

## **INVITATION to ALL...**

*...Let those few of us who are maintaining the traditional Church of Christ stay the course.*

Join the Global Union of the Anglican Church International Communion (ACIC) without compromising jurisdictional authority or jurisdiction. Examine our 'Declaration of Principles' and DECIDE.

## **History and Foundation of ACIC**

A confederation of autonomous Anglican churches in full Communion with each other.

The Rt. Rev. Vincent Thakore was consecrated Bishop of Orthodox Anglican Church of America, Metropolitan of the Orthodox Anglican Church of India Diocese of the South by:  
The Rt. Rev. Lafond Lapointe, Archbishop of Orthodox Apostolic Church of Haiti  
The Rt. Rev. Melvin H. Pickering Ordinary of Diocese of Good Shepherd  
The Rt. Rev. Larry Johnson, Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Church of Virginia, USA L'Eglise Orthodoxe Apostolique Haitienne  
The Most Rev. Stephen C. Reber, Sr. of United Episcopal Church of North America.

These Anglican Bishops met as a Council and laid the foundation of a global Anglican Church Communion made up of the bishops and their parishes associated with them.

The following was determined:

The name of the Church shall be the 'Anglican Church International' later the word 'Communion' was introduced and the acronym became "ACIC".

As the Apostolic Church brought both Jewish and pagan peoples to Christ WE DECLARE that the Church today must be Church on Mission, reaching out to non-believers and neo-pagans with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This Church declares itself to be a part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. It further states itself to be of Anglican doctrine, discipline and worship, adhering to the historical, basic requirements of Anglicanism.

This Church consists of congregations in communion with bishops, who have been admitted on the basis of their standing in an Anglican jurisdiction.

Jurisdictions of this Church shall be in communion with each other, giving mutual recognition in all respects.

## **Admission to ACIC**

Admission to this church will be by the bishop signing the Declaration of Principles, and 75% vote of the College of Bishops at the annual Synod (Council). Bishops unable to attend at a given meeting may attend by teleconference and vote on the election of officers and other agenda items.

## **Admission of Bishop signing the 'Declaration of Principles' when synod is not in session:**

- 1- Requires one bishop of ACIC to sponsor and another ACIC bishop to concur. Then it is presented to the Presiding Bishop of ACIC. Upon his approval the bishop/clergy becomes an 'Interim Member' of ACIC. With the acceptance of the 'College of Bishops' becomes 'full member'.
- 2- If the Presiding bishop sponsors and another ACIC bishop concurs, or one bishop sponsors and the Presiding bishop concurs then bishop/clergy becomes 'Interim Member of ACIC' and with the approval of College of bishops becomes 'full member'.

## **Meetings, Officers and Delegates**

The Counsel of Bishops shall meet at least annually at the Presiding bishop's Diocese. The term of office for the Presiding Bishop shall be one year. The Presiding Bishop Elect shall serve as 'Vice President' for one year and the 'Secretary' to the College of Bishops shall be elected annually. These will serve as an Executive Advisory Committee for the ACIC.

The various jurisdictions may elect two delegates to the National Church Conference, which meets every third year at the time of the stated Annual Synod meeting of the College of Bishops.

The President of the College of Bishops of the Anglican Church International Communion (ACIC) shall have no authority from his position, except that for the moral and spiritual influence he may exercise. Jurisdictions may request bishops of ACIC to serve on the Church Courts within their diocese.

If in the opinion of 75% of the members of the College of Bishops a diocese has become apostate, that diocese shall be removed and its apostate bishop shall be removed from the ACIC and from membership in the College of Bishops.

Revisions to this document shall be made by a three-fourths vote of the College of Bishops, and of the elected clergy and lay delegates to a National Council Conference of this Church.

- 1- Any office in this council including the Presiding Bishop is prohibited from permanent or life time assignment. This does not prevent a Bishop to be Primus of their own jurisdiction permanently according to their own jurisdictional tradition.
- 2- Bishops shall not contribute any money to the Presiding Bishop or any other Bishop. The Presiding Bishop shall use his own resources.
- 3- Bishops shall not covet clergy or sheep of each other, nor trample over each other's jurisdiction. If such charges are brought against a bishop, ACIC Executive Council

(President, Vice and Secretary) will convene a court of more than 50% of the ACIC bishops to reach a decision.

- 4- Each participating Bishop shall stay independent and follow high or low church Worship service according to his jurisdictional traditions.

### **Presiding Bishops Since 2001**

The Rt. Rev. Lafond Lapointe was the first organizational Presiding Bishop elected for 2001.

The Rt. Rev. Larry Johnson has served as the second President of ACIC 2002.

The Rt. Rev. Melvin H. Pickering has served as the third President of ACIC 2003 and

The Rt. Rev. Vincent V. Thakore has been serving as the Presiding Bishop and College of Bishops for ACIC 2004.

The 2004 Executive Council consists of Bishop Vincent Thakore, VP Bishop Jorge Martinez and Secretary Bishop Larry Johnson. The ACIC Synod, COB and World Conference will be held in Atlanta from September 23 to September 25, 2004.

