

STANDING COMMISSION ON WORLD MISSION
NOVEMBER 16-18, 2006
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Members Present:

- Martha Alexander
- Jo Ann Roberts Armstead
- Kitty Babson (absent Saturday)
- Rose Fichera-Eagen
- Julio Holguin (Absent Saturday)
- Joseph Jerome
- Robert Munday
- Heather Payton
- Saulo Salvador
- Gordon Scruton

Members Excused:

- Michael Curry
- Leopold Frade
- Veronica Jaramillo
- Carol Taylor

Other:

- Michael Barlowe, Special Representative for the President of the House of Deputies
- Mark Harris, Executive Council Liaison
- Margaret Larom, Director of Anglican and Global Relations

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2006

Agenda:

- Get to know each other
- Elect officers
- Organization of Commission

1. Get to Know One Another

The group spent time introducing themselves to each other.

2. Election of Officers:

Martha Alexander, Chair

Robert Munday, Vice-Chair

Heather Payton, Secretary

3. Anglican and Global Relations(AGR) at the National Church Office

Margaret Larom, reporting

- Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) was introduced to the group.
http://www.episcopalchurch.org/30703_1700_ENG_HTM.htm
- The staff of AGR was overviewed.
http://www.episcopalchurch.org/79702_21046_ENG_HTM.htm?menupage=75544
- World Mission Interpretation
http://www.episcopalchurch.org/79706_21541_ENG_HTM.htm

- United Thank Offering (UTO) <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/uto.htm?menupage=5693>
- There is a great deal of overlap with the work in AGR. Areas (ex. Asia) will meet and share information as well as work on traveling to events together.

Current Status:

- 80 Missionaries
- 80-90% of dioceses have companion relationships approved – there are many other informal relationships
- Covenant Committees – Areas that used to be diocese of the Episcopal Church that are now in the process of becoming autonomous
 - Liberia, Mexico, Philippines, IARCA (Province of Central America)
- Bilateral Committee
 - Brazil

Action Item: Create a Prayer Cycle of Missionaries for churches to use.

Companions in Transformation

- Written by the commission as well as a video called *Windows on Mission* with a study guide
- “We are all missionaries, or we are nothing.” – Archbishop Desmond Tutu
- Available from the Episcopal Resource Center for \$29.95

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2006, 7 PM

The Standing Commission on World Mission has agreed covenanted to hour stop to observe one minute of silence followed by a prayer, song or other small devotion during meetings.

Agenda:

- Anti-Racism Meeting

#1 Assess the Diversity of the Group

Members of the Commission assessed the current diversity of the group as well as to lift up the voices that are missing from the Commission. The group affirmed the power of the incarnation, that God is present in all, and that our diversity is also present not only in our racial/ethnic backgrounds but socio-economic as well as education and many other areas.

#2 Policy and Procedures of the Commission – are they oppressive or liberating?

The Commission recognizes that being appointed to the Commission could be a challenge, people who are unable to miss work, for example, are excluded from serving. The Commission uplifted the reality that we are given a task that is liberating, so our work should mirror this. The members desire to meet local mission work as a part of our time together at meetings. The Commission recognizes that the shape of Global Mission will and has shaped the work.

The Commission decided that it would draft Group Norms.

#3 Using Session to Look at the Task:

- racism/oppression/seclusion imbedded**
- what actions and decisions**
- how did our proceedings contribute to equity**

a. racism/oppression/seclusion imbedded

The Commission is dedicated to being aware of the past, of Colonialism, of Missiology, and are also focused on inclusion for the present and future work with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as relationships with other CCABs. The Commission desires to be mindful not only

of racism within the United States, but in the areas we will visit and where missionary work is occurring.

b. What actions and decisions?

The Commission desires to remain focused on Interdependence and Mutual Responsibility (IMR).

c. How did our proceedings lead to liberation?

The work that we have done today has raised our awareness and sensitivity to racism.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2006

The Standing Commission on World Mission has agreed covenanted to hour stop to observe one minute of silence followed by a prayer, song or other small devotion during meetings.

Agenda:

- “Rules” /vision of our committee
- Follow up on Margaret’s report
- Mark’s report on Resolutions/Executive Council
- “Catch up” questions/responses on how SCWM got to this point
- Budget - .7%
- Priorities for Triennium and Meeting Places
- Notes – Questions/Concerns for General Convention Office
- Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) update
- Covenant Committee Meeting Updates

1. Group norms

The Commission discussed and agreed upon the following Norms by consensus.

