned for the future.

Bishop's Report
Bishop Logue gave Council a review of where the bishop is in the process of hiring the new Canon to the Ordinary & Chief of Staff. He is still in a period of discernment, with the assistance of Canon Eric Cooter serving as interim CTO.

He reintroduced the theme for convention as continuing the strategic plan. Dr. Beth-Sarah Wright will be the keynote speaker for 2026.

Bishop Logue introduced the draft AI policy and Liz Williams gave more detail and background in building the policy. Discussion was had and Council agreed to continue to work on this policy and revisit it at the next Council meeting.

Bishop Logue updated Council on the upcoming closure of Holy Trinity in Blakely. The bishop will work with the Standing Committee on next steps for the buildings on the property.

Additional updates included where in the process the mutual ministry review is currently, website update, Lay Worship Leaders' Conference, and the Vestry Retreats to be held in 2027. Bishop Logue concludes his report with describing Walking with the Word project.

Voting
Council passed the diocesan budget.

Liz Williams
Communications Manager

EPISCOPAL YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The 2025-2026 EYCS Board was composed of twelve women from nine churches. They joined together to fulfill the EYCS mission, to strengthen family life and commitment to the Episcopal Church in the form of providing financial assistance to youth 22 years of age or younger for college expenses or attendance at Honey Creek Camp. A total of $94,500 in scholarships was awarded to 46 students from churches across the Diocese for the 2025-2026 academic school year. The Camp at Honey Creek was allocated $10,000 in funds to help students attend camp.

The main sources for funds continue to be the EYCS Endowment fund: $43,333; the Anson Dodge Fund: $50,000; $10,355 from the Bishop Stuart Fund; $6,148 from Ingatherings from 16 congregations and groups withing the diocese; and $1,395 from individuals.

Ingatherings are traditionally held in November, and still are in many congregations, as the Canons state: "At the regular service, or on the Sunday immediately preceding or following Thanksgiving Day, an offering shall be taken for the "Episcopal Youth and Children's Services." Later the Canons state: "A Congregation may elect to place in its budget as item for support of the 'Episcopal Youth and Children's Services,' and for the support of the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, in lieu of taking the special offerings as set forth herein. Now, some Congregations choose to hold their Ingatherings at another designated time during the year. It is best for each Parish to decide which time during the year works best for their needs as the Ingathering is a canonical requirement. Sadly, less than half of the churches in the Diocese participate in the Ingathering, including churches who have students who benefit from the scholarships. This year, the churches who contributed to the EYCS fund were All Saints Tybee, Saint Athanasius, St. Thomas Savannah, St. George's, St. Barnabas, St. Matthew's, Christ the King, St. John's Savannah, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Thomas Aquinas, Trinity, Cochran, Good Shephard, Swainsboro, St. Peter's Savannah, and St. Francis, Savannah.

Nearly all the scholarship recipients (with rare exceptions) had outstanding academic performances and are involved in their churches. Scholarship awards vary based on financial need, and students reapply each year for consideration for another scholarship. Each student is assigned an EYCS board member to represent them throughout their college years. These students work very hard, and their stories and achievements continue to move and inspire the board every year. Please help get the word out to your congregation this spring to encourage any eligible students to apply. Deadline for applications is May 31st, 2027. Links to application requirements can be found here: https://gaepiscopal.org/eycs/ . The EYCS Board is continuing to seek new board members to join the board in 2027. Any interested person willing to serve for four years is welcome to apply. We have two Zoom meetings a year in April and October and two in-person meetings in

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Savannah each year in January and June. Thank you to all those congregations who have provided financial support, the fabulous board members, and scholars. This is a team effort, and we continue to update our EYCS website, as it is still the best resource for all things EYCS as is our Facebook page! You may also reach out via email to eycs.georgiaepiscopal@gmail.com.

Kitty Kastick
2026 EYCS Chair

RACIAL JUSTICE AND HEALING MINISTRY

Racial Justice Georgia (RJGA) continues its work of confronting racism in its various forms, guided by the light of our baptismal covenant. We have sought to invite others into that work and to take it on for themselves.

In October RJGA held a Zoom-based Black church summit, a follow-up to its in-person gathering earlier in the year. The goal of this initiative is to bring representatives of the diocese's seven historically Black churches together to share concerns and struggles, hopes for the future, and the wisdom that has come from each church's history. RJGA is continuing this work with a second in-person meeting, on Friday at this year's convention.

At the 2025 convention RJGA put forward a Migration with Dignity resolution, urging the diocese to officially support the national church's framework of advocacy for and ministry to migrants. There was passionate discussion on the floor, with several people expressing gratitude for the summons to take a stand and make a public Christian witness. The resolution passed with an almost unanimous vote. Members of RJGA subsequently gathered in May at the ICE detention center in Folkston to hold a prayer vigil, displaying empathy with the detained and opposition to government actions.

