

ADOSC Church Planting Diocesan Council Report ~ May 2025

The Rev. Todd Simonis – Canon for Church Planting

The Canons for Church Planting from around the ACNA gathered in mid-February in Mt. Pleasant, SC, at St. Andrew's Church. This gathering gave The Most Rev. Steve Wood an opportunity to encourage and interact with 25 Canons from across the Province. The gathering also provided an opportunity to share "best practices" from church planting efforts across the ACNA.

The Rev. Daniel Miles has officially begun his church planting efforts in the area of Manning, SC. In addition to his building of relationships in the community, Daniel has assisted at St. Matthias', Summerton and the Historic Church of the Epiphany, Eutawville. On Easter Sunday, The Rev. Miles led a sunrise service at Camp Bob Cooper with 70 people in attendance and later celebrated and led worship at St. Mark's Church, Pinewood. Daniel and I spend time together each week for prayer, encouragement and coaching.

Our ongoing relationship with KARDIA (Church Planting initiative of Diocese of the Carolinas) continues to be fruitful. We shared in a planter's assessment (via Zoom) on March 13. I also continue to meet with the KARDIA Board on a regular basis to discuss planters and potential opportunities for planting. This collaboration is incredibly encouraging.

On Monday, March 24, I met with a potential church planter for an initial assessment of where his heart and conviction might overlap with opportunities within ADOSC.

On Tuesday, April 8, I met with The Rev. Jonthan Bennett (Church of the Holy Spirit, Daniel Island) to discuss their hopes of planting in the greater Charleston area.

In addition to our church planting efforts within ADOSC, I continue to coach The Rev. Johnmark Smith in Columbia, Tennessee, and The Rev. Brandon Marschner in Fargo, North Dakota.

With Bishop Edgar's recent emphasis on Gospel ministry in rural areas, I offer the following book suggestions:

Small Town Jesus by Donnie Griggs
A Big Gospel in Small Places by Stephen Witmer
Small Town Mission by Aaron Morrow
The Forgotten Church by Glenn Daman

We have identified several opportunities for planting in/around our diocese. Our greatest need is for the Lord to raise up planters! Please pray that the Lord will raise up laborers for His harvest (Luke 10:2).