

The Certain Trumpet

Winter 2014–2015 ♦ Wallace Spaulding, Editor

Progress On FCC's Parish Directory Website

Good progress has been made toward completing a major update of the Fellowship of Concerned Churchmen's online directory of orthodox Anglican/Episcopal parishes, and revamping the FCC's website (at www.anglicanchurches.net) itself.

So far, current information has been entered on 528 traditional/conservative parishes - about a third or more of all such congregations presently functioning in North America, which we believe may now total about 1,500. As we have input information for all parishes in a given jurisdiction at the same time, we can report some results now. We provide them below, along with (for comparison purposes) data for the same jurisdictions reflected in the FCC's 2007 *Directory of Traditional Anglican and Episcopal Parishes* (because - as the last such directory to be published in hardcopy form - it offers the last available static statistical baseline).

	<u>No. of parishes</u>	<u>Equivalent in 2007 Directory</u>
I. Still in the Episcopal Church (TEC)	42	92
II. Original derivatives of the first Anglican Church in North America (in communion with one another)		
Anglican Catholic Church (ACC)	95	88
Anglican Province of Christ the King (APCK)	42	47
United Episcopal Church of North America (UECNA)	21	25
Totals	158	160
III. Federation of Anglican Churches in the Americas (FACA)		
Reformed Episcopal Church (REC)	127	119
Anglican Church in America (ACA)/Anglican Province of America (APA) (in intercommunion)	120	161
The Mission (AMiA)	40	119
Episcopal Missionary Church (EMC)	23	23
Diocese of the Holy Cross (DHC)	18	21
Totals	328	409

A few observations about the above: 1) Of the 50 faithful parishes that disappeared from TEC after 2007, 40 were included in the Forward in Faith/North America-led dioceses that left TEC and joined the new (second) Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) in 2009. 2) Similarly, the roughly two-thirds that left the Anglican Mission in the Americas (AMiA) joined the ACNA in 2009; a remainder of the AMiA carries on as part of FACA, as shown above, and now calls itself The Mission, though it still uses the AMiA acronym. 3) Results for orthodox parishes aligned with the ACNA, including those

formerly in the AMiA, will be reported once updates of the directory's information for ACNA congregations - just now starting - are complete. 4) A special case is the REC, which, while reported

above as an FACA member, is also part of the ACNA. 5) The ACA lost some 30 parishes to Rome after Pope Benedict XVI announced the formation of an Ordinariate for orthodox Anglicans in late 2009.

Some mutually exclusive geographical concentrations are worth noting here: One-third of the APCK and DHC parishes are found in California and Pennsylvania, respectively. One-quarter of the REC's are in South Carolina. And one-fifth of ACC and AMIA parishes are in Virginia and Florida, respectively. All of this makes jurisdictional unification even more logical.

What we have often found lacking on parish and diocesan websites we have visited as part of our information-gathering efforts are the Sunday service times, and particularly the time for Holy Communion – THE MOST IMPORTANT piece of information for orthodox Anglican travelers, the FCC's primary “consumer group.” This has necessitated numerous phone calls (often abortive, but sometimes rewarding, due to the contacts made thereby).

If you find incorrect or missing information in the FCC online directory's listing for your parish, PLEASE report it by calling 703/243-4923 (FCC President Wallace Spaulding) or sending an e-mail to FCC's secretary at atraycik@aol.com. That will greatly help our efforts to keep the online directory as current as possible going forward.

The Unique Role of South Carolina In The REC

When going through the material on the Reformed Episcopal Church (REC) for the FCC's online directory of faithful Anglican and Episcopal parishes, I was struck by two things regarding the REC's Diocese of the Southeast: It has more congregations (31 in South Carolina, plus one in neighboring Savannah, Georgia) than any other diocese in the parent jurisdiction, and many of them are packed closely together. Seven congregations, for example, are in Moncks Corner, a small county seat around 33 miles north of Charleston; at least two others are adjacent to it, and ten more are either in Charleston or one of its close-in suburbs. This concentration, according to the diocesan history (www.recse.org/pages/history), was the result of the intense organizing efforts of the Rev. Peter Stevens (later a bishop) and Mr. Frank Ferguson (later a priest) among freed slaves in the area between 1865 and 1874.

