

# The American Anglican Council



## Renewing

orthodox Anglicanism worldwide



## Developing

faithful leaders

## Equipping

the church for mission



## 2010 Annual Report

# The American Anglican Council

## **OUR MISSION**

is to build up and defend Great Commission Anglican churches in North America and worldwide through advocacy and counsel, leadership development and equipping the local church.



**FOUNDED IN 1996,** the American Anglican Council, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a network of individuals, parishes, dioceses and ministries who affirm biblical authority and Christian orthodoxy within the Anglican Communion.





## A Message from the President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you so much for your interest in and

support of the work of the American Anglican Council (AAC). You may not know this, but 2010 marked my tenth year as president and CEO of the AAC. Over the years, the AAC has changed in many ways. When I first joined, the offices were located in Washington D.C. and the AAC shared office space with another Christian non-profit. Now, they're located in Atlanta. When I became CEO, our efforts were mainly focused within The Episcopal Church. Today, we not only work with Episcopalians but also with those in the new Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) and worldwide. As a former rector, I can tell you that those organizations and people who adapt to changing circumstances are the most effective ones.

Last year, the AAC demonstrated its ability to meet the demands of the ever changing circumstances in the Anglican Communion. For example, the newly formed Anglican Church in North America did not yet have the infrastructure to coordinate the formation of dioceses. In response, the AAC used its existing

resources and connections to help the Anglican Diocese of the South form as well as put on an evangelism and missions conference in the process! Another example is how the AAC, after seeing the need for leadership training and accountability among Anglicans, developed the Clergy Leadership Training Institute and the Sure Foundation project in 2010. These two programs, one for clergy the other for parish leadership, were designed virtually from the ground up in 2010 and ready for implementation by January of 2011. I've always appreciated and encouraged the AAC's ability to adapt in order to meet the needs of those we serve.

While I am proud of the AAC's ability to change, I am equally as proud of its ability to not change. In my ten years here we have remained true to our biblically based convictions and true to our mission: renewing orthodox Anglicanism worldwide, developing faithful leaders, and equipping the church for mission. As you read our 2010 Annual Report, please consider how you can help the AAC in its mission. We need your support.

In Christ our Lord,

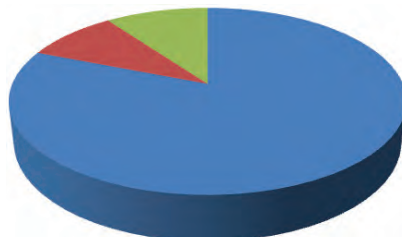
*David T. Anderson*

### *In 2010, the American Anglican Council . . .*

- ✦ represented **320** affiliated parishes .
- ✦ represented **19** dioceses.
- ✦ website was accessed **146,891** times from more than **175** countries/territories.
- ✦ distributed more than **100,000** copies of its newsletter, *Encompass*.
- ✦ sent an e-mail update every week to more than **10,000** subscribers.

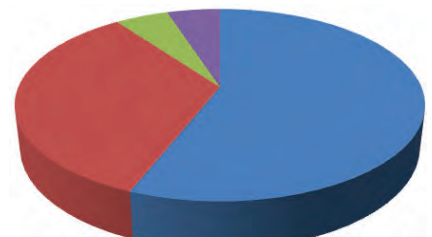
### 2010 Expenses

- Ministry 81 %
- Admin 9 %
- Fundraising 10 %



### 2010 Sources of Funding

- Foundations 56 %
- Individuals 34 %
- Parishes 5 %
- Other 5 %



# Developing Faithful Leaders

In 2010, the American Anglican Council began a major effort to develop faithful leaders and equip biblically orthodox Episcopal and Anglican churches by developing two courses targeting parish leadership and individual clergy members.