As it has before, RJGA hosted two diocesan-wide Zoom-based book discussions, in January and July. RJGA member Dr. Lela Lewis (St. Paul's, Jesup) facilitated both discussions. The January session read Joy DeGruy's Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome, and the July session read Joan Potter's African American Firsts. With participants from Augusta to Bainbridge, Kingsland to Rincon, the sessions brought disparate Episcopalians together in lively discussion and thoughtful reflections on race and African American history.

A long-desired goal of RJGA's is finally moving: a construction crew completed the first phase of the restoration of the original Good Shepherd, Pennick building—the church and school established by St. Anna Alexander, the patron saint of the diocese. The building is now sealed and waterproof, awaiting more funding for its transformation into a meeting space and museum. RJGA member Dwala Nobles' (Good Shepherd, Pennick) diligent fundraising and grant-writing efforts have been vital to this first phase coming to fruition.

Finally, RJGA put forward its first budget request. Since its beginnings in 2020, RJGA has operated on an informal financial basis, without an itemized budget. Through the careful work of Linda Moore (St. Anne's, Tifton) and the Very Rev. Billy Alford (retired from St. Alban's, Augusta), RJGA compiled a comprehensive list of all past expenditures, made a wish-list of things it would like to do with expanded funding, and submitted that to the diocese in the summer. We are hopeful that having Racial Justice Georgia explicitly listed in the diocesan budget not only regularizes our finances, but more importantly that it conveys the importance of racial justice work for this diocese, in the troubling times that we live in.

John Hayes & Clara Rowsey-Stewart
Co-Chairs

STANDING COMMITTEE

Members of the 2026 Standing Committee are:
The Rev. Becky Rowell, President
The Very Rev. Al Crumpton
The Very Rev. Richard Nelson
The Very Rev. Tom Purdy
Ms. Charlotte (Toni) Blue, Secretary
Ms. Lisa Gibb
Mr. Mills Fleming

Mr. Dave Cranford
Bishop Logue routinely meets with the committee providing updates on issues facing the Diocese which may require Standing Committee action.

Rev. Rowell and Ms. Blue will complete their terms with the election of successors during convention.

The Committee met monthly via Zoom. Twice annually, the Standing Committee met jointly with the Commission on Ministry to consider individuals in the ordination process.

During this year, the Standing Committee:
- Approved all requests for consents to the election of bishops in dioceses throughout The Episcopal Church
- Approved nominees in the ordination process for postulancy and candidacy
- Accepted the request of Holy Spirit, Dawson to close
- Declared Holy Trinity, Blakely extinct
- Approved the sale of: the former Diocesan offices at 18 E. 34th St, Savannah, the rectory at St. Paul's, Jesup, a home donated to St. Paul's, Savannah, church property at Holy Trinity, Blakely (currently on the market), church property at Holy Spirit, Dawson (currently on the market)
- As required in the Bishop's Letter of Agreement, conducted the biennial Mutual Ministry Review after developing standardized questions for use by the Standing Committee and Diocesan Council
- Developed a Vehicle Replacement Policy for the Bishop's car. The policy was sent to Diocesan Council for consideration and approval.
- Conducted a salary survey for bishops in dioceses of similar size. Recommendations were made for salary increases over a four-year period to bring the Bishop's salary to the median salary for the surveyed group. The survey and recommendations were sent to Finance Committee for their consideration in the budget for this year and subsequent years. The budget proposed to convention makes the recommended change to the bishop's compensation.
- Received reports from the Honey Creek Sustainability Group and considered recommendations

Rev. Becky Rowell
President, Standing Committee

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

Sewanee: The University of the South is a higher education institution of the Episcopal Church. The University is founded and governed by 28 constituent Episcopal dioceses. It is the only Episcopal-owned university in the country. The University houses the undergraduate College of Arts and Science, the School of Theology and the School of Letters.

The Diocese of Georgia currently has two students at the College: Eva Purdy (C 28), Ella Rose Briones (C30) and one student at the School of Theology: Greg Jones. In Fall 2026, the College of Arts and Science welcomed a Freshman class of 498 students. The total student enrollment in the College is 1,775 students.

There were 25 entering students at the School of Theology. Enrollment at the School of Theology is made up of 72 residential students.

The Education for Ministry (EfM) program supplemented the "EfM: Classic" curriculum with a new, one-year curriculum called "EfM: Wide Angle". Total enrollment nationwide is 4,225 in both of these curricula.

