

Letter from Bob Ogle on Diocesan Transfer

Dear Trinity -

I am writing this letter to support the proposed transfer of our church from the Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast to the Diocese of All Nations.

I've been closely connected to Trinity from its beginning. First as the pastor of our host church, Trinity Presbyterian, then through the merger of our congregations, and finally on staff in the last three years of my active ministry. Now in retirement, I am eager to see our church solidly established for our future.

Recently I was invited to attend and witness the mediation meeting by Ret. Bishop Trevor Walters and was there with Bishop Clark and Rev. Peter Johnston. Though I understand the differences that are leading to separation, I was glad to see the personal humility in the meeting on both sides, and I felt that God was glorified through repentance and forgiveness.

Being in the ministry almost fifty years and having over 30 years of pastoral experience (our other years of ministry were in foreign missions) I believe I'm qualified to make an assessment of someone's personal moral and spiritual character. Peter Johnston is a dedicated husband, father, and pastor of our church. He is also an exceptional scholar and visionary leader. I support his desire and understanding that our church must seek another diocese for our future commitment.

The Diocese of All Nations is a great fit for our congregation. It is focused on mission, on reaching all peoples, and already has a growing presence in Louisiana. Its story goes back to Martyn Minns, completing the circle for how Cheryl and I first arrived in Lafayette, and the connection I first formed with Peter. It feels like a God thing.

Please accept this letter of recommendation as we all seek to know, understand, and follow the will of God in the search of having "HIS kingdom come".

Sincerely (still) In His service,
Rev. Bob Ogle