The AAC surveyed parish leaders in North America to determine what kinds of training and education were currently most needed by clergy, vestries, staff and parish leaders. The 164 responses from clergy throughout the U.S. showed several areas of need. The respondents' top three training needs for their vestries (or leadership

teams) were defining vestry mission and vision, being spiritually committed to leadership of the church, and clear effective communications to the parish. Other top areas of need were training in better communication and evangelism/apologetics. Finally, the clergy indicated that their most immediate personal needs were training and mentoring regarding the leader's walk with God, the ministry life of the leader, and leading a growing congregation.

## Sure Foundation Project



Working with Acts 29 Ministries, the AAC developed Sure Foundation, a skill-based training and equipping ministry that will enable congregations to grow numerically and prosper spiritually. Sure Foundation addresses issues of leadership, vision, evangelism, discipleship, every member ministry, healing, gifts and ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is a 19 month program for the leadership teams of five or more churches in a diocese or geographical area. The Rev. Canon Phil Ashe, chief operating & development officer of the AAC and the Rev. Alan Hansen, president of Acts 29 Ministries, meet with the participants eight times over a period of 18 months. Six extensive two-day training sessions are followed by two one-on-one consulting sessions for each leadership team. The consulting sessions help each leadership team form a clear strategic vision for their church and identify challenges that may be ahead. Each session will also include hands-on training for practical application skills.

By the end of the year, the AAC had identified dioceses/areas that were interested in Sure Foundation and scheduled the pilot program to begin in February 2011 at two locations, Atlanta, Ga., and Winchester, Tenn., for parishes in the Anglican Diocese of the South.



## Clergy Leadership Training Institute

The AAC developed the Clergy Leadership Training Institute (CLTI) to meet the needs for clergy mentoring and peer support. CLTI is a three-year program where participants meet for one week each year for teaching and fellowship. At the first yearly CLTI seminar, they will form small groups for peer support which will continue to meet in between the annual gatherings and afterward. These small groups are a key element of CLTI and provide accountability, consultation, and peer support.

The first year CLTI retreat focuses on the personal life of the leader, followed by the ministry life of the leader in year two and leading a growing congregation in year three. Dr. Leighton Ford, president of Leighton Ford Ministries, and Dr. Jim Osterhaus of The Armstrong Group along with Canon Phil Ashe of the American Anglican Council will be the leaders for year one. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with one of the CLTI leaders for individual consultation and prayer.

The first session of CLTI is scheduled for February 2011 at the Billy Graham Training Center at the Cove, Asheville, N.C.

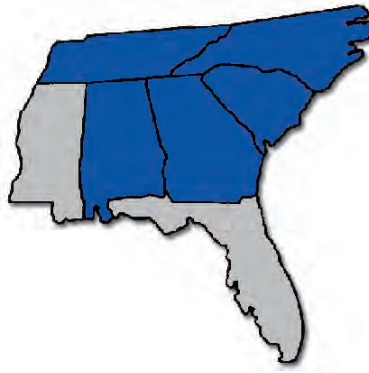


# Equipping the Church for Mission

## AAC Instrumental in Developing New ACNA Diocese

The AAC provided significant leadership and resources in developing a new diocese for the Anglican Church in North America, the Anglican Diocese of the South (ADOTS)—in less than 12 months! Canon Phil Ashey of the AAC led the diocese's steering committee through the challenging process of developing a constitution and canons.

In June, 2010, at the dioceses' first meeting, the AAC presented the "Sharing Our Faith" conference, a program featuring evangelism and church growth speakers. By combining the initial legislative meeting with an evangelistic conference, the AAC helped ensure the new diocese would begin focused on mission. ADOTS consists of more than 1,500 Anglicans from 25 parishes in five states. The American Anglican Council is currently consulting with other emerging groups wishing to form geographic dioceses within the ACNA.



*The photos below are from various meetings of the Anglican Diocese of the South (ADOTS) as it prepared, with the help of the American Anglican Council, to become a diocese. The ADOTS consists of parishes in AL, GA, NC, SC, TN*



## Defending Anglicans in Distress



When Christ Church, Savannah, Ga. was being sued for their property, where did they turn for help? The American Anglican Council. Why? Because they knew that, since 1996, the AAC has helped to build and defend Great Commission Anglican churches in North America through advocacy, teaching, legal and canonical counsel and connecting churches with other orthodox Anglicans. In 2010, the AAC filed a "friend of the court" (Amicus) brief in the Georgia Supreme Court in support of Christ Church, Savannah in their defense against the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia. The AAC also filed an Amicus brief for the Anglican District of Virginia in their defense against The Episcopal Church.