The University is in Year Three of a Six-Year Strategic Plan: "Mind, Heart and Place". The components "Mind" focuses on curriculum; "Heart" focuses on leadership and citizenship; "Place" focuses on the physical domain and the population around the domain. Vice Chancellor Rob Pearigen emphasized that Sewanee's Episcopal identity is a cornerstone of the strategic plan.

This Fall, the University will launch a $160 million Fundraising Campaign to focus on repair and maintenance of existing buildings.

CONVENTION REPORTS

The effort will address identified issues in All Saints Chapel, numerous classroom buildings, dormitories, athletic facilities and other structures.

In 2026 the University accomplished a significant feat in eliminating a structural deficit budget of $8 million. Tremendous work has been done over the past several years by the internally staffed Deficit Elimination Attack Team (DEAT). The deficit has been eliminated and for the first time in nine years, no supplemental draw was made from the Endowment Fund to balance the budget.

While the University is succeeding on many fronts, there are also challenges.A major area of focus continues to be on-campus housing shortages for Seminarians, faculty and staff. The "Sewanee Village Ventures" continues to operate as a wholly-owned, for profit endeavor of the University to address these issues. Ground has been broken for a new, 48-unit apartment commons scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2027. It will be used to address the need for affordable on-campus housing for faculty, seminarians and staff.

The School of Theology has a commitment to providing residential students' full financial need through scholarships and financial aid. This lofty goal serves the church's overall mission of ensuring that seminarians can have access to excellent theological education without being hampered by education debt or drained of personal assets. However, it should be noted that there were an additional 16 students admitted for the incoming class of 2026 that were placed on a wait list due to a lack of financial aid available. For every additional $12,000 received in contributions, the School of Theology can admit one additional student. We ask that you and your parish prayerfully consider making an annual gift to Sewanee in support of seminarians and the future of our church. More information can be found at theologysupport.sewanee.edu.

ECCE QUAM BONUM,

Cam Mathis
The Very Rev. Tom Purdy
Whit Davis
Trustees for the University of the South

YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY

In 2025, Father Thomas Barron and the Canterbury Club team at Augusta University noticed that students could be together and still feel disconnected. Soul Talk began as a simple invitation: slow down, listen closely, and make room for deeper, more meaningful conversation. Soul Talk is a guided conversation around a shared theme. A menu of prompts moves from an easy opening toward deeper reflection. There is no lecture to sit through and no pressure to have the perfect answer. People listen to understand, speak from personal experience, and may pass whenever they wish.

What began in campus ministry has grown into a community gathering where students, adults, and neighbors meet as equals. Soul Talk now makes space for the questions and wisdom that emerge when generations share a table. Four gatherings have carried the conversation from mortality and care toward the human need to belong and the search for enough: death, mental health, belonging, and enough. A shared theme gives the evening its shape. The menu helps a group move from light conversation into the stories, questions, and reflections that matter.

THE HOUSE PRACTICES THAT HOLD THE TABLE
01 Listen to understand, not to fix.
02 Speak from your own experience.
03 What is shared here stays here.

The Rev. Thomas Barron
Campus Missioner

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Grace Cafe serving Valdosta State University, Georgia Military College, and Wiregrass Technical College

Grace Cafe is a free cafe for students who attend one of the three colleges in Valdosta, Georgia. We are located across the street from Valdosta State University. We serve coffee, tea, and snacks to

students in a comfortable, homey atmosphere. Students utilize our cafe for meetings, studying, and group work. We offer free wifi and a free copier. And the cafe is a great place to hang out.

Our cafe is staffed by 12 college student interns who trade 20 hours per week working at the cafe and/or the church in exchange for a room in one of our two houses. Male interns live at Louttit Hall and female interns live at Tomberlin House. The interns are led by the director of College Ministry who works under the guidance of the priest, and a team of volunteers from Christ Episcopal Church called the College Ministry Team.

Grace Cafe ministers to about 50 students on a daily basis, welcoming students into our cafe from 9 AM until 10 PM Monday through Thursday. We are also open on Fridays from 9 AM to 4 PM. One of our regular students said this about Grace Cafe, "It is my second home. I spend most of my time at the cafe." The cafe offers events on Thursday nights that create community such as watermelon socials, pumpkin carving, christmas tree ornament making, gratitude letters, movie nights, arts and crafts, karaoke nights, trivia rounds, game nights, and other fun activities.

Each semester, Grace Cafe prepares meals on the alternating Thursday nights. These meals are well attended by 60 to 90 students. Our parish family helps to make this happen financially and through donation and preparation of food. Volunteers from our parish have helped to staff the cafe on several occasions during some critical hours during the day. We have been blessed to always have enough manpower to keep our free cafe running.

