



The Episcopal Church

May 22, 2011 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Affordable Website Designs Available for Congregations, Dioceses, and Provinces

Three new website designs for congregations, dioceses, and provinces are available to purchase at a reasonable price through the Episcopal Church’s Office of Communication and Ekklesia 360, a faith-based company that builds websites for churches, non-profits, seminaries, and ministries.

There are still many Episcopal churches that do not have websites yet, according to Mike Collins, director of digital media in the Episcopal Church’s Office of Communication. “A website can be used to help manage a congregation, and you can upload sermons and fundraise,” Collins commented. “It’s a way to build and maintain a community, and it gives the church a way to interact with the community.”

Ekklesia 360 has experience designing websites for numerous Episcopal congregations. “We wanted to partner with someone with proven performance and who understands the specific needs of churches,” Collins continued. “The websites for most of our churches are run by one person who may have never suspected that they would find themselves in charge of a website.”

The Ekklesia 360 website designs have an easy-to-use interface, and they can be customized to be as simple or as involved as the user wants. Also, Collins added that anyone using these designs can receive a free feed from Episcopal News Service and a free multimedia feed from the Office of Communication to make

their websites more dynamic.

Most importantly, these websites come with hosting support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for a minimal monthly fee. “That is important,” said Collins. “That means there is someone there all the time when you e-mail or call. What happens when you need to do something on the website, like upload a document, and something goes wrong? You can call them and someone on staff is always there to walk you through. It’s like having guardrails in place.”

Using the Ekklesia 360 website designs is in no way mandated by the church; every congregation, diocese, and province is free to build their websites as they wish, using whatever vendor they prefer. “This is just a way to help,” said Collins. “Since we are not able to offer to build websites for individual congregations ourselves, this gives them a viable alternative.”

“We are proud of our partnership with Ekklesia 360, and we stand behind these websites,” said Collins. “It has our stamp of approval. This is the only vendor we are in partnership with. These sites look the way that we want them to look, and they do what we want them to do.”

For more information, contact Mike Collins at mcollins@episcopalchurch.org or visit <http://www.ekklesia360.com>.

