

# TRANSMISSION

News and features from the Anglican Communion

Autumn 2019



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† UNITED SOCIETY  
PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

USPG<sup>†</sup>

JUSTICE IN MISSION AND CARE OF CREATION

In this season of Creationtide, we rejoice in the earth, sea and sky as God's good creation. But we also lament the ways in which humanity has abused this creation. Heeding the call of the Anglican Consultative Council to recognise that we stand together facing a 'global climate emergency', this issue of *Transmission* focuses on climate justice – and the various ways in which churches are seeking to restore and repair our common home.

Environmental concerns are central to the life and ministry of the Church of South India, which has developed 'Green Protocols' as a key part of its discipleship programme for all Christians, alongside its extensive commitment to 'green schools'. We also have accounts of 'smart farming' in Malawi and 'Farming God's Way' in Tanzania, both creating a more sustainable approach to agriculture as well as increasing food security and empowering communities, especially women.

'The land belongs to God' – yet it is often usurped: Fundamental issues of justice are raised by the powerful witness of the church helping indigenous groups to reclaim ancestral lands in Mindanao in the southern Philippines. And we also learn first-hand of the resilience of the people of Mozambique following the devastating impact of cyclones across the region this year.

Every three years USPG gathers representatives from Anglican provinces across the globe for an international consultation on its activities. This year it was held in Barbados and focussed on the complexities and challenges of church-state relationships.

The conference also included a visit to Codrington, site of the former SPG slave plantation and there was a moving ceremony at the Church of the Holy Cross, where a plaque was unveiled by the Bishop of Barbados, the Rt Revd Michael Maxwell, and the Most Revd Dr Daniel Yinkah Sarfo, Archbishop of the Internal Province of Ghana, a land where so many people were captured and enslaved.

Finally, hospitality is an essential part of the Christian life. As we look to the Lambeth Conference 2020, my hope is that for many visiting bishops and spouses who attend, an abiding and cherished memory will be the warm, generous welcome they received as they were hosted by USPG supporters.

**The Revd Duncan Dormor**  
USPG General Secretary

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**Cover: Anima Noora in the garden at CSI Matriculation Higher Secondary School, in the Green School Programme, Diocese of Coimbatore, Coimbatore, Church of South India.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon

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News and features from  
the Anglican Communion

The views expressed here  
may not always represent  
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worldwide in God's mission  
to enliven faith, strengthen  
relationships, unlock  
potential, and champion  
justice. Founded 1701.

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## New home for USPG headquarters

**Archbishops, Bishops, colleagues, trustees  
and friends of USPG from around the world  
gathered in March for the official dedication  
and opening of USPG's new chapel and offices  
at Trinity Street in London.**



The Most Revd Maimbo Mndolwa, Archbishop of Tanzania and Bishop of Tanga led the service of Holy Communion and preached the history of mission. He also referred to USPG's Black Christ Masasi cross and the importance of contextualising Christ in culture. The Revd Dr Michael Clarke blessed the lectern and encouraged USPG to be a prophetic voice in the world.

The office was formally opened by Archbishop Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, who cut an appropriately USPG-pink ribbon.

USPG General Secretary, the Revd Duncan Dormor, said the day marked a new chapter in USPG's history. 'We hope this house of mission and place of prayer will become a place of dialogue and discussion, and of hospitality and welcome for our many friends and visitors from across the Communion.' ■

**Pictured top: The cutting of the ribbon at the  
dedication of USPG's new chapel and offices.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordong



## Creativity in mission set as the theme at the commissioning of the new head of USPG

**The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, spoke of catalysing creativity in mission at the commissioning of the Revd Duncan Dormor as General Secretary of USPG at Lambeth Palace.**

The service was attended by a variety of international colleagues and guests, reflecting USPG's partnership with churches worldwide, including Archbishop Naudal Alves Gomes, Primate of Brazil, who gave a reading from Genesis on God's Creation and Archbishop Moses Nag Jun Yoo, Primate of Korea, who sang Mark 7:1-13 in Korean. The Venerable Liz Adekunle, Archdeacon of Hackney, led prayers of intercession.

