



# The Episcopal Chaplaincy at ATL



# Part of the Interfaith Airport Chaplaincy





# Busiest airport in the world?



# Answer: HJAIA aka ATL

- HJAIA: 17 years running
- busiest for passengers
  - second busiest for passengers: Beijing
- second busiest for daily takeoffs and landings
  - busiest for takeoffs and landings: O'Hare
  - In 2014 O'Hare took first place with 881,000 aircraft movements, followed by Atlanta with 868,359



# How big is HJAIA?



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*William B. Hartsfield International Airport - Atlanta, Ga.*

*Photo by Jim Doane*





*W. B. Ruffalo International Airport, Albany, Georgia*

*Photo by [illegible]*





*Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport, Atlanta, Georgia*

*Photo by Jim Davis*

# Space & Size

- 4,700 acres
  - the equivalent of 3,550 football fields
- almost 10 million interior square feet
  - in two terminals and seven concourses



# How many runways?



# 5 Runways

- 5 runways
- ATL is one of the few airports that can handle three simultaneous take offs and/or landings.
- The fifth runway was completed in 2006 at a cost of over \$1.2 billion.
  - It is 9,000 feet long and stretches across I-285.
  - It is the only current active runway in the US that stretches over an Interstate.



# How many terminals?



# 2 Terminals

- 2 terminals:
  - Domestic (South & North) [Hartsfield]
    - opened 1980
  - International [Jackson]
    - opened May 2012



# William B. Hartsfield Domestic Terminal





# Maynard H. Jackson, Jr. International Terminal







# How many concourses?





# 7 Concourses

- **7 Concourses:** T, A, B, C, D, E, F

# How many gates?





# 206 Gates

- 206 gates

# Daily takeoffs and landings?





# Daily takeoffs and landings

- **2,500** takeoffs and landings each day
  - an average of over 100 per hour

# How tall is the control tower?



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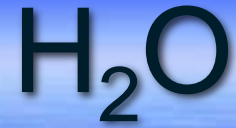
# Tower

- 398 feet tall
- the tallest control tower in North America
  - 165 feet taller than its predecessor
  - cost \$44.2 million
  - completed in 2006

# How many gallons of water daily?







- **917,000 gallons**
- 725 toilets, 338 urinals, 601 sinks  
= 1664 water use devices

# How many passengers daily?





# Passengers

- 265,000 daily passengers on average
  - more than 300,000 passengers on some days
  - current airport was build to handle about 150,000 passengers
  - an average of 40,000 daily passengers have ATL-originating flights
- over 95 million annual passengers
  - 96.1 million in 2014

# How many employees/contractors?





# Employees

- **63,000** people work at ATL
  - Compare: there are 56,000 Episcopalians in the Diocese of Atlanta
  - this includes airline and airport employees and airport contractors (from custodial to ground transportation)
  - as a site = GA's largest employer
    - the airport is the most populous single work site in GA and one of the largest in the Southeast

# 265,000 Passengers Daily





# 63,000 Employees/Contractors





# **Why Chaplaincy at HJAlA?**

**328,000 people every day**

**would be the 50<sup>th</sup> largest  
municipality in the US**

***Go to where the people are.***

# Interfaith Airport Chaplaincy (IAC)



- The IAC was created in 1980 by what is now the Regional Council of Churches.
  - a 501(c)3 non-profit



# IAC Volunteers

- 25-30 active volunteer chaplains
  - 4 active Episcopalians
  - more discerning their involvement
- 3 religions
  - 10 Christian denominations/expressions
  - Conservative Judaism
  - Sunni Islam

# The Episcopal Chaplaincy at ATL

- Began in 1980
  - Peggy and George Beal from 1980-2005
  - Jackie Berlin since 1990
- Revitalized in 2013
- The Episcopal Chaplain to ATL is employed by and assigned by the Bishop of Atlanta since November 1, 2013.
- The Episcopal Chaplain to ATL is priest-in-charge at the airport and has oversight of the work of all other Episcopalians involved in the chaplaincy.

# Department of Aviation (DOA), City of Atlanta

- Provides chapel spaces, office space, utilities, and custodial services gratis
- Makes an annual financial contribution to the IAC operating fund



# IACAC

- International Association of Civil Aviation Chaplains (IACAC)
  - 173 chaplaincies at airports in 43 countries



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
of CIVIL AVIATION CHAPLAINS

# Areas of Chaplaincy Work at ATL

With—

- Passengers
- Employees
- Service members
- Emergent/urgent situations

# Activities of Chaplaincy Work at ATL

- Wayfinding
- Companioning
- Customer service
- Listening
- Ombudspersons
- Advocacy
- Explicit spiritual care
- Prayer
- Building relationships
- Leading services
- De-escalating
- Defusing
- Interceding
- Serving
- *Triage: getting people to “the inn”*















in terminals and concourses





on the tarmac or anywhere at  
HJAIA—





- hangars
- parking decks
- trains
- restrooms
- break rooms
- fire stations
- police precincts
- customs hall
- chapels



WHAT'S YOUR FINAL DESTINATION?



