

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

21st July 2022

Lambeth Conference starts next week: 27th July to 7th August 2022

The Lambeth Conference starts next week as over six hundred bishops from around the Anglican Communion gather at the University of Kent at Canterbury. Bishop Andrew and Mary are attending as part of the Scottish delegation: all seven bishops and most of the spouses are attending the conference.



Please keep the conference in your prayers as delegates travel and business of meeting and exploring differences and agreements takes place. A special 'prayer guide' has been prepared for churches to support the conference: <https://www.lambethconference.org/resources/prayer-guide/>

Lambeth "Calls" - key feature for 2022

A new aspect of Lambeth 2022 is exploring a range of what have been titled 'Calls' to explore key issues that face Anglicans and the Anglican Communion in the 21st century. These 'calls' <https://www.lambethconference.org/programme/lambeth-calls/> are on the following themes:

- Mission and Evangelism
- Reconciliation
- Safe Church
- Environment and Sustainable Development
- Christian Unity
- Inter-faith Relations
- Anglican Identity
- Human Dignity
- Discipleship

During the Conference, there will be several 'Lambeth Call' discussion sessions, where bishops will be able to share their thinking and experience. Outcomes of the discussions will then be shared as a written 'Lambeth Call'.

The Call will be a short paper that includes:

- A declaration, summarising what the Christian Church has taught about the matter.

- An affirmation, summarising what the bishops want to say on these matters in the present time.
- A series of 'calls' to future witness, sharing actions or challenges that the bishops want to give to each other, to fellow Christians and to the world.

Within each 'Call' there will be issues to discuss and decisions to be made. It may be that not all bishops will want to add their voices to every element of every call. As has always been the case at every Lambeth Conference, bishops will confer together but they will not necessarily agree on everything.

It feels inevitable that the disagreements over human sexuality and LGBT inclusion will influence the discussion on some of these 'Calls'. Scotland is in the group of Provinces of the Anglican Communion that has a strong position on LGBT equality—with other Provinces including the USA, Canada, Brazil, Wales and New Zealand. This is an important matter and needs discussed, but many of the other themes are arguably more important and deserve careful discussion and work for agreement.



Bishops at Lambeth Conference (photo: Lambeth Conference)

The intention is to make public each of the 'Calls' from the conference and to ensure that there is a process by which the outcomes included in each 'Call' can be received and implemented. The Archbishop of Canterbury has made the change from 'resolution' to 'call' as 'resolution' implies (although this is an erroneous implication) a legal decision which is binding and that goes beyond the powers of the Conference.

Short bulletins from Lambeth are planned for the SEC/Brechin as the conference proceeds. Please watch the Diocesan and Provincial Facebook pages and other information feeds for news of events.

And please continue to pray for Lambeth and all delegates at this important event.

Post-Lambeth Visit by Companion Bishops: 9th August-14th August

Bishop Dalcy Dlamini of Swaziland and Bishop Betsey Monnot of Iowa will be making short visits to Brechin after the Lambeth conference. There will be a programme of church and community visits, as well as a 'Meet and Greet' event in Dundee on Thursday 11th at 7.30pm and a Celebration Evening Prayer in St Paul's Cathedral Dundee at 6.15pm on Sunday 14th August. Details for those events are shown below:

Meet and Greet Event: "Bring and Share" Thursday 11th August, 7.30pm at St Martin's Dundee

This event is a chance to meet the bishops from Iowa and Eswatini in an informal setting (and maybe even to have a ceilidh dance with them!). This will be a 'bring and share' potluck evening, so please do come along and bring some food (sweet or savoury) to share with others. All are very welcome to attend this event, that should last about 2 hours.

For confirmation of numbers please RSVP to the office (office@brechin.anglican.org.uk) by 3rd August.

Celebration Evening Prayer in St Paul's Cathedral Dundee at 6.15pm on Sunday 14th August.

The three bishops and the family members travelling with them will join in a special celebration service in the cathedral. The companionship has been in place for several decades now, so a re-commitment to the partnership will be shared at this special service. A signed statement of commitment has been prepared for these three new bishops (+Andrew, started 2018; +Betsey, 2021; +Dalcy, 2022) to affirm their ongoing determination to deepening and growing this long-standing Anglican linkage. All are very welcome to attend the service, and some 'volunteers' for leading prayers and assisting with readings will be sought in the next couple of weeks. If you would like to attend and help, please contact Provost Elizabeth at the Cathedral: provost@saintpaulscathedral.net.

Saturday 13th August—11am—Institution of Rev Mark-Aaron Tisdale as Rector of St Mary's Broughty Ferry.

Service of institution followed by a reception. Invitations have gone out—please RSVP—and anyone who wishes to attend and welcome Mark-Aaron, Çiğil and Winston-James to the Diocese is very welcome to attend. Please contact vestry secretary Fiona Wal-

thall at f.walthall@btinternet.com for details. The Tisdale family have now moved from Peterborough Diocese to Dundee, so please continue to keep them in your prayers.

Get in touch with Claire, the new Diocesan Children and Youth Officer

Claire Benton-Evans has now started work as the Diocesan Children and Youth Officer. She will travel anywhere in the Diocese for a cuppa and a conversation about how your church would like to engage with children, families and young people – even (especially!) if you don't know where to begin.

You can contact Claire at youth@brechin.anglican.org. We also now have a Children and Youth Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/brechindioyouthandchildren>. Please 'like' and follow the page.

Commissioning Pilgrimage & Service for Claire Benton-Evans as the Diocesan Children and Youth Officer

On Sunday 21st August in the afternoon—Please watch this space for details of timing and how to take part.

Envoy: Free Community Resource from Church Army



Would you like to learn how to make evangelism part of your everyday life, rather than something that's reserved for special events? Would you like to discover what evangelism could look like for you in your own context? Would you like to do all this in a supportive community of other Christians who want to do the same? Then 'Envoy' from CA could be for you. Envoy is a free evangelism coaching community for anybody aged 18+ who wants to make evangelism their way of life. Envoy is designed to fit into your life – whatever it looks like – and will equip you to live missionally wherever you are. CA Envoy communities begin in October. To find out more, or to sign up for Envoy, please contact Kerry Dixon via the Office or visit our website: www.envoy.website. Applications close on 16th September.