



# FREDERICK ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP

Reconciling † Restoring † Healing  
In Jesus Christ

## OPPORTUNITY PROFILE Ordained Church Planter





## The Opportunity

Frederick Anglican Fellowship (FAF) is the temporary name of an Anglican church plant forming in the Frederick, Maryland area, and meeting in the bustling downtown of Frederick. The prayerful core group of lay people is working with our diocese in seeking an ordained clergy church planter to provide leadership and to lead and pastor the developing church.

No churches affiliated with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) currently exist in Frederick County, and none are closer than Baltimore (49 miles) or Hagerstown (29 miles), Maryland. Many of the individuals living in the city or county of Frederick enjoy busy lives and careers within the Frederick area as well as in Washington DC and northern Virginia. Due to the distance and travel time required, these individuals are often hindered from attending an ACNA church.

The new Anglican church plant is envisioned as a community where people come to know and experience God — the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit — and share the love of God with others in the Frederick area. We seek to be a community of individuals and families of different ages and backgrounds who come to know and experience Jesus Christ personally, where people grow in spiritual maturity, and are equipped for ministry in their own contexts.

This is a great opportunity for a faithful, Spirit-led, gifted, and motivated Anglican priest who has a vision for transformation of both individuals and the community in Frederick through the gospel of Jesus Christ!

# The Church Plant

The seeds for this Anglican church plant in the Frederick, Maryland, area were first dropped into the minds of Dave and Sally Breisch about four years ago. As they were passing a vacant lot just southeast of Frederick one day, Sally heard the words: "If you build it, they will come." She believed God was speaking to her about helping Him plant a church in the area.

In 2019, the Breisches initiated a small fellowship group with individuals living in the Frederick area, under the auspices of New Creation Anglican Church in Hagerstown, Maryland. Progress was slowed by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020-2021, but it picked up again in the spring of 2022.

A core team of nine is presently working on the church plant: Emily Branchaw, Dave and Sally Breisch, Trevor and Stephanie Hughes, Gregory and Karen Strong, and Peter and Charlanne Wolff.

With financial support from the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic (DOMA), several members of the core team participated in ACNA's church-planting training intensive in Baltimore in May 2022. This was followed by six ACNA-led, coaching sessions with the full team via Zoom throughout the summer.

In October 2022, a small congregation began meeting on the first Sunday of each month for lay-led Morning Prayer and fellowship in downtown Frederick, with periodic social events between services. Led by a visiting priest, we had our first bimonthly service of Holy Eucharist on Palm Sunday 2023, with 30 in attendance. We have the beginnings of an inter-generational community of folks who are eager for this church plant to take root.

A prayerful and active search is underway for a priest to lead this church plant, conducted by DOMA's Canon for Church Planting, Tuck Bartholomew and Bishop Chris Warner.

*Here are some of the core team's insights as they envision the new church.*

- ❖ **God is a personal God who deeply loves all people and desires all people to be in relationship with Him.** We can experience and grow in Him, both individually and as a church community. As we experience and are formed by God's love and truth, we are called as disciples of Jesus to share them with others.
- ❖ **The church is a community where the love and truth of Christ are seen, heard, and experienced.** Jesus cared for people on the "margins," as well as those in the middle and upper ends of society, and so should the church.



Emily Branchaw and daughter Joy



Dave and Sally Breisch



Trevor and Stephanie Hughes with sons Ruach and Levi



Gregory and Karen Strong



Peter and Charlanne Wolff

- ❖ **The church should reflect and express the presence and work of the Holy Spirit in fruit and gifts** such as found in 1 Corinthians 12 and 13 and Galatians 5:22-23.
- ❖ **Our Anglican worship should reflect the centrality of both Word and Sacrament**, especially the Eucharist. Worship should be fully devoted to the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ **Our response in faith, hope, and love should involve the whole person (body, soul, and spirit)**, not mere cognitive understanding of theological propositions nor mere affective experience.
- ❖ **Discipleship is active and mindful; it should be a priority for the church**, including equipping the saints (of all ages) for ministry and striving for maturity in Christ. We learn and grow together through worship, study, relationships, and service.
- ❖ **The Book of Acts shows us the very first church plant. Its features were devotion and prayer, community, generosity, care and hospitality, gladness, praise, humility/unity, and Spirit-empowered courage in proclamation.** The lives of individuals and the life of the Church – formed and informed by divine grace in faith, hope, and love as fully as possible – bear vital witness in word and deed to God’s creating and saving love for the world.

