

An Overview of the REPORT OF THE SHARING MINISTRY TASK GROUP

Report 01 May 2009
Presented 19 May 2009

Bishop Edward Salmon

Keys to South Carolina 'turn-around':

- Bible-based & Christ-centred
- Talk about money & stewardship –
-as Jesus did- as an issue of faith
- Powerful & meaningful worship
- A key role of Bishop & diocese →
help strengthen parishes

3 Reports + Bishop Edward Salmon

- 2007 Synod requested review of:
 1. Rural ministry & how best to continue traditional diocesan commitment
 2. Parish 'fair share' contributions to diocesan ministry
- Diocesan Council also approved a stewardship planning study
- Bishop Salmon invited to our diocese

Bishop Edward Salmon

- Outward looking, mission and action-oriented focus
- Clergy role – raise up leaders because
- Parishes support each other
(Annual appeal – "Builders for Christ")
- Risk-taking (Jesus was God's risk)

The Reports

- Extensive consultation and input
- Reflective of what we said
- Over 75 pages + 72 recommendations
- Overlap in issues, concerns & recommendations
- Council: need for integrated thinking – so SMTG formed

What To Do?

- Need for 'systemic change' at both diocesan and parish levels
- Summary – We need to focus on growth:
 1. spiritual
 2. financial
 3. numerical
- Make major strategic decisions
Take deliberate action (not just 'talk')

What The Reports Said

- Praise God for many good things, but...
- Our parishes & our diocese are losing strength & health – many reasons
- Parish stats, provincial demographics → an undeniable trend – downward
- \$\$\$ is a major issue (stewardship)
- Our people are worried
- Situation very serious – need action now

If We Don't ...

- Decline will continue
- Fewer people, less money
- Ministry in many parishes will be unsustainable in the future
- Most importantly, we won't be the church that God wants us to be

	<p>Our Vision ... Could We Be Like This?</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We love God, we love our neighbours and we 'make disciples' ■ We follow the Rule of Life – BCP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily prayer Daily Bible reading Give according to our means Support mission work of the church

	<p>Our Vision... Could We Be Like This?</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Biblical 'tithe' is taught and accepted ■ Individuals willingly & joyfully give 10% to God ('first fruits' giving) ■ All parishes give 10% ('one ask' principle) ■ Diocese gives 10% ■ Greater unity across the diocese ■ Proactive, transparent communication ■ Our structures & processes are effective, efficient and economical

	<p>Our Vision... Could We Be Like This?</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ We reclaim, renew & relearn what it means to be 'Anglican' ■ We strive to be stronger, healthier, more welcoming & growing parishes ■ We accept the principle of 'shared ministry' in its many forms ■ We support (financially & otherwise) risk-taking parishes with plans to grow

	<p>1st Step to Systemic Change – Decision by Synod 2007</p>
	<p>The SMTG said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Our situation is <u>serious</u> and systemic change is called for ■ 2 TF's did excellent work – synod should support their recommendations (i.e. SMTG did not wish to pick & choose)

	<p>SMTG's Thoughts Regarding Recommended Motions</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 26 recommendations in 2 TF reports – difficult for synod to deal with ■ Synod's role - policy & direction ■ Diocesan Council's role - program planning and implementation ■ So SMTG recommended 5 motions

	<p>Motion 2 – Budget Support Task Force</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Affirm report and recommendations ■ Refer to the Bishop & Diocesan Council for implementation

	<p>Motion 1 – Rural & Struggling Parishes</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Affirm report and recommendations ■ Refer to Bishop & Diocesan Council for implementation

	<p>Motion 3 – Stewardship</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Affirm the need for a parish-based stewardship initiative ■ Refer to the Bishop and Diocesan Council for implementation

	Motion 4 – Memorial to General Synod (10-10-10)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Ask the national church to consider adopting the 10-10-10 model as the standard

	Motion 5 – Governance Structures & Processes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Ask Bishop and Diocesan Council to establish a task group to review current diocesan governance structures and processes → improve administrative efficiency + reduce costs