Archbishop Justin, referring to the Genesis passage, said the Church that lived in true harmony with God through Jesus Christ, should be overflowing with creativity.

'We should be seeing what is not and seeing it come to be by working in partnership through grace with God himself. That is our call and our mission – and Duncan, in USPG that is your call and mission around the world: to be a place that catalyses creativity, imagination and a new sense of what the Church is to be in our rapidly changing and deeply fractured world.'

Duncan said it had been a tremendous honour to be commissioned as General Secretary by Archbishop Justin in the Chapel at Lambeth. 'Creativity in mission lies at the very heart of USPG's global approach to rethinking mission, energising churches and communities and championing justice,' he went on. 'I look forward to responding to the Archbishop of Canterbury's call both personally and through USPG.' ■

## New mission booklet presented to Synod

**Members of the Church of England General Synod were presented with copies of USPG's new booklet on mission in the Anglican Communion, Open to Encounter, at a fringe meeting during February's Synod.**

The session was introduced by Janice Price, World Mission Advisor to the Archbishops' Council. She explained the aim was to encourage people to rethink mission for the 21st century.

There were short presentations by the Moderator of Church of North India and Bishop of Jabalpur, The Most Revd Dr Prem Chand Singh and the Bishop of Lincoln, The Rt Revd Christopher Lowson. There was also a filmed greeting from the first woman Bishop of the Diocese of the Amazon, The Right Revd Marinez Bassotto. General Secretary, The Revd Duncan Dormor, told the meeting USPG was about spirituality as much as strategy. He said global mission was about humility and deep journeying with sisters and brothers from different cultures and different contexts. It had to be counter-cultural and should come from the margins as well as going to the margins. ■

**Pictured: Janice Price chairs the USPG fringe meeting at General Synod.**

Credit: USPG/Emma Kevan



# Conference June 2019: The Prophetic Voice of the Church

**More than 150 people from around the world attended USPG's 2019 conference in June. They were inspired and challenged by guest speakers from the Philippines, West Africa, Southern Africa, Tanzania, the West Indies, the Diocese in Europe, and the UK.**

The conference encouraged them to consider what it means to be prophetic both as Church and as individuals, locally and globally, responding to God's call on their lives.

In his introduction, USPG General Secretary, The Revd Duncan Dormor, reflected on some of the year's highlights including the partnership with the Iglesia Filipina Independiente in the face of human rights abuses, the conference of the Council of Churches of East Asia in Korea and the triennial international consultation in Barbados.

Two bishops from Africa provided thought-provoking sessions. The Rt Revd Dr Victor Atta-Baffoe, Bishop of the Cape Coast in Ghana, spoke on the voices of witness, ministry and service, and leadership. He highlighted the potential damage of inherited financial structures that were reliant on grants from the global north and the need for true partnership on an equal footing to move forward together.

The Rt Revd Dr Dickson Chilongani, Bishop of Central Tanganyika in Tanzania, continued the theme of building for a sustainable future. He said Africans did not need external support; they had everything they need to be self-sustaining. He also explained that the Church was growing through investing in 'ordinary Christians', not just clergy.

The Very Revd Dr Gloria Mapangdol, Dean and President of St Andrew's Seminary, Manila,



Philippines, led Bible studies on the Magnificat and Amos, encouraging delegates to consider Mary's prophetic voice challenging exploitation.

The Revd Dr Evie Vernon O'Brien, USPG Theological Advisor, led a panel discussion on migration that provided information on the situation in North Africa and northern France and provoked vigorous discussion. The same topic was one of a selection of workshops.

Habib Nader facilitated a special session on the USPG *Journey With Us* where the Rt Revd Leopold Friday, Bishop of the Windward Islands and the Rt Revd Dickson Chilongani, Bishop of Diocese of Central Tanganyika, who have hosted volunteers for a number of years shared their experiences and affirmed the mutual value and benefit of the scheme.