*"The AAC's constant encouragement has helped us keep perspective during this process." - The Rev. Marc Robertson, Rector, Christ Church Anglican, Savannah, Ga.*

# Renewing Orthodox Anglicanism Worldwide



## International Advocacy

*The Rev. Canon Phil Ashey (left) speaks with Bishop Rennis Ponniah, Diocese of Singapore, at the 4th Global South to South Encounter.*

### Global South to South Encounter

Canon Phil Ashey represented the AAC as well as the ACNA at the fourth meeting of the Global South to South Encounter. A total of 130 delegates from 20 provinces in the Global South (comprising Africa, West Indies, Asia and South America) gathered in Singapore in April of 2010 to discuss their common mission as well as the situation in the Anglican Communion. Along

with three other ACNA representatives, including Archbishop Bob Duncan, Canon Ashey used the opportunity to build relationships with fellow orthodox believers in the Global South, a group that represents the vast majority of Anglicans worldwide. Meetings like these, that gather in one place orthodox Anglican leaders, are extremely important to the AAC's international efforts to promote Anglican orthodoxy and defend against the spread of heterodoxy.

### The Church of England

Not only has the AAC been involved in helping establish the Anglican Church in North America, but it has also been a key contributor to the effort to obtain formal recognition of ACNA. In 2010, the Church of England General Synod debated whether or not it should be in communion with the ACNA. Prior to the debate, the AAC was asked to help educate synod members on how Anglicans in the U.S. have suffered for expressing dissent with the the Episcopal Church when it performed same-sex blessings and consecrated non-celibate homosexual bishops as well as other unbiblical actions.

In response to the request, the AAC published a 29 page report describing how The Episcopal Church (TEC) has spent millions of dollars in over 50 lawsuits against departing parishes, deposed or inhibited 12 bishops and more than 400 other clergy, and violated its own canons numer-

ous times in an attempt to intimidate and punish faithful Anglicans who left TEC to eventually form the ACNA. No other group had compiled or updated this information and to this day the report receives attention throughout the Communion. Additionally, Bishop Anderson and Canon Ashey traveled to London for this important meeting to ensure the orthodox Anglican side of the story was heard.

As a result of the AAC's presence and information it provided, many synod members expressed their support for ACNA and some extended invitations to build missional partnerships and relationships between ACNA and the Church of England.

The final motion did not establish a formal relationship between the two churches but it did afford the American Anglican Council the opportunity to vividly illustrate what is happening to North American Anglicanism and establish relationships with like-minded Anglicans in the Church of England.



# AAC Communications in 2010

## Resources

Providing a variety of resources on topics such as: discipleship, Anglican Communion issues, church planting, locating orthodox parishes and more.

## Latest news and commentary

With both AAC original stories and re-posted articles from other sources, the AAC's homepage keeps many Anglicans up to date on current events in the Communion.

## AAC website statistics for 2010

- Over 12,000 visits per month
- Visitors came from 175 countries/territories
- 35% of visitors were new to the site
- 320 AAC affiliated parishes listed on parish finder
- 38 AAC affiliated ministries listed

## Facebook page

The AAC strengthened its social network presence in 2010 by creating a Facebook page and actively engaging constituents online.

## Anglican Perspective

The AAC began producing this weekly two minute teaching video to better inform an increasingly online and younger audience.



## AAC Publications

### Encompass

A bi-monthly publication that contains a broad overview of current events in the Anglican realignment, available in print and online.

### Weekly Update

With over 10,000 subscribers, the AAC's Weekly Update Email is widely read and serves Anglicans worldwide. In 2010, the AAC redesigned the email's layout so it is more reader friendly.



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