## Working Vision and Mission Statements

Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God in love transforms our lives: *reconciling* us to God and our neighbors; *restoring* our relationships and communities; and *healing* our brokenness.



Our **vision** is to be a Christian community of people who know and live out these realities to the glory of God.

Our **mission** is to share the transforming love of God through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, expressed in the Anglican tradition, to the greater Frederick community.



# Working Values & Priorities

## Values

- ❖ Whole-hearted evangelism and discipleship
- ❖ Spirit-empowered, liturgical worship
- ❖ Biblically rooted preaching, teaching, and witness
- ❖ Spirit-infused lifestyle of generosity and pastoral care as a reconciling, restoring, and healing community

## Priorities

- ❖ Actively discerning God's heart for an Anglican church in Frederick
- ❖ Finding a clergy leader for the Frederick Anglican church plant
- ❖ Finding a location that corresponds with God's heart for an Anglican church in Frederick
- ❖ Building a faith community where individuals routinely come and experience God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
- ❖ Securing the resources to support this new church
- ❖ In time, practicing God-centered and meaningful worship, prayer (including healing prayer), discipleship, and outreach

## The Position

The diocese is in search of a qualified church planter for Frederick Anglican Fellowship. We seek an ordained, Anglican priest who, through the power and gifting of the Holy Spirit, can plan and plant a viable new church and lead a small congregation while implementing growth strategies. The priest will be a godly, prayerful, and highly relational candidate who preaches God's Word passionately and has a gift of pastoral leadership.

## Qualifications

- ❖ Ordained or nearing ordination in the Anglican Church in North America; meets Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic criteria for church planters
- ❖ Clear testimony of faith and a passionate devotion to Jesus Christ
- ❖ Growing and maturing relationship with Jesus Christ, with a strong devotional life of worship, prayer, and personal study of God's Word
- ❖ Practical visionary, able to grasp the needs and potential of the Frederick context, and to make the vision a reality; ready to work with the core launch team toward shared vision and goals
- ❖ Gifted leader who builds relationships easily, is humble, trustworthy, wise, approachable, and able to inspire and mobilize others

- ❖ Biblically-based preacher and teacher
- ❖ Passion for evangelism, discipling, and mission
- ❖ Understands how to lead Anglican liturgies (ACNA Book of Common Prayer) with reverence and with sensitivity to the Holy Spirit
- ❖ Appreciates music in worship and understands the theology of music and the church seasons; finds and fosters gifted musical leaders within the congregation
- ❖ Team-builder who recognizes and encourages the gifts of others; able to lead and manage a team to achieve goals and accomplish tasks; delegates wisely and well
- ❖ Strongly identifies with the evangelical Anglican tradition
- ❖ Submits to the authority of Christ and the Bible, ACNA, and to Bishop Chris Warner

## Core Competencies

- ❖ You are a God-centered person, and He is your first love.
- ❖ You are a winsome and compelling communicator who teaches God's Word for today's world.
- ❖ You take a collaborative, humble stance towards developing the church plant and engaging with the core team and others.
- ❖ You are a leader who draws the best out of people while unifying them toward common goals.
- ❖ You are a people person. You prioritize people over process through relationship and fellowship.