- When we meet in other communities, we will engage mission work that is happening locally.
- Effort too work in harmony, mutual respect
- Listen to each other
- Work with transparency
- prayer, Gospel-focused, love, compassion, seeking relationships, respect, listening, equality, seeking community with others doing similar work, interdependence and mutual responsibility, transparency
- recognize the diverse gifts brought to the group
- ensure that the chair knows your flight arrangements, so we can adjust the agenda before the event

2. Anglican Global Mission Staff

Margaret Larom, Reporting

- [Handout on 815 Staff](#)
- [Handout on missionaries](#)
- [Handout on Budget](#)
- [handout – calendar](#)
- [Handout – litany for mission](#)
- [handout on companion diocese](#)

Margaret Larom finished her report on the AGR staff. She shared that there is an issue of diversity among the missionaries; the problem may be that there is a fear that being a missionary will be too costly. Funding follows vision. The Commission was reminded that we are the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS) – thus we are all called to be missionaries.

3. Discussion on Mission

- Word is burdened with colonial understanding

- *Companions in Transformation* offers a new way of understanding the term 'mission'

4. Break – Kitty Babson's Jackets to help Myanar. *The jackets were made by people in the village where Kitty Babson does missionary work. Funds from the jackets go back to directly benefit the members of the community.*

5. Resolutions and Executive Council

Mark Harris Reporting

- A113 – missionaries and volunteers = money put in budget, so passed
- A114 – Young Adult Service Corp – increase Appointment from 10-15 a year = passed with no additional staff, not enough extra minutes
- A115 – World Mission Education = funding increased slightly
- A116 – short term pilgrimages – money moved from minority program = in budget but not amount requested
- A117 – seminarian cross-cultural requirement = passed but not funded, growing interest among seminarians in mission, but no funding
- A118 – covenant committees = Referred and acted upon
- A119 – Brazil = referred and acted upon
- A120 – Episcopal Church in the Philippines Endowment = approved by being included in the budget
- A121 – thanking church pension group for raising pensions in overseas diocese
- A122 – supporting French Speaking Anglicans = budgeted
- Proposed meetings budget for the next three years
 - \$70,000 for triennium
 - \$10,000 for 2007
 - \$35,000 for 2008
 - \$25,000 for 2009

6. Covenant Committees

Margaret Larom, reporting

Covenant Committees were introduced and explained to the Commission. The Covenant Committees are currently transitioning to a very uniformed size and designation. Each of the Covenant Committees oversee the relationship between the Episcopal Church and the Missionary Diocese. Each Committee needs a representative from SCWM.

7. Action Items:

Margaret Larom, reporting

- Covenant Committees
- A covenant for Communion in Mission
 - Gather responses etc.
- Seminarian cross-cultural funding for requirement (work with Ministry Development Commission because of over-scheduling issues)
- Ideas regarding MDG's .7%
- How ministry of SCMW will reflect Children's Charter
- Ongoing questions concerning Churches in Europe
 - Churches in Europe and overlap of different jurisdictions, Church Of England (COE) Convocation of Churches in Europe (Province II)
 - Can we combine into one ministry? Margaret Larom will get us current state of this discussion
- Children's Charter Resolution, need to attend to how our work uplifts Children

The Commission adjourns for lunch.

Agenda:

- “Catch up” questions/responses on how SCWM got to this point
- Budget - .7%
- Priorities for Triennium and Meeting Places
- Notes – Questions/Concerns for General Convention Office
- ERD update
- Covenant Committee Meeting Updates

Handouts: [Children’s Charter](#)
[General Convention Documents for SCWM](#)

1. Guest: The Rev. Tony Jewiss, Deputy Executive Officer

The Commission was visited by the Rev. Tony Jewiss. He shared that he is responsible for watching over the meeting budgets and told us that .7% of our budget has to go toward the MDGs. He also shared that his office can help us to convene meetings, either in person or virtual.

2. “Catch Up” information on the 2004-2006 SCWM

- **Carry over from last Triennium:**

Proposed Action Items:

1. funding: specifically Young Adult Service Corp and Seminary Cross-Cultural requirements
2. A115 – funding for mission education in light of the MDG’s
3. Commission consultation on MRI and look at covenant for Communion in Mission
4. MDG’s sheet relating to *Companions in Transformation*, and /or have *Companions* highlighted on ERD information
5. Meet with EPGM
6. Continue with Episcopal Church Overseas items from Blue Book, p. 309
7. Autonomy process review
8. Cuba – follow up on Presiding Bishop’s visit
9. Review mandate – add in “relationship”

New Priorities

1. Prayer cycles for missionaries/covenant communities/mission organizations – perhaps add to the Anglican Cycle of Prayer
2. Comprehensive ideas addressing MDG’s and linkage between commissions – creating relationships, not just giving money
3. Mission and evangelization (consultation seminar on evangelism)
4. Develop ways to use MDG’s as a way to go about doing our work (Gospel and MGD’s)
5. Meet with SCOM
6. Investigate theological education – seminary in Latin America

Discussion:

During our discussion on goals, we were visited briefly by The Most Rev. Dr. Katherine Jefferts Schori

