

# Partnering Together for the Work of the Kingdom

*The following remarks were given by Archdeacon Hunter Jordan on Saturday, March 14 at the 2026 Convention of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina.*

Brothers and sisters,

As we gather together as a Diocese, we are reminded of the great gift God has given us in fellowship and shared mission. We are not simply a collection of congregations scattered across South Carolina, we are a people joined together in Christ for the work of His kingdom.

Our shared vision is clear:

*Rooted in Scripture and formed by the Anglican tradition, we seek to build a vital community of faith through planting, revitalizing, and developing local churches.*

Or more simply:

*Rooted in Scripture, formed by the Anglican tradition, we partner together to strengthen and build the local Church.*

We long to partner together for ministry. The local church doesn't exist to serve the Diocese rather the Diocese exists to serve local churches. The diocese seeks to create a safe place for churches and their leaders to flourish in ministry. In the midst of the turmoil of the ACNA we thank the Bishop and Standing Committee for pursuing justice for victims and holding the ACNA accountable for needed changes in the Canons and safeguarding practices.

As we will approve the budget later it is important to know that this budget should release funds to support local ministries. Our hope is that for years to come we will continue to steward the funds given to the Diocese in a way that supports local ministry and build community amongst churches in our Diocese.

It is my privilege to serve in a role that helps move this vision forward, and I would like to briefly share three ways we are pursuing this work together.

First, I spend time each month with the Canons of our Diocese. These gatherings are more than meetings, they are moments of encouragement, accountability, and prayer. We share stories of how God is at work across our ministries, we celebrate His faithfulness, and we intercede for one another. In addition, I meet individually with each canon to listen, to discern where God is leading their ministries, and to explore how we can better serve both the Diocese and the local parish. Our hope is

simple: that every parish would be strengthened and supported as it grows in the unique calling God has given it.

Second, I have the privilege of working with the Bishop and the Congregational Development Committee in the work of revitalization. Through the **Thrive Together Initiative**, we are beginning to see new possibilities emerge for congregations that are ready to grow but lack the resources to call full-time clergy. This initiative allows us to come alongside these churches with practical support and renewed hope, trusting that steady pastoral leadership can help congregations flourish once again.

At the same time, we are seeking ways to release resources to churches of all sizes that are stepping out in faith to begin new missions and ministries, efforts that will not only serve their communities today but become sustainable works of the gospel for years to come.

Third, I have the joy of partnering with local churches as they clarify their vision, mission, and values. Every parish in this Diocese has been uniquely shaped by God, with particular gifts, passions, and opportunities for ministry. Together we seek to discern those gifts and connect them with the needs of the surrounding community.

Our prayer is that every congregation in this Diocese would grow into a vital worshipping community, rooted deeply in Scripture, formed by the richness of the Anglican tradition, and living as a gospel outpost in its neighborhood. A place where the Good News of Jesus Christ is not only proclaimed but embodied in the life of the Church.

Friends, this is the work God has called us to together.

And it is truly exciting work.

Across our Diocese we are seeing seeds of renewal, new partnerships forming, and a growing desire to see the Church flourish for the sake of the gospel. As we continue to labor side by side, we trust that God will build a vibrant community of faith among us one that displays His glory and draws many people to Himself.

Thank you for your partnership in this mission. Thank you for your prayers, your faithfulness, and your commitment to the work God is doing among us.

And please know this: if there is any way I can serve you or your parish in this shared calling, I would be honored to walk alongside you.

Together, rooted in Scripture and formed by the Anglican tradition, may we continue to strengthen and build the Church of Jesus Christ.