INTERFAITH AIRPORT CHAPLAINCY  
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# Supporters of the Episcopal Chaplaincy at ATL



# The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta



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## Diocese-Sponsored Ministries


*Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me. —Matthew 25:40*

The Diocese of Atlanta supports seven community ministries that focus on the vulnerable among us. You may scroll through the list below for general information, or look at the menu on the left for links to their websites.

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### Airport Ministry @ Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International

An Episcopal presence at the world's busiest airport —welcoming people home and representing the church and Christ in the world.



The Rev. Donna S. Mote, Ph.D.  
Chaplain  
[dsmote@mac.com](mailto:dsmote@mac.com) | Vicar of ATL on Facebook

Assisting Chaplain: Barbara Pendergrast



SHARE



# The Rt Reverend Robert C. Wright, Bishop of Atlanta





# Barbara Pendergrast, MDiv, BCC



# Southwest Atlanta Convocation





# St John's Episcopal Church, College Park, GA





# Lay People of the Diocese of Atlanta





# Chapel in Atrium









# Chapel on Concourse E







# Chapel on Concourse F



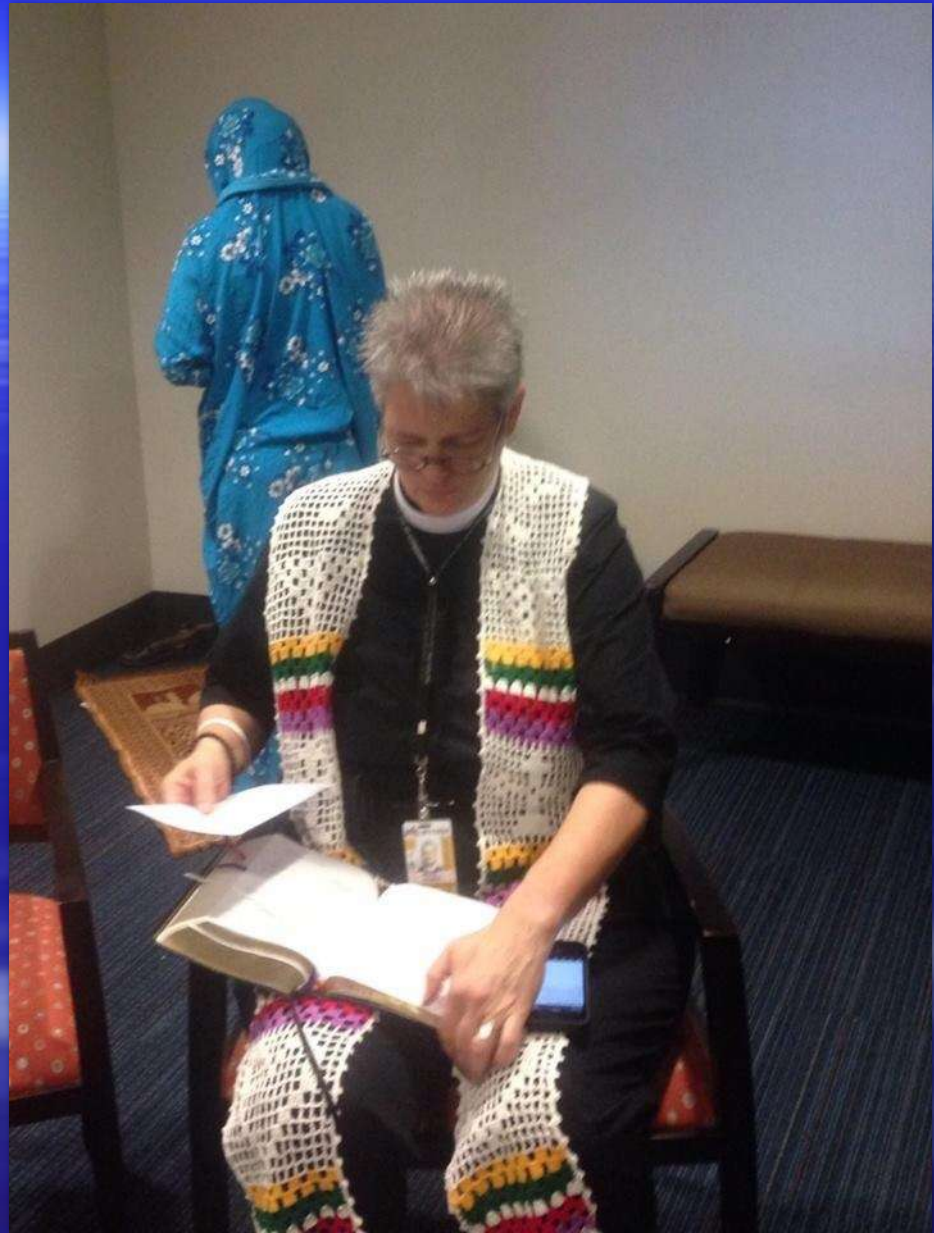




# Interfaith Airport Chapel

This is what we mean when we say “Interfaith Airport Chapel”:

People of various traditions and no traditions praying in their distinctive idioms with integrity while sharing the same space.