- Discussion on the goals set out in the last Triennium – p. 308-309
- **Mutual Respect and Interdependence (MRI)**
 - invite 4-5 people to help flesh this out, look at historical documents and see where we have gone with this in the past, as well as see where we currently are and where we can go
 - MRI is about hope of how we were to live in relationship with one another – mission engaged practice
- **Episcopal Partnership for Global Mission (EPGM)**
 - Episcopal Mission groups come together to determine how we will go about mission – consortium of agencies
 - 1 SCWM representative to EPGM

- **Companions in Transformation**
 - Wonderful basic document that redefines mission
 - Feedback was that visual learners need something else, so Windows on Mission (also handed out) was developed, it will soon have a study guide available for groups
- **MDG's**
 - 30% of \$7 million budget goes to MDG's and 8% of the entire church budget addresses MDG's
- **Episcopal Church Overseas (2006 Blue Book p. 309)**
 - grew out of a meeting in Ecuador – have to be aware of the struggles in these areas
- **Convocation of American Churches in Europe (2006 Blue Book p. 309)**
 - The Commission desires to understand the status and concerns of the Churches in Europe, and to continue to have a relationship with them. Martha Alexander will report next time on the current status.
- **The Anglican Communion (2006 Blue Book p. 309)**
 - Seminary for Latin America
- **Cuba**
 - The role of Cuba was discussed. Historical information on the church in Cuba was shared, as well as information concerning the leadership changes that Cuba is undergoing. The Commission decided to continue to be aware of what is going on in Cuba.

3. Meeting Dates

March 28-31, 2007 – Eastern United States

October 30 – November 2, 2007 – Memphis, TN

September 24-27, 2008 – Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, CA

April 2-5, 2008 – Dominican Republic

December 2008, January 2009 – Online Meeting

The Commission adjourns for dinner.

Agenda:

- Subcommittees to focus on priorities
- Covenant Committee Meeting Updates

1. Subcommittees:

1. MDG's

- Kitty, convener
- Jo Ann
- Rose

2. Connections/Relationships

Members:

- Heather, convener
- Gordon
- Michael
- Robert
- Joseph

3. Funding

Prayer Cycle

Members:

- Rose

- Gordon

4. Theological Education

Members:

- Robert, convener
- Julio
- Kitty
- Saulo

2. Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

Martha Alexander reporting on meeting with Robert Radtke, President of ERD

- Martha Alexander shared the work that ERD is currently doing. She shared the hardwork and financial support of ERD after Hurricane Katrina. She also shared that ERD is looking into new fundraising techniques.

3. Covenant Committees

Liberia

Gordon Scruton reporting

- 1979 – start of covenant writing, 1982 – start of relationship
- Covenant Committee met for a day at General Convention 2006. Stability seems to have started – bishop praised new government and the church has reopened schools. Bishop Newville is retiring, election is in October and the next Covenant Committee meeting will be held at the consecration of the new bishop.

Mexico

Julio Holguin and Saulo Salvador Reporting

- Met in May, both were in attendance. Mexico is facing serious financial issues because they haven't been growing at same rate as covenant is decreasing. The Province of Mexico is facing congregational development issues, and training is needed for lay leaders as well as clergy so the church can thrive.

IARCA

Margaret Larom, Saulo Salvador and Julio Holguin reporting

- Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua
- Funding continues to be an issue, the group is still learning how to work together to ensure that all of the work of the church is funded.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2006

The Standing Commission on World Mission has agreed covenanted to hour stop to observe one minute of silence followed by a prayer, song or other small devotion during meetings.

Agenda:

- Covenant Committee Meeting Updates
- Brazil
- .7%

IARCA, continued

- There are many issues in this region which need to be addressed and helped. Training and support, as well as better communication and visibility are all needed to help the church thrive.

Philippines

Mark Harris reporting

- 1990 - 3 diocese organized as a national church
- The Covenant Committee has undergone tough times over the years, but is currently doing great. The church is extraordinary yet small and manageable. There are 66 districts, and goal is to build a church in each one. They have a celebration scheduled for when they become financially independent, which will be very soon.

Brazil

Martha Alexander and Margaret Larom reporting

- see resolution for more details
- province became autonomous before the covenant communities existed, relationship has gone on for awhile - people in Brazil wanted more structure, felt isolated and wanted more relationships with the United States, so a bi-lateral committee has been put into place. Brazil would like companion diocese. There is a new diocese - Amazon, in Belem, at the opening of the Amazon.

EPGM

- 2 spots for people to serve on - let Margaret Larom know

.7%

- \$70
- ideas ERD, education, Kitty's Myanar project - school supplies

Motion:

- Joseph Jerome moved to send money to Myanar
- Gordon Scruton seconded
- Motion carried unanimously

Meeting Adjourned.