



ADOSC Canon for Student Ministry | **Diocesan Council Report, December 2024**

Sisters & brothers,

I am honored to share the following report. My role as a part-time canon exists to champion student ministry and student ministry leaders so that we, as a diocese, can faithfully disciple every generation in Christ. The purpose of the Student Ministry Department of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina is to champion youth/student ministry leaders by supporting collaboration, discovering unknown and unengaged leaders, and developing ministers and ministries. Our objective is for every ADOSC parish to intentionally reach and disciple students. We work together to see generations of young people formed in Christ who transform churches, communities, and culture for the Gospel.

Supporting Collaboration

This department primarily serves parishes and parish ministry leaders. Since August 2024, we have supported collaboration in youth/student ministry in the diocese in the following ways:

- We hosted the Mondo middle school and Regenerate high school **Fall youth retreats** this past October and November at Camp Bob Cooper. Between the two events, 225 attendees from 13 parishes experienced spiritually-significant weekends away. Of special note: The Rev. Canon Aaron Buttery, the ACNA Provincial Canon for the Next Generation Leadership Initiative, spoke at the high school retreat. Aaron provided excellent teaching as well as diocesan ministry assessment and coaching for the Canon. Excellent church group time is the ‘win’ for diocesan youth retreats. We handle the logistics and planning so that parish ministry leaders can focus on the spiritually-significant moments and conversations with their students.
- The new **Youth Commission cohort** served excellently at Mondo under the leadership of Melissa Bennett, the Student Ministry Department Youth Commission Lead. This team of mature high schoolers helped to plan, serve throughout, lead

- Prayer Book worship, share testimonies, and pray for students. In January, we will host a Winter Weekend for this cohort to help them grow in ministry skills to bring to their parish. Then, this cohort will serve at the Diocesan Convention in March 2025.
- The **Fusion student ministry leader gatherings** returned this Fall, starting with a gathering at Folly Beach to welcome three new student + family ministry leaders to the diocese. As well, Canon Myers now hosts a **collaborative work meeting on Mondays** during the Fall and Spring semesters for youth/student ministry leaders in the Charleston area.
 - To support collaboration and to simplify communication, there is now an ADOSC **student ministry leader Slack channel**. On Slack, diocesan student ministers can find sorted information about Fall Retreats, resources, shared ideas, and opportunities to collaborate in Gospel ministry. It is a free resource to help ministry leaders learn and connect all in one place.
 - In Spring 2025, a new round of **Student Ministry Initiative Grants** will be open for application. These grants exist to supplement a new, ideally collaborative, youth/ministry initiative. Past approved grants were used for: a collaborative youth retreat in the Beaufort deanery, an attempted youth apologetics workshop, and a collaborative youth event called the Big Q BBQ in the Charleston deanery.

Discovering Unknown and Unengaged Leaders

This department champions parishes by helping to discover unknown and unengaged leaders for youth and student ministry. We have done so recently in the following ways:

- The **Next Generation Leadership Initiative** continues to host excellent spaces and provide helpful parish ministry resources for ADOSC leaders. As well, ADOSC parishes are now able to list job descriptions for youth and family ministry positions to various NGLI communication platforms to reach new Anglican leaders around the province.
- A **Serve Team**, led by Justin Johnson and composed of former Camp Jubilee staff, supported the Regenerate high school retreat. This opportunity facilitates ongoing ministry opportunities and a ministry leadership pipeline beyond Summer Camp. Two

2023 Serve Team were hired by ADOSC parishes in the following school year, demonstrating its unique role in discovering and engaging the next generation of parish ministry leaders.

- **Mattie Zanin** onboarded and began to lead in her capacity as the Fall Retreats Manager. Mattie brings years of experience leading excellent large-group events with volunteer teams. In 2025, she will take on more Fall Retreat planning responsibilities from the Canon, allowing him to focus on meeting with Rectors and other parish ministry leaders.
- We thank the Lord for several parishes who have filled youth and family ministry roles, including:
 - Sam English | St. James Anglican, James Island, SC
 - Joseph Grech | St. Thomas Church, Mt. Pleasant, SC
 - Adam Baker | Interim at St. John's Anglican, Florence, SC
- Continue to pray for the Lord to lead the right candidates to the following open positions:
 - St. John's Anglican, Florence, SC | Full-time youth minister
 - Church of the Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island, SC | Full-time youth ministry director

Developing Ministers and Ministries

The department aims to be the premier ACNA diocese for discovering and developing next ministry leaders. Here are a few ways we've supported this work:

- The goal of this department is for every ADOSC parish to do intentional youth/student ministry. To this end, **we have begun to work with parishes to come up with creative and local solutions for raising up student ministry leaders.** Inquiries can be made to studentministry@adosc.org.
- Camden Windham, the student minister at St. Helena's, Beaufort, has also become a resource for parishes seeking ideas for youth ministry residencies and formation ideas for ministers new to youth and family ministry. To that end, St. Helena's is again looking to offer a youth ministry residency for the 25–26 school year.

- In Spring 2025 Canon Myers will host another **Youth Ministry Coaching Cohort** designed to help ministry leaders articulate a clear, Gospel-centered vision for youth ministry, raise faithful lay leaders for the work of ministry, and design contextual spaces for their students to grow in Christ and invite unreached students.
- The Rev. Taylor Daniel, the Anglican campus minister of **Campus Communion** at the College of Charleston, is developing a ministry governance board, with the support and oversight of The Rev. Justin Hare, the student ministry department College Lead. In the Fall 2024 semester, Campus Communion engaged 70 students with a regular group of 40 students, all championed by a leadership core of 15 students.

Continue to pray for our young people, for their parents, for their clergy, for their student ministry leaders, and for their peers to know the love of God in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Grace & Peace,
Canon Hunter Myers

The Student Ministry Department
of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina



Hunter Myers | Canon for Student Ministry
The Rev. Corey Prescott | Clergy Chair
Melissa Bennett | Youth Commission
The Rev. Laura Bowman | Canon for Safe Churches
The Rev. Justin Hare | College Ministry
Justin Johnson | Camp Jubilee
Camden Windham | Leader Discovery + Residency Development
Mattie Zanin | Fall Retreats Manager