### **Current Membership**

1. Presiding Bishop **Larry W Johnson** of the Anglican Church of Virginia, USA; L'Eglise Orthodoxe Apostolique Haitienne and Archbishop of Australia.
2. Archbishop **LaFond LaPointe** of Orthodox Apostolic Church of Haiti.
3. Bishop **Luther Pierre Toussaint** of Orthodox Apostolic Church of Haiti.
4. Bishop **Joseph B. D. Desir** of L'Eglise Orthodox Apostolique Haitienne.
5. Bishop **Ernest Kelly** of Australia.
6. Bishop **Melvin R. Pickering** Ordinary of Anglican Diocese of the Good Shepherd.
7. Bishop **Dennis Massey** of Anglican Diocese of the Good Shepherd.
8. Bishop **Robert W. Baker** of Anglican Diocese of the Good Shepherd.
9. Presiding Bishop **Martin Sigillito** of American Anglican Convocation.
10. Bishop **Chopin Cusachs** of American Anglican Convocation.
11. Bishop **C. Tom Smith** of American Anglican Convocation.
12. Archbishop **L. John Whiting**, Bishop of Silchester, United Kingdom.
13. Bishop **Michael Newman**, Suffragan Windlesham, United Kingdom.
14. Bishop **John Keep**, Suffragan, Armodale, Australia.
15. Most Rev. Dr. **H. Reginald Hammond** of the Anglican Episcopal Church.
16. Bishop **Robert Godfrey** Suffragan of the Anglican Episcopal Church.
17. Presiding Bishop Dr. **Jorge B. Martinez-Zendejas** of Iglesia Episcopal Mexico/ Independiente.
18. Presiding Bishop **Vincent V. Thakore** of Anglican Orthodox Church America and Metropolitan of Orthodox Anglican Church of India.
19. Bishop **Victor Manuel Cruz Blanco** Ordinary of the Anglican Rite Catholic Church of Columbia, South America Province of the Caribbean and New Granada.

## DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

As the Apostolic Church brought both religious and non-religious peoples to Christ, WE DECLARE that the Church of today must be a church on mission, reaching out to believers and non-believers with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

WE FURTHER DECLARE that we adhere wholly to biblical teaching and to the following principles, and thus shall not accept any action or compromise that would weaken or change the faith and traditions of these principles and beliefs, which we hold to be essential to an unimpaired relationship with Jesus Christ and His one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

1. We believe in the authority of the HOLY SCRIPTURES as the revealed Word of God, as summarized by the Creeds, taught by the Fathers, and defined in the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, and the Authorized (King James) Version of The Holy Bible, it being the standard translation into the English language.
2. We believe the Nicene and Apostles' CREEDS are binding on every member of the Church as the expression of their specific personal commitment and conviction.
3. We believe HOLY BAPTISM as ordained by Christ, as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer, is the seal of our Salvation, and Confirmation by a bishop in the apostolic line is the means whereby we receive the strengthening gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Apostolic tradition.
4. We believe HOLY COMMUNION shall be validly celebrated by a bishop of the Apostolic Line, or by a priest ordained by such a bishop, and properly received by those confirmed or ready and desirous to be confirmed. Holy Communion will not be refused to believing baptized Christians of other traditions.
5. We believe HOLY ORDERS of Bishop, Priest, and Deacon are open only to believing men, following Biblical practice, the universal practice of the Holy Catholic Church, and as intended by our Book of Common Prayer.
6. We believe the integrity of the sacramental functions of the EPISCOPATE, and according to the Apostolic model, as evangelists, guardians of the faith, and caring shepherds of the flock, shall be placed above the administrative responsibilities that have so often caused mischief in the churches of former years.
7. We believe the historic BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER is regarded as a doctrinal standard and our common liturgy. We worship according to the 1928 American edition of the Book of Common Prayer, the 1962 Canadian edition, or the 1662 English Book of Common Prayer. We respect liturgical expression established by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer in 1549, and the 1552 version as set forth by the Act of Uniformity, and other national equivalents so far as the faith is kept entire by them.

8. We believe in the unique salvation of Jesus Christ and pledge our commitment to the words of Our Lord Jesus Christ about Himself: *"I am the WAY, the Truth, and the Life: and no man cometh to the Father, but by me."*

WE GIVE OUR WITNESS BEFORE GOD, to all believers in Christ, unbelievers and those who claim the name of Christ for themselves while disdaining Our Lord's own words about Himself: that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life and that no man can come to the Father but by Him.

SIGNED, In the Name of GOD the FATHER, GOD the SON and GOD the HOLY GHOST, the Bishops of THE ANGLICAN CHURCH INTERNATIONAL COMMUNION, on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and one.

**Request for Affiliation**

Bishops seeking affiliation with the Anglican Church International Communion may use the following Request Form for Communication and Information:

I Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ of the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_,  
of, \_\_\_\_\_ ( State/Country), do request and pray to join Anglican

Church International Communion. I pledge and affirm my agreement to the *Declaration of Principles* by my signature and seal to this document, this \_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month), two-thousand and \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of Our Lord.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

ACIC Bishop: \_\_\_\_\_

ACIC Bishop: \_\_\_\_\_

President of the College of Bishops of ACIC: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please forward completed form to:**

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Vincent V. Thakore  
St. James Anglican Pro-Cathedral  
5975 Mitchell Rd. NW  
Atlanta, GA 30328-4815