

Canon for Safe Churches
Anglican Diocese of South Carolina
Convention Report – February 6, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Diocesan Safe Churches program continues to progress and evolve:

- a. 59% of our churches have submitted their annual compliance letter, and I am hopeful we will have 100% compliance by Diocesan Convention;
- b. On Tuesday, February 4, we submitted proposed Policy Manual revisions to the Standing Committee to implement requested updates;
- c. Rectors/Vicars and coordinators continue to make frequent contact with me as training continues and questions arise.

I have been greatly encouraged by the number of questions from people who are doing their best to achieve compliance. With very few exceptions, the level of cooperation from our churches has been outstanding!

Last week, my office was moved from Church of the Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island to Diocesan House – 2nd floor. I am still tying up a few loose ends at the church and moving files from place to place, but I am always available by cell phone or text. The move should be completed within the next week or so.

During the month of February, I expect to spend several days in Bluffton, as I train 120+ staff members at Cross School. This was a deficiency that only came to light recently. There are other places in the diocese where I will continue training individuals and small groups – but that is to be expected as we continue moving forward with each church to see that everyone gets an opportunity to receive Praesidium training.

Finally, I am currently working on two confidential investigations. One of those cases took me out of state for a week in January, and the other one may ultimately result in some necessary travel, too. With a new Archdeacon in place, I will look forward to sharing more about my travel itineraries.

Blessings,
Laura+

The Rev Canon Laura Bowman
Canon for Safe Churches