## Primary Responsibilities

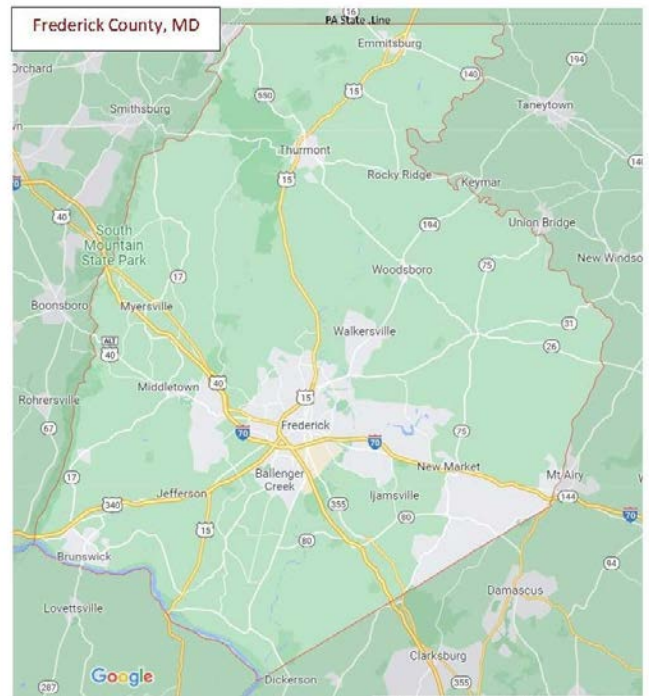
- ❖ Plan, develop, and launch a new Anglican church in Frederick, including:
  - Adding members to the core launch team and working effectively with them on goals and tasks
  - Working with the Canon for Church Planting and supportive churches in the diocese
  - Establishing a sustainable financial base
  - Working with Diocesan staff regarding financial administrative responsibilities
  - Engaging with people, including other clergy, in the Frederick community
  - Finding an appropriate facility with space for worship, office, teaching, other activities
  - Setting up the necessary systems to support and sustain regular worship and other church functions
  - Establishing a vestry at the right time
  - Communicating information about the new church
- ❖ Prepare for and conduct regular worship services as well as special services such as baptisms, confirmations, marriages, funerals, and burials
- ❖ Primary preacher for most worship services
- ❖ Provide pastoral care and oversee others providing pastoral care

- ❖ Lead team and other meetings
- ❖ Delegate and/or administer tasks relating to services planning, scheduling volunteers, producing bulletins, and communications on various platforms

Salary and benefits in accordance with ACNA and DOMA policies and guidelines. *For further information about this position and church plant, please contact Tuck Bartholomew, Diocesan Canon for Church Planting ([tuck.bartholomew@anglicandoma.org](mailto:tuck.bartholomew@anglicandoma.org)).*

## The Community

The City of Frederick is Maryland's second-largest city with a growing population of about 78,000. Historic downtown Frederick is a neighborhood filled with workplaces, homes, shops, theaters, museums, and restaurants. A beautiful linear park runs for more than a mile along Carroll Creek in downtown Frederick with ready access to shops, restaurants, arts centers, a public library, several breweries, and a distillery. Special public events occur year-round along the creek. In 2021, Frederick was named #4 in Livability's annual ranking of the best small to mid-sized cities in the U.S. The city has a regionally competitive cost of living; nationally ranked schools; and substantial cultural, historic and outdoor amenities. It is also home to Frederick Community College and Hood College, and to Fort Detrick, a U.S. Army bioscience and communications research installation.



Frederick has one of the fastest-growing economies in the State of Maryland. The city's economy is diversified, specializing in the professional services, finance, insurance, and construction sectors. Median household income is over \$83,000, and average household income is over \$106,000. Of Frederick's housing units, 53 percent are owner-occupied; 40 percent are renter-occupied; and 7 percent are vacant.

Frederick's population in 2023 is projected to be 25 percent under age 20; 37 percent between ages 20 and 44; another 23 percent between ages 45 and 64; and the rest over 64. Ethnically, Frederick's population is projected to be 55 percent White, 21 percent of Hispanic origin (any race), 20 percent Black, and 7 percent Asian. In Frederick County, 41 percent of residents have a college degree or above.

According to Bestplaces.net, 42.7 percent of Frederick County residents claim a religious affiliation. Of county residents, 16 percent are Roman Catholic; 7 percent are Methodist; 6 percent are Lutheran; and 5 percent are "other Christian." Baptists, Presbyterians, and

Pentecostals each are about 2 percent. Both Episcopalians and Mormons are about 1 percent. Those who are Jewish make up 0.2 percent, and Muslims 0.1 percent.

Frederick's history dates to the colonial period, including a role in the Revolutionary War. In 1777, barracks were built in Frederick by British and Hessian soldiers captured during the Revolutionary War. Later, the barracks held prisoners from the War of 1812. The building still stands on the campus of the Maryland School for the Deaf in central Frederick.

