

**Statement by the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh  
Regarding the Deposition of our Bishop, Robert Wm Duncan, Jr., by the  
House of Bishops - September 18, 2008**

We are profoundly disappointed by this action, and view it as yet another tragic rejection of the historic faith of our diocese and the majority consensus of the Anglican Communion. We continue to believe that the House of Bishops has clearly misapplied and misinterpreted the canons as we stated to the Presiding Bishop in our letter of May 28.

In light of this unfair and improper action to “depose” our bishop, we now assume our responsibility under the canons to be the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. Bishop Duncan will continue to support the work of our diocese under the terms of his administrative employment agreement and within the bounds of his deposition, providing many of the services that he previously performed for the diocese. Our diocesan convention of October 4 will go forward as planned, at which the canonically required re-alignment vote will be taken.

We understand that Bishop Duncan has been received as a member in good standing of the House of Bishops of the Province of the Southern Cone. We rejoice at this news.

The Standing Committee asks that the clergy and people of Pittsburgh pray for the Duncans, the diocesan staff and the elected leadership of the diocese in the days ahead. We stand firmly on the promise of Holy Scripture found in Romans 8:28. *"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."*

The Rev David D. Wilson, President  
St. David's Church, Peter's Twp PA

The Rev. Karen B. Stevenson  
Trinity Church, Washington PA

The Rev. Geoffery W. Chapman  
St. Stephen's Church, Sewickley PA

Mr. Wicks Stephens, Secretary  
Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh PA

Dr. Theresa T. Newell  
St. Stephen's Church, Sewickley PA

Mrs. Gladys Hunt-Mason  
St. Stephen's Church, McKeesport PA

Mr. Kenneth Herbst  
St. Peter's Church, Butler PA