There was an update on programme and a challenge from Cathrine Fungai Ngangira from Zimbabwe, an ordinand at Cranmer Hall, Durham, about the prophetic role of young people in the Church. ■

**Pictured: Cathrine Fungai Ngangira speaking at the USPG's 2019 conference.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon

To read more about the conference and watch individual sessions visit:  
[www.uspglive.org.uk/wpress/2019/07/uspg-conference-2019](http://www.uspglive.org.uk/wpress/2019/07/uspg-conference-2019)

# New Primates appointed



## BANGLADESH

The Bishop of Kushtia, Samuel Sunil Mankhin, has become Moderator and Primate of the Church of Bangladesh. He succeeded Bishop Paul Sarker, who retired as Bishop of Dhaka in February. 'All congregations of the Church of Bangladesh have been praying for a smooth leadership transition and God finally has granted our prayers and helped us to do so', said the Provincial Secretary, James Das.



## WEST INDIES

Archbishop Howard Gregory has been appointed the new Primate of the Province of the West Indies - the first Jamaican-born archbishop to hold the post. He was Bishop of Montego Bay for 10 years and was then elected Bishop of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands in 2012. Prior to that he was president of the United Theological College of the West Indies. He has spoken of his desire to motivate and engage people about discipleship and give it focus that reaches families, multicultural relationships, the community and all areas of life.



## MELANESIA

There will be a new Primate in the Anglican Church of Melanesia this autumn when the Bishop of Temotu, Leonard Dawea, is installed on 15 September. The Archbishop-elect was chosen as the new Primate during a meeting of the Provincial Electoral Board in June. Bishop Leonard, whose current diocese is in the Solomon Islands, will take over from Archbishop George Takeli, who retired in May. Before training for the priesthood he spent 12 years as a monk with the Melanesian Brotherhood.

## WEST AFRICA

Archbishop Jonathan Hart has begun his ministry as the eleventh Primate of the Province of West Africa. He succeeded Archbishop Daniel Sarfo in March. Archbishop Jonathan is also the bishop of Liberia. ■

**Top: The installation of the Rt Revd Samuel Sunil Mankhin.**

Credit: Church of Bangladesh

**Middle: The Most Revd Howard Gregory.**

Credit: The Diocese of Jamaica & the Cayman Islands

**Bottom: The Rt Revd Leonard Dawea (right) after attending the new Bishops course.**

# Resilience, love and forgiveness

**Anglican bishops in Sri Lanka led calls for national unity, love and forgiveness in the face of terrorist attacks on three churches and several hotels on Easter Sunday. Around 300 people died and 500 were injured in the attacks.**

In a joint statement the Bishops of Colombo and Kurunagala said they were terribly shocked and deeply saddened by what they called these 'barbarous acts'. They said the Church of Ceylon unreservedly condemned these 'cowardly and cruel acts of terrorism' and they offered deep condolences to the families and friends of the victims.

Writing days later, the Bishop of Colombo, Dhiloraj Canagasabey, urged Christians not to retaliate but show the resilience of the Christian community and to forgive. He raised the prospect of something good arising from the atrocities.

'This is an opportune time for all people of every faith and belief in this nation to come together in our common humanity, to hold hands and work towards building one family of one nation,' he said. 'We need to commit ourselves to build bridges of trust and confidence with each other. Out of the debris of this chaotic situation something beautiful, something fragrant, something positive needs to emerge.

'I call upon all our fellow citizens, and Christians in particular, to embrace the

Muslim community who have lived in this country for many hundreds of years of peaceful co-existence. They must be treated with love and understanding and not be held responsible for the acts of a small number of depraved fanatics.'

His sentiments were echoed by the Bishop Emeritus of Kurunagala, Kumara Illangasinghe.

'It is now the time... to come together to protect each other,' he said. 'Let us be united



with power, so that we will be able to reject and overcome those 'powers' that try to bring in disharmony, mistrust, bitterness, animosity, anger, division and the like.