We provide a food pantry as well. We are able to provide free food to students in need through our partnership with Second Harvest of South Georgia. We purchase about 300 pounds of food from Second Harvest each week. We are able to get fruit, vegetables, canned food, frozen meats, bread, and sweet treats from this organization. We also receive donations from the parishioners of Christ Episcopal Church-Valdosta weekly.

Our interns provide many hours of service to the parish when they can. Examples of this are helping the garden guild, serving as an acolyte, assistance in the church office, helping the junior warden with maintenance, packing children's lunches for the Lunch Bunch ministry, and working in the church nursery. And of course the interns join the church for services. The parish in return supports our interns with things like rides to the grocery store or the doctor's office, sharing their gifts with the cafe and leading events such as our Knitting/Crocheting night.

Grace Cafe thanks all those who make this ministry possible including the diocese of Georgia and Christ Episcopal Church.

Jeri-Lyn Flowers
Director of College Ministry
Christ Church, Valdosta

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Diocesan Youth Committee hired Mary Grace Wynn in late March to lead youth programming for the Diocese. To increase participation and youth opportunities, Mary Grace has spent the first six months in this role building a youth program calendar and running events. In July, students in grades 6th-12th enjoyed a summer retreat in North Georgia for a weekend of whitewater rafting, worship, and fellowship.

College-age students were selected to attend the Diocesan Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic to scout the work and connections needed to support a 2027 Summer Mission Trip for high school and college students.

In September, the Acolyte Festival took place at Saint Paul's Church in Augusta to support acolyte ministry across the Diocese. Area clergy and lay leaders came together to serve, teach, and volunteer for this special event.

CONVENTION REPORTS

Looking ahead, a small group of student leaders will represent the Diocese of Georgia this December at the Province IV Youth Leadership Summit, followed by a fun weekend retreat for to kick off the new year, Winter Blast, on January 1-3 at Honey Creek for grades 6th-12th.

One priority Mary Grace has been working on is improving communication with parents, students, and church leadership about upcoming events and opportunities, and staying connected weekly and monthly. With help from parents and church leaders across the Diocese, a Diocesan Student Roster has been compiled, along with a shared Google Drive for accessing resources.

Diocesan Youth retreat staples, New Beginnings and Happening, are currently being revitalized to reflect the structure and momentum of when these retreats began in the diocese, 1988 and 1978, respectively. With help from the retreat coordinators Karen Bell and Jody Grant, we aim to increase participant and student staff numbers along with support and participation from Diocesan clergy and youth leaders.
We're confident that with decades of experience and insight from past leaders, we can build back these essential programs.

To stay connected with Diocesan Youth Ministry, you can submit a Youth Roster form at https://bit.ly/diogaroster,, and view upcoming events at gaepiscopal.org/youth.

Mary Grace Wynn
Youth Missioner









BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF GEORGIA, INC. AND OPERATING ENTITY

CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2025

	Diocese	Camp	Intercompany Eliminations	Total
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 149,990	$ 10,284	$ -	$ 160,274
Accounts receivable	49,555	-	-	49,555
Other current assets	30,041	8,926	-	38,967
Total current assets	229,586	19,210	-	248,796
Property and equipment, net	3,186,347	681,033	-	3,867,380
Total assets	$ 3,415,933	$ 700,243	$ -	$ 4,116,176
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ 102,830	$ 957	$ -	$ 103,787
Loan from Endowment Fund of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia	350,000	-	-	350,000
Total current liabilities	452,830	957	-	453,787
Net assets				
Without donor restrictions	2,785,966	699,286	-	3,485,252
With donor restrictions	177,137	-	-	177,137
Total net assets	2,963,103	699,286	-	3,662,389
Total liabilities and net assets	$ 3,415,933	$ 700,243	$ -	$ 4,116,176

BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF GEORGIA, INC. AND OPERATING ENTITY

CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	Diocese					
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Camp Total	Intercompany Eliminations	Total
Support and revenues						
Parish and aided parish pledges and donations	$ 1,687,658	$ 98,986	$ 1,786,644	$ 148,952	$ (82,683)	$ 1,852,913
Special purpose income	49,318	32,226	81,544			81,544
Meetings, group, and lodging	-	-	-	99,572		99,572
Trust income	95,916	-	95,916	-		95,916
Episcopal Church camps	-	-	-	159,302	(69,976)	89,326
Other revenue	216,030	-	216,030	17,294	(30,000)	203,324
Investment income	122	-	122	1		123
Net assets released from restrictions	178,591	(178,591)	-	-	-	-
Total support and revenues	2,227,635	(47,379)	2,180,256	425,121	(182,659)	2,422,718
Expenses						
Salaries	572,484	-	572,484	48,670		621,154
Employee benefits and taxes	440,424	-	440,424	11,212		451,636
Special purpose distributions	264,012	-	264,012	-		264,012
Dining room and food costs	12,402	-	12,402	-		12,402
Rent and utilities	156,420	-	156,420	39,935		196,355
Insurance	58,026	-	58,026	77,386	(13,748)	121,664
Depreciation	93,787	-	93,787	86,398		180,185
Supplies	159,028	-	159,028	35,666	(90,671)	104,023
Diocesan support distributions	222,904	-	222,904	-	(78,240)	144,664
Repairs and maintenance	30,725	-	30,725	78,594		109,319
Miscellaneous	25,398	-	25,398	10,594		35,992
Travel	87,330	-	87,330	1,109		88,439
Professional fees	45,385	-	45,385	113,524		158,909
Housekeeping	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Total expenses	2,173,325	-	2,173,325	503,088	(182,659)	2,493,754
Change in net assets	54,310	(47,379)	6,931	(77,967)	-	(71,036)
Net assets - beginning of year	2,731,656	224,516	2,956,172	777,253	-	3,733,425
Net assets - end of year	$ 2,785,966	$ 177,137	$ 2,963,103	$ 699,286	$ -	$ 3,662,389

2027 DRAFT BUDGET

Episcopal Diocese of Georgia
2027 Budget

Category	Approved 2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2026 to 2027 % Budget Change
Revenue			
4000 Revenue			
4100 Tithes from Congregations	$1,737,280	**$1,804,287**	4%
4105 Donations	$100,000	**$50,000**	-50%
4110 Income from Endowment	$96,000	**$112,000**	17%
4115 Interest	$500	**$500**	0%
4120 Registration for Diocesan Convention	$25,000	**$25,000**	0%
4125 Other Workshop Registration	$10,000	**$3,500**	-65%
4130 Events Fee			
4130-1 Happening Event Income	$7,500	**$10,000**	33%
4130-3 New Beginnings Event Income	$5,500	**$6,000**	9%
4130-4 Province IV Canons/DTMs Gathering	$0	**$0**	
4130-5 Other Youth Event	$0	**$5,000**	
4132 Episcopal Center Rental income	$2,500	**$6,000**	140%
4135 Miscellaneous Income		**$713**	
Total Revenue	*$2,003,280*	***$2,023,000***	*1%*
Expenses			
6000 Mission Outside the Diocese			
6001 The Episcopal Church	$224,132	**$225,000**	0%
6002 Province IV of TEC	$2,500	**$2,500**	0%
6003 Voorhees College	$2,000	**$2,000**	0%
6004 St. Augustine's University	$2,000	**$2,000**	0%
6005 University of the South	$2,000	**$2,000**	0%
6006 Dominican Development Group	$10,000	**$10,000**	0%
Total 6000 Mission Outside the Diocese	*$242,632*	***$243,500***	*0%*
6101 Congregation Mission Development	$25,000	**$23,000**	-8%
6102 Hispanic Ministry Development	$27,680	**$27,680**	0%
6103 Campus Ministry	$47,000	**$47,000**	0%
6104 Seminarian Expenses	$12,000	**$17,500**	46%
6105 Youth Program Expenses	*$10,000*		*20%*
6105-01 General Youth Expenses		**$1,000**	
6105-02 Happening Expenses		**$3,000**	
6105-03 New Beginnings Expenses		**$3,000**	
6105-04 Other Youth Event Expenses		**$5,000**	
6106 Adult Program Expenses	$45,000		-40%
6106-01 General Program Expenses		**$12,000**	