The history goes on to note that the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina, the intended home for the Stevens-Ferguson effort, refused to accept the group they had organized, so it applied to the then-newly-formed REC, which in 1875 took them in. (Ironically, Stevens, as a Confederate Army colonel, reportedly gave the orders for the first shot fired in the Civil War. The REC Diocese of the Southeast's Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Alphonza Gadsden, explained that so many of his parishes are close together because, at the time of their foundation, their congregants were too poor to have horses; thus their churches had to be within walking distance. The fact that such a structure has been maintained unto the present day, given the economics involved, shows an intense parish loyalty on the part of those who attend these churches. Currently, the diocese claims to have about 2,300 members (roughly an average of 70 persons per parish) and to be growing.

2015 To Be Busy Year For Orthodox Anglicans

Several events of interest to orthodox Anglicans are scheduled in 2015.

I. The Big One will be the *International Catholic Congress of Anglicans*, July 13-17, 2015, in Fort Worth, Texas. The FCC is among sponsors of this gathering, and the entire Fort Worth Hilton is booked for it. Participants will include such prominent orthodox Anglican figures as the Rt. Rev. Michael Nazir-Ali (the former Bishop of Rochester in the Church of England); the Most Rev. Mark Haverland, Archbishop of the Anglican Catholic Church; Forward in Faith-North America (FiF/NA) President, the Rt. Rev. Keith Ackerman (ACNA); ACNA ecumenical chief, the Rt. Rev. Ray Sutton (of the REC); Anglicans for Life President Georgette Forney (ACNA); and New Testament professor Edith Humphrey (Antiochian Orthodox Church). Daily Mass and Bible study will be offered. For further information, visit www.fifna.org or contact FiF/NA at 800/225-3661.

II. As a precursor to the International Catholic Congress, the FCC will help sponsor a *Festival of Faith* on April 23, 2015, at St. Alban's Anglican Church in Richmond, Virginia (where FCC Board member, Canon Charles Nalls, is rector). Further information will be forthcoming.

III. The day before the Festival of Faith (April 23, 2015), *The Fellowship of Concerned Churchmen Regional Meeting* will be held at St. Alban's, Richmond.

IV. Devotional Societies

A. 31st Annual Mass and Luncheon, *Society of King Charles the Martyr*, 11 a.m., January 31, 2015, Church of the Resurrection*, 119 E. 74th St., New York, NY 11021; 212/879-4320. The Rev. Frederick Thomas of Grace and St. Peter's*, Baltimore, will preach. Send a \$20 check payable to the church (with SKCM on the memo line) for lunch.

B. Annual Mass and General Meeting, *Society of Mary*, May 16, Church of St. Uriel the Archangel*, 219 Philadelphia Blvd., Sea Girt, NJ 08750. The church can be reached at 732/449-6173. Further details will be forthcoming.

C. Annual meeting, *Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament*, June 6, Church of the Good Shepherd*, 1512 Blanding St., Columbia, SC 29201. Call 803/779-2950 for further details.

D. Annual Requiem and Luncheon, *Guild of All Souls*, 11 a.m., November 14, Church of the Resurrection, New York (see A. above). Preaching at the event will be the Rt. Rev. Norman Banks, Bishop of Richborough in the Church of England.

V. *Mere Anglicanism: Salt & Light – The Christian Response to Secularism*, January 22-24, 2015, Charleston, SC. This annual event should be of great interest to all serious Christians who are alarmed at the secularization of our society. It will have some of the most articulate spokesmen in the field – e.g. authors Os Guinness, Alister McGrath, Ross Douthat, Mary Eberstadt, and Bishops Nazir-Ali (see I. above) and N.T. Wright (England's former Bishop of Durham). The Rev. John Guest will preach. Contact Stellena Mumma at 843/-522-1712, visit www.mereanglicanism.com or send an e-mail to mereanglicanism@gmail.com.

The FCC Could Use Your Help

The Fellowship of Concerned Churchmen needs your help as it continues its efforts to promote orthodox Anglicanism and amity and unity among adherents of the same. That is the objective that lies behind our various efforts, not least those aimed at maintaining the online directory of orthodox parishes (www.anglicanchurches.net), producing this newsletter, and sponsoring key Anglican meetings. All such activities sooner or later cost money, however, and right now FCC funds are running low. So if it has been more than a year since you or your parish last paid your FCC dues, or if you or your parish would like to become a new member of the FCC, please send your dues payment at the following rates:

Individual membership	\$20
Husband & Wife	\$25
Parish or Mission (<i>if listed on our website</i>)	\$10

Please send your (non-deductible) dues to FCC's Secretary-Treasurer at the following address. (Straight (tax-deductible) donations to the FCC - also most welcome – may be sent to the same address.): **Auburn Traycik, FCC Secretary-Treasurer. 1717 East Capitol St. #346, Washington, DC 20003-1789.**

A merry Christmas to you all!

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