

Department of Men's Ministry
Anglican Diocese of South Carolina
Rt. Revd Charles Edgar, Bishop
Revd Cn. Newman Lawrence, Canon for Men's Ministry

Summer is almost behind us and Fall Kickoff's at parishes around the Diocese are taking place. I have been in touch with several of the Men's Ministry leaders from around the Diocese in support of their work as well. That said, a request was sent out from the Arch Deacon's office asking for contact info for the various ministry areas that are represented on Diocesan staff/Canons. To date, we have only received 19 responses from our parishes. It does make it difficult to reach out when there is no clear person to reach out too. Please encourage your Rector and Parish Administrator to complete that info for all the Canons and Diocesan staff to better be able to communicate. (I will ask for the request to be sent out again, ASAP)

By the time we are meeting on Aug 27, I will just about to leave town to work with ARDF in the Black Mountain area again. These trips continue to be a great way for men to engage in missions in a meaningful way and relatively close to home. We have had several churches that have had a growing interest in serving in this way and I will continue to actively recruit for ARDF.

We also have a Diocesan Men's Hike coming up Oct 8-11 in the Oconee SP area, hiking on the Foothills Trail. These Diocesan hikes are designed to be for men whose home parish isn't offering this ministry or doesn't have a critical mass to do one on their own. We love having folks from all over the Diocese join in this time on the mountain to hear from the Lord. St. Helena's Beaufort and St. John's Florence also have hikes scheduled this fall.

Perhaps most importantly, I can finally announce our speaker for the 2027 Men's Conference is the Rev. Matt Canlis. Matt is the author of Godspeed Pilgrim and created a video entitled, "Godspeed" where he talks about his own model of ministry in which he slows down to actively engage his "parish". His book is about reidentifying as Christ's own and renewing our baptismal promises. It is set up to be a 40 day pilgrimage and we will use the weekend to launch this as a Lenten Study for men's groups and parishes. I highly recommend attending this year and hearing what Matt and the Holy Spirit have to offer. This year's Men's Conference will be Feb 5-7 at Lutheridge in Arden, NC. Registration will open soon.

The Men's Dept of the Diocese is also praying through some new opportunities to reach men and stretch their faith a bit through some intentional discipleship and "high-adventure" based activities. More to follow as details emerge but please keep these new ideas and challenges in your prayers.

In His Grip,
Newman Lawrence, Canon for Men's Ministry, ADOSC