2027 DRAFT BUDGET

Category	Approved 2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2026 to 2027 % Budget Change
6106-02 Clergy Program Expenses		**$7,500**	
6105-03 Lay Program Expenses		**$7,500**	
6107 Deacon School for Ministry	$5,000	**$5,000**	0%
6108 Clergy and Lay Leader Training	$45,000	**$15,000**	-67%
6109 Program Lodging/Meals at Honey Creek	$40,000		25%
6109-2 Happening Food & Lodging		**$15,000**	
6109-3 New Beginnings Food & Lodging		**$15,000**	
6109-4 Other Youth Event		**$10,000**	
6109-5 Other Event		**$10,000**	
6110 Meeting Travel	$10,000	**$5,000**	-50%
6111 Contractor/1099 Expense	$40,000	**$9,000**	-78%
6114 The Byllesby Center	$0	**$12,000**	
6216 Honey Creek Mission Support	$50,000	**$50,000**	0%
6215 Convocational Deans	$16,800	**$16,800**	0%
Total 6100 Mission Inside the Diocese	*$413,480*	***$316,980***	*-23%*
6220 Employee Related Expenses			
6201 Diocesan Staff Salaries	$642,000	**$736,000**	15%
6205 Housing Allowance	$62,500	**$80,000**	28%
6206 Lay Employee Pension	$33,550	**$35,500**	6%
6207 Clergy Pension	$71,820	**$79,000**	10%
6208 Health Insurance for Diocesan Staff	$160,483	**$182,000**	13%
6209 Employer FICA	$27,000	**$33,000**	22%
6210 Social Security Clergy Supplement	$27,000	**$31,500**	17%
6213 Continuing Education for Staff	$2,000	**$2,000**	0%
6214 Conference Registration for Staff	$5,000	**$7,500**	50%
6221 Staff Travel	*$35,000*		143%
6221-1 Bishop Travel	$20,000		
6221-1A Food & Lodging		**$8,000**	
6221-1B Automobile Expenses		**$9,000**	
6221-1C Other Travel		**$3,000**	
6221-2 Other Staff travel	*$15,000*	***$30,000***	100%
6309 Insurance Retirees and Group Life	$4,000	**$1,500**	-63%
6310 Insurance Disability	$3,000	**$3,000**	0%
Total 6220 Employee Related Expenses	*$1,094,953*	***$1,241,000***	*13%*
6212 Meals/Entertainment of Diocesan Guests	$1,200	**$1,500**	25%
6301 Utilities	*$10,000*		*-100%*
6301-1 Episcopal Center		**$27,500**	
6301-2 Clergy Cottage		**$1,000**	
6301-3 St Bartholomew's		**$1,000**	
6303 Office Supplies	$3,000	**$3,000**	0%

2027 DRAFT BUDGET

Category	Approved 2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2026 to 2027 % Budget Change
6304 Internet & Telecom	$7,000	**$11,000**	57%
6305 IT Systems	$5,000	**$30,500**	510%
6307 Office Equipment	$4,000	**$4,000**	0%
6308 Printing	$4,500	**$8,000**	78%
6311 Insurance Commercial and Automobile	$35,000	**$38,500**	10%
6312 Reserves General Convention & Lambeth	$5,000	**$5,000**	0%
6313 Reserves Episcopal Transition	$1,000	**$1,000**	0%
6314 Background Checks Clergy & Lay	$3,000	**$2,000**	-33%
6315 Candidates Testing & Screening	$15,000	**$16,500**	10%
6316 Diocesan Convention Facility Rent	$18,000	**$18,000**	0%
6317 Diocesan Convention Meals & Catering	$23,500	**$20,500**	-13%
6318 Audit Fees	$23,500	**$23,500**	0%
6319 Chancellor and Legal Expenses	$3,000	**$1,000**	-67%
6322 Property Maintenance & Improvements	$25,000	**$6,000**	-76%
6325 Bank Fees	$50	**$20**	-60%
6326 Postage & Shipping Expenses		**$2,000**	
Total 6300 Diocesan Administration	*$210,550*	***$221,520***	*5%*

Total Expenditures	$1,961,615	**$2,023,000**	103%
Net Operating Revenue	$41,665	**$0**	





HONEY CREEK DRAFT 2027 BUDGET

Camp & Conference Center at Honey Creek
Budget 2027

	Budget totals
Income	
Donations	$110,000
Event Income	
Diocesan Events	$160,000
Govt Events	$0
Non Diocesan Events	$96,000
Meetings, Groups & Lodging	$5,000
Merchandise	$400
Sales of Product Income	$0
Services	$0
Uncategorized Income	$5,000
Total Income	**$376,400**

Expense	
Advertising & Marketing	$1,500
Bank Charges & Fees	$2,500
Building and Grounds Maintenance	$30,000
Building and Grounds Supply	$16,000
Camp	$4,000
Car & Truck	$1,000
Continuing Education	$4,500
Contractors	$135,000
Fees	$1,000
Gas and Diesel for Auto	$1,000
Gas and Diesel for Equipment	$1,000
Housekeeping Service Contract	$30,000
Housekeeping Supply	$4,000
Liability Insurance	$42,000
Meeting Supplies	$1,000
Office Supplies & Software	$3,500
Other Business Expenses	$1,000
Payroll	$57,500
Postage and Shipping	$500
Property Hazard & Flood Insurance	$10,000
Repairs & Maintenance	$25,000
Staff Pension	$3,600
Taxes & Licenses	$8,000
Travel	$1,000
Uncategorized Expense	$0
Utilities	$56,000
Total Expense	**$440,600**
Other Income	
Diocese Subsidy	$50,000
Income from Endowment	$11,500
Interest Earned	$0
Okefenoke REMC Annual Refund	$2,700
Total Other Income	$64,200
Other Expense	$0
Total Other Expense	$0
Total Net Income	**$0**

ANNOTATIONS ON THE PROPOSED 2027 BUDGET

I am pleased to report that the transition to QuickBooks online has continued very smoothly and is already helping us see our financial status more clearly and easily. We have also moved our banking relationship from Wells Fargo to Bank of America, expanding the existing Board of the Corporation partnership with their private banking team. In addition to an operating account, we have opened separate designated and restricted fund accounts. This allows full transparency for those fund balances. Additionally, we moved our cash back reward credit cards from Truist to Bank of America, providing easier card management, and increasing cash back rewards; we've already earned over $1,000 in 4 months.

