

LambethDail

ISSUE No.9 WEDNESDAY JULY 29 1998 OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE 1998 LAMBETH CONFERENCE

TODAY'S KEY EVENTS 7.15am Eucharist

9.30 - 11.00am Morning Prayer and Bible Studies 11.00 - 11.30am Spouses: Presentation by Anglican Networks

11.30 - 11.30am Spouses: Presentation by Anglican Networks

11.30 - 12.30pm Spouses Workshops:

The Anglican Communion (1), Creative Workshops

11.30 - 1.00pm Sections

2.30pm - 3.00pm Spouses: Presentation by Anglican Networks

2.45 - 3.45pm Regional Meetings

3.00 - 4.00pm Spouses Workshops:

The Anglican Communion (2), Creative Workshops

4.00 - 5.30pm Sections

5.45pm Evening Prayer

5.45pm Evening Prayer 7.30pm Spouses: Evening at the Old Palace Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber joins Open Churches Trust programme, a Market Place event, in Colt 1



Her Majesty welcomes Conference to Buckingham Palace

Tea for 2,000

LONDON by Bob Williams

The Queen and the Duke of L Edinburgh welcomed the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lambeth Conference participants for a garden party yesterday afternoon at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of York also joined in welcoming the bishops of the Anglican Communion, their spouses, and other church colleagues.

After receiving the Archbishop and Eileen Carey, the Queen greeted the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, and then officials from Lambeth Palace and the Lambeth Conference.

Thereafter the Archbishop introduced to the Queen various bishops and spouses who lined a path from the Palace steps to the Royal Tea Tent, where a variety of leaders from around the Communion were assembled.

A larger tent across the lawn accommodated the majority of the 2,000 guests and provided shelter during light rains. Guests took tea and toured the Palace gardens as the Bands of the Coldstream Guards and the Queen's Division (Normandy) provided music alternately throughout the afternoon.

Yeoman of the Guard held ground as the national anthem announced the arrival of the Queen and other members of the Royal Family at 4pm. Festivities concluded just before 6pm, with guests proceeding on to the Festival Pier for a cruise of the Thames.

Guests had traveled in 49 coaches from Canterbury for the London Day, which opened with lunch hosted at Lambeth Palace by Dr and Mrs Carey.

Coverage of the evening on the Thames will be included in tomorrow's Lambeth Daily.

Prime Minister affirms 'values bring people together'

Doing a Lambeth lunch

LONDON by Jane Gitau

The Queen greets bishops and other

quests as introduced by the Archbishop

of Canterbury (above). The Duke of York

joins festivities as Yeoman stands quard

(right). Guests gather in Palace garden

and tea tent (top right).

urrent trends of globalisation, much like the Lambeth Conference itself, offer the Church a chance "to send a signal of openness towards people," Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair told Conference participants gathered at Lambeth Palace yesterday for lunch hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Eileen Carey.

Mr Blair, himself an Anglican, commended the Church for its "tremendous work" in advancing human relations and international development. He also endosed its contributions to shedding off "the prejudices that informed the worst part of the value system that used to dominate all our countries in the world" and leaving "intact the best of the values of basic justice, of

belief in community, the notion of society being importance to advance the individual."

The Prime Minister urged church and society "not to go back to the Dark Ages" calling people not to "forget the basic values that make life worthwhile."

Mr Blair also pointed to current British government strides to achieve "key international development goals," specifically "more access to primary education, lower maternal and child mortality, and reversing the loss of environmental resources to national strategies for sustainable development." Mr Blair cited as an example his government's current commitment of £18 million "to help eradicate polio in East Africa over the next three years."

Archbishop Khotso Makulu of



Dr Carey welcomes Tony Blair to Lambeth Palace for luncheon gathering (top right)

Central Africa responded to Mr Blair on behalf of the Conference. "Thank you for the encouragement that your words bring to many of us," he said. "You are saying to us something about the affirmation of people at every level."

