

Living Hope – The 203rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia

This year's annual diocesan convention was held in Tifton, beginning on Friday morning, November 8th with the Holy Eucharist at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Tifton, followed by lunch and convention business at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center. As always, part of convention business included elections and appointments to various boards and committees, as well as passing the budget. The diocese has made some changes to its staff, in both personnel and job duties, and the Diocesan Office is moving to what was St. Michael and All Angels Church in Savannah. This is a terrific ministry and financial move.

Each year, the diocesan convention has a theme. This year's theme was Living Hope. Bishop Logue's sermon during Friday morning's service, his Address and his closing remarks all contained that thread. In addition to convention business being conducted, the diocesan family that was gathered was given a Strategic Planning update and participated in some of the next steps. The update included a summary of the listening sessions feedback, individual interviews, and the surveys that were completed. 496 people completed the survey! Armstrong McGuire and Associates, the firm helping with the Strategic Planning process was incredibly complimentary of our diocese, and impressed by the relationships and love we share. A true reflection of Living Hope.

Also included as part of the convention were video clips of different members of our diocese who were interviewed and asked why they go to church, what makes it important, how does it feel to have your family involved, why choose church on a day when you can choose anything else, what makes a difference for you being in church, and what's been helpful/gives you strength about church and/or your faith? The answers were inspiring.

Diocesan Convention is always a sort of family reunion where we get to be with the larger family, and where we are reminded that we are part of this Living Hope.

Molly Stevenson