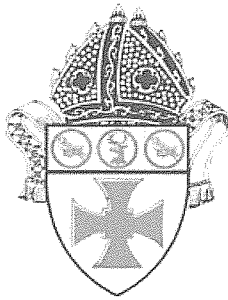


The Rt. Reverend James A.J. Cowan
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THE DIOCESE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Anglican Church of Canada

To the Churchwardens and Members of St. Andrew, Cowichan Station

July 2, 2010

(To be read at all services at St. Andrew, Cowichan Station on Sunday, July 4, 2010)

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I write at the request of Bishop James Cowan to inform you that in fulfillment of the decision of the Synod of the Diocese of British Columbia the Parish of St. Andrew, Cowichan Station will be disestablished effective July 18, 2010. At that time the property will become the direct responsibility of the Bishop and Diocesan Council. Arrangements are being made to ensure the upkeep of the cemetery and the care of the buildings.

The Diocese of British Columbia will continue to minister in the area. Indeed, there are three Anglican church buildings within a fifteen minute drive of Cowichan Station. On behalf of the Bishop I invite members of St. Andrew to worship with fellow Anglicans at St. John the Baptist, Cobble Hill, St. John the Baptist, Duncan, and St. Peter, Quamichan.

The proposal to disestablish the parish and to establish a hub parish located at the site of St. John the Baptist, Cobble Hill was part of a bold effort by the Diocese to re-situate us as a church focused on mission. It is unfortunate that this proposal never had an opportunity to be creatively explored.

The Bishop and Diocesan Council have been told that the majority of active members of the parish will be joining a new group that is not part of the Anglican Church, and we have received that news with regret. We wish God's blessings on those who feel they must walk apart from the Diocese and the Anglican Church of Canada. The offer by the new group to purchase the property has been declined by the Diocese.

It is with regret that the Bishop has accepted the resignation of the Reverend Dawn Braithwaite as Rector of St. Andrew, Cowichan effective July 19, 2010, and she has informed him of her intention to relinquish her exercise of ministry "according to the terms of Canon XIX of the General Synod of The Anglican Church of Canada." Dawn has stated that after much reflection she has decided to leave the Diocese in order to join the new group. On behalf of the Bishop I thank her for her years of ministry in the Diocese, and ask God's blessings on her and her family in the years ahead.

A final service will be held in the church building on Sunday, July 18, at 10:00 am. The Dean of Columbia, the Very Reverend Logan McMenemy, will preside and preach. I invite all the people of Cowichan Station, and the adjoining parishes in the Cowichan Valley, to join in celebrating the work of Christ that has been, and will continue.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

The Venerable Bruce Bryant-Scott
Commissary to the Bishop
Diocesan Executive Officer & Diocesan Archdeacon
Diocese of British Columbia