A transcript of Mr Blair's address is posted on-line at: www.lambethconference.org





Voices on international debt include the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, among other Anglican and civil leaders gathered yesterday morning at Lambeth Palace. See story, page 2

International debt meeting sets focus for London day

Discussion showed the meeting

united in concern for the condition

of heavily indebted countries. On

the one hand the urgency both of

the situation in these countries and

of the moral case for change was

pressed, and on the other attention

was drawn to the need to identify

policies which linked debt reduc-

tion with effective long term poli-

cies for economic and social devel-

opment and poverty eradication.

Ministers outlined the Government

proposals for addressing these con-

cerns within the international

where there were complex eco-

nomic issues these must not stand

in the way of real debt relief. It was

not a case of morality and econom-

ics being in opposition to each

other, but a question of establishing

a moral economics. It followed that

a new framework was needed for

economic progress and which

recognised that debt relief was a

necessary but not a wholly suffi-

cient condition for economic

development and poverty eradica-

tion. Above all, it was agreed that it

was essential to communicate to

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everyone a possibility of hope.

Discussions identified that, even

community.

From Lambeth Palace and Daily staff reports

haired jointly by the Arch-→ bishop of Canterbury and Baroness Chalker, a meeting at Lambeth Palace reviewed the experience of debtor countries and the responses so far of the international community to their plight, especially in the case of those countries most affected by enduring poverty.

Present were Bishops widely representative of the Anglican Communion including Kenneth Fernando of Sri Lanka and Ronald Haines of Washington, as well as political leaders, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP; and the Secretary of State for International Development the Rt Hon Clare Short MP. Included amongst those attending in addition to the High Commissioner of Canada and the Ambassadors of Germany and Russia were senior representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and international banks.

Daily Quote

"I think the most important thing... is that we don't let global change rule us but that we drive and subordinate it to the common good."

Prime Minister Tony Blair

The Lambeth Conference 1998

Meeting in residence at The University of Kent, Canterbury, England

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Visit the conference on line at www.lambethconference.org

Debt burden intolerable, Ndungane reminds

rchbishop Njongonkulu Andungane, of Cape Town, issued the following statement after a meeting at Lambeth Palace yesterday with representatives from the OECD countries:

The human cost of the international debt burden is intolerable. Its effects are evil and sinful. Leaders of Western nations remain complacent in the face of the vast human tragedy generated by unpayable debts.

At our meeting I represented to the utmost of my ability the urgency of the debt crisis.

The HIPC Initiative and the other measures taken show that Western governments have not yet fully grasped the critical need for immediate action in addressing this issue.

For many of the countries represented at Lambeth, servicing their debt repayment takes priority over expenditure on health, clean water, sanitation and education. In some nations 40 percent of government budgets are immediately appropriated by creditors.

International debt is the new slavery of the 20th century. Bishops here speak of the new economic colonialism destroying the lives of millions in their countries.

While the slow processes for agreeing on debt relief grind on inside the international financial institutions, bishops this week spoke of children dying for lack of basic health services.

They spoke of women being exported and exploited as servants and prostitutes to raise hard currency to repay debts—in countries like the Philippines.

They spoke of homeless families in their dioceses living without clean water because sanitation projects have collapsed. They spoke of the ending of free primary education in some African countries.

As a follower of Jesus, committed to the health and salvation of every person, regardless of colour or creed, I cannot keep silent on this issue. It is a matter of life and death.

I am constantly being told that there is a lack of political will to write off these debts. Yet in May of this year Jubilee 2000 gathered 70,000 ordinary British people in Birmingham to put pressure on the G8 leaders.

Clearly, the people have shown the will. We want to see their leaders follow them, and take action.

Writing off odious debts

In my discussions with the British Chancellor and the German ambassador, Gebhardt von Moltke, Russian Ambassador Yuri Fukine and Michael Monderer, Director of International Debt policy, US Treasury, I raised the following questions.

