



How can you be involved?

- Pray for one another as we discern where the Spirit will lead us.
- Create partners parish to parish and institution to institution.
- Join one another in mission, ministry projects and pilgrimages in each other's dioceses.
- Share programs, trainings, and teachings through conferences, workshops, exhibits, etc.
- Provide mutual opportunities for language, culture and liturgy learning through minister exchanges.
- Develop new mission and ministry initiatives together.

What does it mean to be Companion Dioceses?

Mission is about the building of relationships for the Kingdom of God. Being official Companion Dioceses in the Anglican Communion involves building mutually transformative and long-lasting relationships that are focused on *amistad*, friendship, as well as the sharing of faith, knowledge, experiences, prayers and material resources. As we are all missionaries of the Diocese of Texas, we are committed to being united together in "proclaim[ing] by word and example the Good News of God in Christ." Will you join with us, as we join with our sisters and brothers across the Anglican Communion in undertaking God's mission? Individually we do many great works; imagine what we can do together!



To Find Out More:

Inquire with the World Mission Board

Visit Us:

www.epicenter.org/get-involved/world-mission/

Contact Us:

Chair, Companion Relationships
The Rev. Meredith Holt
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Chair, World Mission Board
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DIOCESE OF TEXAS COMPANION DIOCESES: SOUTHERN MALAWI COSTA RICA NORTH DAKOTA





Mindanti Well Maintenance Training

SOUTHERN MALAWI

Our relationship with Malawi extends back to the 1960s, when motorbikes were provided for priests to travel to worship centers in rural areas. Today, our partnership is based upon a 2010 companion diocese agreement with the Anglican Diocese of Southern Malawi. We have partnered with the Malawian church to increase its capacity for governance and sustainability. Their diocese now has a professional administrator, laity directed Development Board to oversee and administer projects, and a Development Officer to direct projects. Individual parishes from Texas have contributed to construction of water wells and feeding programs for orphans and seniors, as well as providing medical supplies, children's clothing, books for libraries, and other items. Warm Heart International, Inc., a 501(c)(3) charity at St. David's Austin, conducts pilgrimages to Malawi and supports feeding programs and a water well ministry.

Malawi is one of the three poorest countries in Africa, and is among the world's most densely populated and least developed countries. Malawi suffers from food, water and fuel shortages. HIV/AIDS is prevalent. Medical care is substandard, and there are more Malawian trained physicians in the UK, than in Malawi. We are invited to partner with the people of Malawi to change their situation and to see Christ in action.

Contact: Tom Gebhard or Pat Danley



Hogar Escuela Barriacuba

COSTA RICA

La Iglesia Episcopal Costarricense of the Anglican Church of Central America is home to seventeen congregations scattered mainly in the central valley and Caribbean coast. The Caribbean coast, which has been largely English-speaking and Afro-Caribbean in culture and ethnicity, is fast giving way to a continuing influx of migrating Costa Ricans and immigrant Nicaraguans who are more ethnically Spanish and mestizo in lineage, culture and language. The Diocese is planting churches, opening whole-child learning and wellness centers in impoverished communities, expanding an HIV/AIDS women's co-op, partnering with coffee producers, and much more. The Diocese House in San Jose is home to a 30-bed guest accommodation, a full-time American Companion Officer and is close to language schools.

The Diocese of Costa Rica understands itself to be a missionary church and grabs onto big ideas and expects the Spirit to lead in miraculous ways. The diocese focuses primarily in three areas: 1) Expansion of the church 2) Christian education and theological reflection 3) Christian testimony through service. In the words of Bishop Hectór Montorroso, "When we contribute to life transformation, we are connecting with the Gospel."

Contact: The Rev. Al Rodriguez or The Rev. Meredith Holt



The Rev. Terry Star

NORTH DAKOTA

In the state of North Dakota, there are six Native American Reservations, each with a sizable Episcopal population; six of North Dakota's twenty-one Episcopal churches lie on reservations. Standing Rock, the largest reservation, is comprised primarily of Dakota and Lakota Sioux people, and is home to Camp Gabriel, an Episcopal youth camp. There are several majority Anglo congregations in North Dakota, with members from a wide range of socioeconomic backgrounds as well as vibrant Sudanese-American communities.

While parts of the state are thriving under the current economic boom, many North Dakotans live far below the poverty line, and in some of the poorest counties in the United States. The people who met with representatives of the Diocese of Texas expressed a strong desire to partner in ministry with our diocese; forming deep relationships and lasting partnerships, rather than simply receiving financial aid. Many spoke of the potential for transformative experiences awaiting Texan visitors to the reservations of North Dakota, and hoped also to come to the Diocese of Texas to share in our ministries. We hope that the people from our dioceses can learn from one another, and work alongside each other to do the work of Christ's Gospel.

Contact: The Rev. Eric Hungerford or The Rev. Bertie Pearson