In the summer of 1861, the Maryland General Assembly met in Frederick to consider the question of secession from the Union. A bill calling for secession failed. After Emancipation and the Civil War, Frederick was racially segregated. Blacks were not allowed to enter most of the white businesses in downtown Frederick and were in some cases relegated to separate entrances with lesser accommodations or services. Several lynchings are recorded in the late 1800s, and the town was the site of a Ku Klux Klan rally in 1922. Segregation in Frederick persisted into the 1950s and 1960s, as it did throughout the South. Segregationist policies were pervasive and even applied to public spaces such as Baker Park, which was not open to black residents. The passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 made discriminatory laws illegal, and although conditions started to improve, it took time and the dedication of the city's Black community leaders to open Frederick up to all its residents.

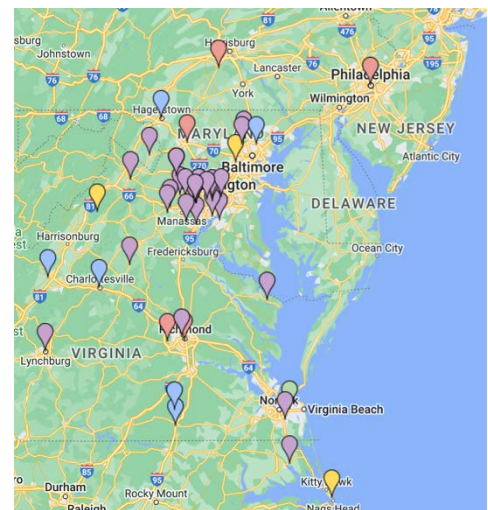
The history and demographics sketched above make Frederick a complex and vital community with numerous challenges and opportunities for residents. The history and demographics also make Frederick a complex and vital place for mission and ministry. The good news of Jesus Christ offers true and transformative faith, hope, and love for the people of Frederick amid the challenges and opportunities of life.

## Our Ecclesial Affiliations

### ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Frederick Anglican Fellowship is a church plant in the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic (DOMA). The diocese currently consists of 46 worshipping communities in Virginia, Maryland, Washington DC, Delaware, the eastern panhandle of West Virginia and northeastern North Carolina (see map). Twenty-seven are self-sustaining congregations, nine are mission churches, three are mission fellowships, and three are church plants in various stages of formation. The diocese is led by Bishop Chris Warner.

DOMA has a vision for a church planting network in which all churches are consistently working together to start new church plants. In its constitution and canons, the diocese provided for the formation of a permanent church planting leadership team, named the Great Commission Committee (GCC). This group consists of veteran church planters with decades of experience leading church planting at diocesan and provincial levels. The GCC is led by the Reverend Tuck Bartholomew, Canon for Church Planting.





The following DOMA churches have provided help and counsel to the Frederick plant.

New Creation Church in Hagerstown, Maryland  
Church of the Resurrection in Lutherville, Maryland  
Church of the Holy Spirit in Leesburg, Virginia  
Church of the Ascension in Ranson, West Virginia

## ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

The Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) is a Province with 28 dioceses in the United States and Canada. It is a regional expression of the global Anglican Communion. Archbishop Foley Beach is the elected leader of ACNA. He identified six ministry priorities for ACNA. Rooted in Scripture and Christ's ministry, many members, churches, and dioceses have been actively serving in these and other ministry areas for decades. However, the following initiatives were created to serve those at the local level by coming alongside them with support, resources, and networking.

### ***Serving the Marginalized - Matthew 25***

God's heart for the vulnerable and under-resourced moves us to work for justice, mercy, and reconciliation. Join us in serving our communities!

### ***Fostering Diversity - Every Tribe & Nation Network***

As part of a global Church and an increasingly globalized continent, brothers and sisters from all nations collaborate to advance the Kingdom of God.

### ***Partnering Globally - Global Mission Initiative***

Join with us in advancing God's Kingdom. We are here to mobilize Anglicans for authentic, cross-cultural partnership around the world.

### ***Planting Churches - Always Forward***

Planting Gospel-centered, sacramental, and missional churches is central to living out our mission to reach North America with the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

### ***Cultivating Generosity - Evergreen***

We are committed to cultivating generosity within our members, churches, and dioceses. Learning to be like Jesus includes learning to have his sacrificial and generous heart.

### ***Developing Leaders - Next Generation Leadership***

We are dedicated to developing the next generation of Christian leadership, both lay and ordained.

## Contact Frederick Anglican Fellowship

For further information about this position and church plant, contact **TUCK BARTHOLOMEW, CANON FOR CHURCH PLANTING** at [tuck.bartholomew@anglicandoma.org](mailto:tuck.bartholomew@anglicandoma.org)

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