Why do Western creditors, from strong economies, refuse to offer



immediate and substantial debt relief to the poorest countries, except on the basis of consensus from all creditors? Why in particular will they not write off odious debts?

South Africa did not wait for such consensus before writing off all the debt owed to her by Namibia. In doing so, the new South African government did not ask whether we could afford to offer such relief; we did not wait to reconstruct our own economy before offering debt relief; we did not ask whether the debt was payable or unpayable. Nor did we impose any conditions on our neighbour.

We merely declared those debts as immoral, odious debts incurred while Namibia was occupied by the apartheid regime.

We call upon the rich countries to follow the example of the new South African government. To write off the odious loans given to dictators like Suharto of Indonesia, Marcos of the Philippines; to Mobutu of Zaire and to the various military regimes of Brazil and Nigeria.

Western allies did this for Germany after the Second World War. Let us do it now-to enable the impoverished people of debtor nations to have a fresh start; to give us hope for a new millennium.

Daily Lives

Church to hit the road in quest for justice

by Brian Thomas

All 16 bishops of the Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia will put on their walking shoes after Lambeth and march to their Parliament in Wellington.

They are walking with their people to tell the Government that the level of poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand is intolerable, and that there has to be a better way of running the country for the good of all.

Such a walk—called a "hikoi"—is a traditional Maori way of gathering grass-roots support for a protest at unjust political structures.

The Church's General Synod— Te Hinota Whanui called for a "Hikoi of Hope" when it met in May.

Synod listened solemnly as delegates told horror stories of debilitating poverty, especially among Maori and Polynesian peoples.

One priest broke down and wept at the rostrum as he described how the gap between rich and poor is widening in the land colloquially known as "God's Own Country."

The "Hikoi of Hope"-culminating in a rally in front of Parliament on October 1-is intended to show politicians that "enough is enough!"

With more than two months to

go the newly elected Primate, Presiding Bishop John Paterson (Auckland), says the *hikoi* already is gathering momentum and that "there are signs that it could be really big."

Other denominations have indicated their whole-hearted support, and various secular groups say they are prepared to join the Church in its march for justice.

Along the way participants will pray, share stories and sing songs of

Walkers are expected from the furthest reaches of the country, with parishes offering hospitality along the way. A train may be chartered on the last day to ensure walkers from far off arrive at the appointed time.

The hikoi will demand from the Government "real jobs, a public health system we can trust, benefit and wage levels that move people out of poverty, affordable housing and accessible education."

Bishop Paterson, a man described as "fired by a burning gentleness," sees his role in terms of a bridgebuilder and reconciler, and says the Church's goal is to actually get inside Parliament and talk to those who have the power to fashion policy.

To this end the Church has

booked a meeting hall inside Parliament Buildings for a face-to-face dialogue.

Bishop Paterson says Government members were elected on the basis of policy statements looking to a better society. "We want to tell them that we've come to support them, not to criticise them."

In practical terms this support would mean "a continuing dialogue about what the Church sees as political alternatives," Bishop Paterson says.

With a wry smile, he adds that the bishops should be fit and able



John Paterson

for their long march after having to do so much walking around the Lambeth campus.

Daily Events Tomorrow

Thursday July 30

Eucharist (Province: Iglesia Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil) followed by Bible Study video with Robin Eames, Archbishop of Ireland 2 Cor 7 8.15 - 9.15 am Breakfast - An optional 24 hours of fasting begins 9.30 - 11.00 am Morning Prayer and Bible Studies

11.00 - 11.15 am Sections 11.30 - 1.00 pm 1.00 - 2.30 pm Lunch/FreeTime

3.00 - 3.15 pm

3.30 pm

Vigil -Address on Holiness and Responses Service of Light

> Spouses Vigil -led by Jean Vanier, Canterbury L'Arche Community and The Chaplaincy Team Address on Holiness and Responses Service of Light

Dinner

Service of Reconciliation Liturgy of Foot-washing Night Watch