



# THE FALLS CHURCH (EPISCOPAL) FOUNDED 1732

## NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### STATEMENT OF THE FALLS CHURCH (EPISCOPAL) REGARDING VIRGINIA SUPREME COURT DECISION TO REVERSE PROPERTY RULING

**FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA [June 10, 2010]** – The Falls Church (Episcopal) and the Reverend Michael Pipkin, the congregation's Priest-in-Charge, today issued the following statement in response to the decision of the Supreme Court of Virginia regarding the historic Falls Church in Falls Church, Virginia:

“We are grateful for all who have walked with us on this journey and encouraged us to remain hopeful. We believe that the Virginia Supreme Court has heard our cry for help and has responded justly. We pray that the leadership of CANA will now provide us access to worship in our historic home during this interim period, and as we move forward in resolving whatever issues remain, we encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ to join with us and continue the work of the Gospel that began in this place in 1732. The Falls Church (Episcopal) has always been, is now, and always will be a place where we obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ by caring for those in need, by being a welcoming and inclusive community, and by sharing God's love throughout God's very good creation.”

The lawsuit heard on appeal by the Supreme Court was first filed in Fairfax County Circuit Court following the decision of nine congregations in the Diocese of Virginia, and a total of 11 throughout the Commonwealth, to leave The Episcopal Church. These departures were the result of disagreements over several decisions taken by The Episcopal Church concerning the role of Scripture, issues of sexuality and the role of women in leadership in the Church.

Since 2007, The Falls Church (Episcopal) has been blocked from worshiping in its historic home, and currently conducts services in the loft of Falls Church Presbyterian Church, located at 225 East Broad Street in Falls Church, Virginia.

For more information, please contact The Rev. Michael Pipkin, Priest-in-Charge:  
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