# Regular Scheduled Services

- Sunday, 11:30 am: Atrium Chapel-Protestant Service
- Sunday, 1:00 pm: Concourse F Chapel-Protestant Service
- Wednesday, 1:00 pm: Concourse F Chapel-Roman Catholic Communion
- Wednesday, 3:00 pm & 5:00 pm: Concourse F Chapel-Episcopal Eucharist
- Friday, 1:00 pm: Atrium Chapel-Juma'h Service (principal Muslim Friday prayers)

# Delta Honor Guard















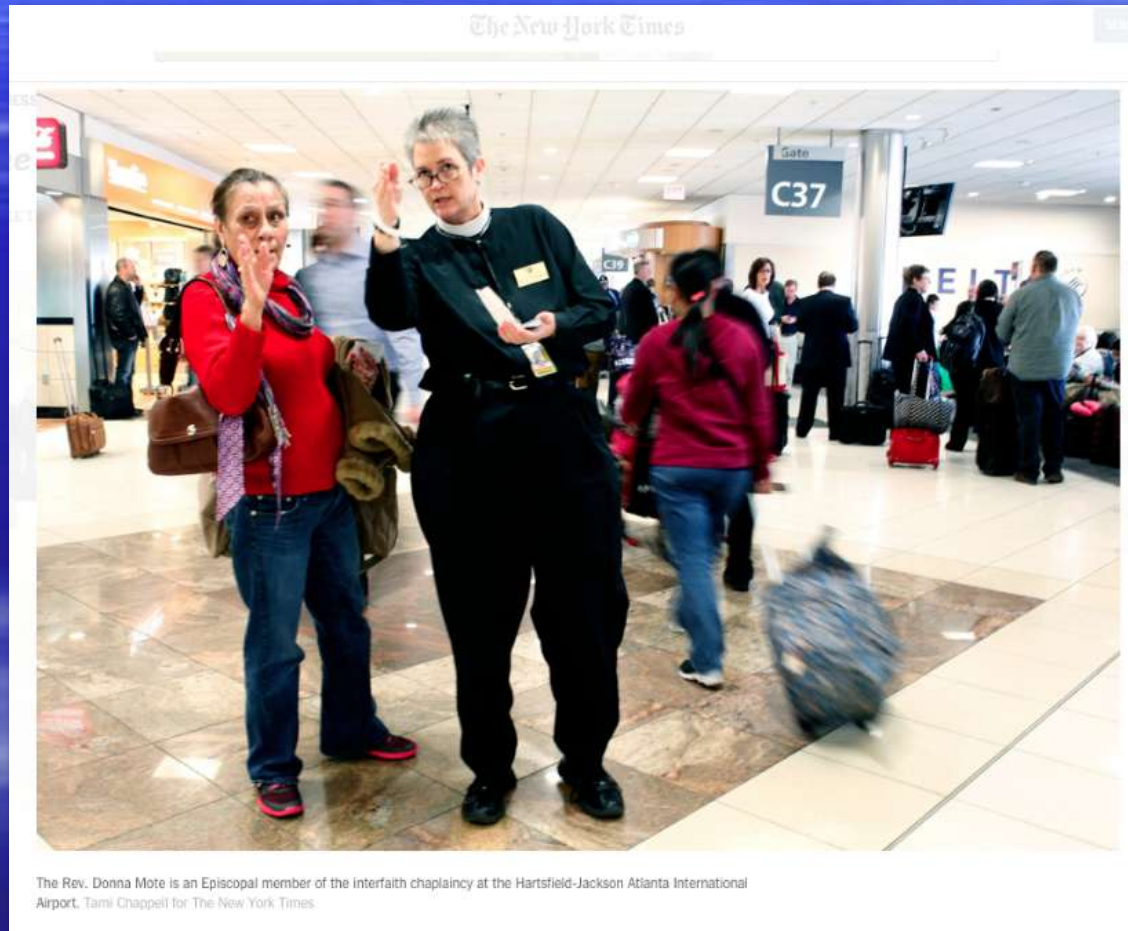


# Postures & Attributes of Episcopal ATL Chaplaincy

- Grounded, open, aware
- Positive, visible, active
- Available
- Attentive
- Holding the space
- Present
- Winsome
- Welcoming
- Gracious



# #TheChurchHasLeftTheBuilding



The Rev. Donna Mote is an Episcopal member of the interfaith chaplaincy at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Tami Chappell for The New York Times