Cam Mathis, the Diocese Treasurer, and the Finance Committee have again provided invaluable financial insights and assistance throughout the year;

We have completed audits for both the Board of the Corporation, the Diocese and Honey Creek. The audit team complimented us on the work done to create a paperless online bookkeeping process; the audit team did not have to visit the office and had access to all needed documents via QuickBooks and email. The audits have been presented to and approved by the Board of the Corporation and the Finance Committee. Both printed and online copies are available.

The 2027 budget again just breaks 2 million dollars. Revenue shows a modest increase, with tithes increasing by 4%. There is no change for mission outside the diocese expenses. Changes to categories of other expenses have been made to provide better clarity and align to our business model. For example, I worked with the finance committee and Mary Grace Wynn, our youth missioner, to realign youth expenses so that in three lines we can see revenue, Honey Creek lodging expenses, and other youth expenses broken out in categories 6105/1-4. Adult programs will mirror those changes in 6109/1-3. As many of those Clergy and Lay leader Training expenses have moved to Honey Creek lodging and Adult Program expenses, there is a large percentage decrease for Clergy and Lay leader Training 6108.

The Byllesby Center in Augusta is becoming an Institution of the Diocese, setting up its own board and LLC. To assist with this transition, we have budgeted financial assistance of $12,000 for 2027.

Employee related expenses increased by 13%, this is the result of several factors: cost of living salary increases for the staff, a salary increase for the Bishop that reflects recommendations by the Standing Committee to bring his salary in line with peer Dioceses. The church pension group announced forecasted expenses to increase by 22% for 2027. They have made some changes to their plans and worked to bring the average increases down to 14% for 2027 for our Diocese. Staff travel has been realigned for 2027. The updates include increasing the amount for non-Bishop staff travel; and, decreasing and adding categories for the Bishop's travel expenses, although the total budget remains at $50,000 for the year. This aligns with the recommendation by the Standing Committee to provide ongoing support and planning for a vehicle for the Bishop's use. Any net revenue in Automobile Expenses 6221-1B at the end of the year will be added to a designated fund for the purpose of replacing the vehicle in the future. With the Church of the Epiphany starting to manage their own bank accounts and administration, I expect that Housing allowance and Clergy pension will both decrease as the Diocese has been paying Rev Chaney's salary and pension. This change should be in place before the end of 2026. The 2027 budget was created before we were able to confirm the changes and therefore these amounts had to be included.

ANNOTATIONS ON THE PROPOSED 2027 BUDGET

Diocesan Administration expenses are forecast to increase modestly as we settle into the 2nd full year at the Episcopal Center. Utilities (6301) are expected to decrease due to the improved efficiency of the new HVAC system in the chapel, and the installation of online programmable thermostats throughout the building. The IT Systems category 6305 has the single largest increase of the budget due to the categorization of all software, website, and connectivity expenses. This category includes payments to providers such as ADT, Comcast, ADP, Realm, Adobe, Zoom etc. The Diocese team has reviewed each expense and looked at options and ways to reduce costs; we will continue to review these expenses, but they are all deemed important for the function of the center and team.

As renovations and the installation of the elevator come to an end in 2026, property improvements should become maintenance and will be reduced for 2027.

Due to the work of the Honey Creek Sustainability Committee, the draft budget for our camp and conference center is changed very little for 2027. The goal is to have plans and a timeline in place perhaps as early as by convention, but we will not know the impact on the budget until next year.







UPCOMING EVENTS







YOUTH EVENTS

HAPPENING #113
When: November 20-22, 2026
Where: Honey Creek

WINTER BLAST
When: January 1-3, 2027
Where: Honey Creek

ADULT FORMATION

VESTRY RETREAT WEEKEND #1
When: January 8-9, 2027
Where: Honey Creek

CURSILLO ULTREYA
When: February 5-6, 2027
Where: Honey Creek

INTO THE WILDERNESS LENTEN RETREAT
When: February 11-13, 2027
Where: Honey Creek

WALKING WITH THE WORD LENTEN RETREAT
When: February 19-20, 2027
Where: Honey Creek

