

**ANGLICAN COMMUNION/EPISCOPAL CHURCH/  
DIOCESE OF DALLAS UPDATE  
Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church  
Vestry Town Hall Meeting ~ May 20, 2007**

**I. Anglican Communion**

- Primates (Archbishops) met February 2007 in Tanzania
- Issued Communique:
  - Supporting Millennium Development Goals (ease extreme poverty in 3<sup>rd</sup> world)
  - Commending work on improved theological education in Anglican Communion
  - Agreed to proceed with Hermeneutics Study (methods of interpretation of scripture)
  - Commending work of Panel of Reference
  - Initial work on drafting of Anglican Covenant
  - Progress on Windsor Report Process and Listening Process/Episcopal Church
    - TEC has taken recommendations of WR seriously
    - noted problems associated with “cross border interventions”
    - requested agreement from House of Bishops:
      - Not authorize Rites of Blessing of same sex unions
      - Not consent to election of Bishop living in same sex union unless there is a new consensus on the issue in the Anglican Communion
    - requested suspension of legal actions regarding property disputes
    - Set up system to provide Pastoral Care for those dissenting from actions of Episcopal Church (variant of Primatial Vicar scheme proposed by Presiding Bishop in September and rejected by Network Bishops)
    - Gave TEC until September 30 to respond

**II. House of Bishops**

- Met in March to consider Primates Communique and other issues
- Response to Communique:
  - Did not address same sex blessings and bishop elections (September meeting)
  - No “side” has attempted to suspend legal actions
  - Raised canonical concerns about proposed Pastoral Care scheme
    - Stated desire to remain in communion with all of Anglican Communion
    - Pledged to work to find way to meet the pastoral needs
  - Invited Archbishop of Canterbury to meet with House of Bishops

**III. Next – Meeting of House of Bishops September 20-25 (New Orleans)**

- Archbishop of Canterbury will meet with them
- Expected to consider all issues raised by Primates Communique

#### IV. Anglican Church of Canada

- General Synod meeting June 19-25
- Struggling with position on same sex unions
- One of 4 nominees for Archbishop is Victoria Matthews (Edmonton)

#### V. Diocese of Dallas

- Diocesan Convention is Oct 19-20 at SouthFork in Plano
  - Parishes leaving Diocese:
    - Christ Church Plano (Sept. 2006)
    - St. Matthias (Dec. 2006)
    - Faith – Allen (March 2007) (leasing property from Diocese)
    - Resurrection (April 2007)
    - St. Francis – Dallas – may go under pastoral care of Ft. Worth
    - St. Nicholas – Flower Mound (Rector and part of congregation left Dec 2006)
    - Holy Trinity – Garland (Rector and part of congregation left March 2007)
- SMAA has been assisting Canon Lambert and those remaining at Holy Trinity