VESTRY RETREAT WEEKEND #2
When: February 26-27, 2027
Where: Honey Creek

2025 BOARD OF THE CORPORATION AUDIT

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF GEORGIA ENDOWMENT FUND

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Without donor restrictions	With donor restrictions	December 31, 2025	2024
ASSETS				
Investments				
Anson Dodge Home Fund	$ -	$ 1,618,798	$ 1,618,798	$ 1,492,227
HM Byllesby Fund		542,885	542,885	533,226
Bishop Stuart Fund		280,820	280,820	258,863
Christ Church Frederica Fund		617,110	617,110	548,344
Spencer Connerat Fund	625,953		625,953	698,391
Endowment of Episcopate Fund	671,460		671,460	617,989
Episcopal Youth and Children's Fund		1,175,225	1,175,225	1,083,337
General Diocesan Fund	2,244,100		2,244,100	2,065,393
Mary Rhinelander King Fund		4,442	4,442	3,947
James B. Lawrence Fund		9,088	9,088	8,075
St. Andrew's Darien Cemetery Fund		35,812	35,812	31,821
Trinity Church Cochran Fund		179,695	179,695	159,671
Calvary Episcopal Church Endowment		881,819	881,819	783,557
James H. Lewis Memorial Fund		99,230	99,230	88,173
Diocesan Mission Development Fund	140,536		140,536	124,876
St. John's Albany Flood Insurance Fund	1,182		1,182	1,050
Robert and Clara Black Fund		1,389,856	1,389,856	1,317,012
Episcopal Church of the Annunciation Fund		269,871	269,871	260,381
St. Anne's Organ Fund		168,177	168,177	149,437
The Agnes Wis Fund		309,310	309,310	274,843
Honey Creek Endowment		285,888	285,888	264,043
Robert A. Wolfe Trust		184,603	184,603	164,032
Paul Hoornstra Fund		179,509	179,509	159,506
Theological Education Fund		246,239	246,239	218,800
Grace Episcopal Parish Endowment Fund		275,561	275,561	251,616
All Saints' Tybee Mission Fund		703,770	703,770	625,348
St. James' Quitman Endowment Fund		138,811	138,811	157,552
St. Matthew's of Savannah Endowment Fund		120,342	120,342	106,932
Legacy Fund of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church		335,097	335,097	298,834
Legacy Fund of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church - Vestry Designated		173,585	173,585	142,758
The Mary Hardwick Rawlings Endowment Fund		290,881	290,881	288,220
St. Thomas Episcopal Church Endowment Fund		228,854	228,854	203,352
St. Thomas Aquinas Baxley Endowment Fund		332,595	332,595	308,061
St. Luke's Episcopal Church Building Endowment Fund		782,594	782,594	695,389
Bishop Benhase Legacy Fund		22,067	22,067	19,608
Holy Cross Episcopal Church Endowment Fund		366,525	366,525	325,682
Great and Small Seminary Scholarship Fund		324,131	324,131	295,313
Harry and Louise Shipp Fund	50,847	-	50,847	-
Total investments	3,734,078	12,573,190	16,307,268	15,025,659

2025 BOARD OF THE CORPORATION AUDIT

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF GEORGIA ENDOWMENT FUND

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONTINUED)

	Without donor restrictions	With donor restrictions	December 31, 2025	2024
ASSETS (continued)				
Total investments (per page 3)	3,734,078	12,573,190	16,307,268	15,025,659
Related party loan receivable	350,000	-	350,000	200,000
Net receivable	350,000	-	350,000	200,000
Total assets	$ 4,084,078	$ 12,573,190	$ 16,657,268	$ 15,225,659
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Liabilities				
Distributions payable	$ 7,993	$ 7,400	$ 15,393	$ 13,494
Total liabilities	7,993	7,400	15,393	13,494
Net assets	4,076,085	12,565,790	16,641,875	15,212,165
Total liabilities and net assets	$ 4,084,078	$ 12,573,190	$ 16,657,268	$ 15,225,659

walking with the WORD

You're invited to join the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, and the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia in a journey of reading the Bible together from Advent 2026 through Advent 2027.

The year long event will begin on the first Sunday of Advent with a shared Bible Reading Plan. But before we get to the daily readings, the three denominations will hold a 72 hour joint Miqra reading event. This event will include parishes from all three denominations hosting hours of reading the Bible aloud, nonstop from Genesis to Revelation. Sound incredible? Yes! This event is currently in the works and we will have more information about how to sign up soon. There will also be an ecumenical youth event held in early 2027 where youth from all three denominations will gather together for a weekend of worship, community building, and learning. Bishop Frank and Victoria Logue are offering a retreat at Honey Creek in Lent 2027 from February 19-20, which will be a deep dive into scripture. The year will end in Advent of 2027 with a joint service at the Cathedral of St. Phillip in Atlanta.

More information, including reading guides and additional resources, can be found by scanning the QR code to the right or by visiting https://walkingwiththewordga.org.