'It is our time of unity as Sri Lankans, to be together amidst the diversity we enjoy. Diversity is a gift that God has given us. Let us celebrate that tremendous gift of diversity.' ■

**Pictured: Rt Revd Dhiloraj Canagasabey.**

Credit: Church of Ceylon



## CSI school scoops green award

**A Church of South India school has won a national prize for its work on the environment.**

CMS Lower Primary School in Vechoochira, in a rural area of Kerala, was presented with the Green School Award earlier this year. The school, which has 430 students, beat thousands of others to win the prize which was organised by the Centre for Science and Environment in New Delhi.

The school has been championing the Green School Programme in a variety of ways since 2014. Students avoid using plastic bottles or throwaway plastic. They use pens made from waste paper. Each pen has a seed embedded in it. When the ink runs out, the pupils 'plant' the pen so that a seedling will germinate.

The school is also active in the community, encouraging waste management and recycling. And it owns a biodiversity park and has a kitchen garden to grow its own vegetables. ■

## Long-standing USPG supporter remembered

**Warm tributes have been paid to a veteran and passionate USPG supporter who died in May this year.**

Margaret Fulford was a pillar of St Michael's and All Angels at Summertown in Oxford for many years, serving as churchwarden, PCC member and part of the choir; she even wrote a history of the church.

A eulogy noted how she loved the church's annual mission fundraising event and had sold hundreds of cakes and jars of marmalade. The eulogy said her faith was one of action. ■

## USPG at UN conference on status of women

**USPG sent three representatives to the United Nations this year for its latest *Commission on the Status of Women* (UNC63).**

The trio were Emma Bridger, USPG Research and Learning Manager, the Revd Fedis Nyagah from the Council of the Anglican Provinces of Africa and the Revd Chintha Polgampola from the Diocese of Colombo in Sri Lanka.

Their aim was to lobby their respective governments to maintain and strengthen commitments on the rights of women and girls, and acknowledge the importance of faith communities in achieving these goals.

They also worked with other faith-based representatives from the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development to hold two events, one which focused on *Unlocking the Power of Faith-Based Partnerships*, and the second, a roundtable discussion on *Faith, Feminism and Human Rights Frameworks*, where Revd Fedis was one of the panellists. Both events were co-sponsored by the UK, Danish, and Canadian governments.

USPG's document *Keeping Faith in Faith Leaders*, which Emma co-wrote, was presented at the UN to encourage discussion on the intersections and interactions between gender, faith, and development. ■



# Children's Synod inspires South India churches



**Children have challenged the Church of South India (CSI) to transform the way they think about younger people and to rethink church.**

Eight hundred children from across five states attended a two-day Children's Synod – Child Champs – at Bangalore in the diocese of Karnataka organised by CSI. The Synod grew from CSI's Child Protection Policy and a desire to listen to children and develop a more child-friendly church.

The children had opportunities to express concerns and make suggestions. Among their concerns were discrimination, particularly

based on economic status and caste. The Synod called for greater unity and inclusivity; more child-friendly teaching and child participation in worship. They also pressed for children to have a voice in decision making.

CSI said the children's values of love and equality had challenged the adult-centric church and it was proud and humbled by their leadership. ■

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**Pictured: CSI Child Champs 2019.**

Credit: CSI Communication Department

## Bangladesh launches strategic plan work

**The Church of Bangladesh has begun a strategic planning process to strengthen its capacity and organisation. The Church has been running itself for decades and has benefitted from the support of other partner organisations and churches. But it is now looking to become more self-sustainable.**

The strategic planning process was launched in March, after a preparatory meeting involving the Moderator, bishops, deans, priests and key leaders. The Church will map resources and consider goals and objectives over the coming year. The final strategic plan will be produced by November 2020. ■

# Introducing Creationtide 2019

We have a God-given responsibility to care for the world around us. The Season of Creation, or Creationtide, runs from 1 September to 4 October each year and is a time to celebrate God's wonderful gift and reflect on how we should look after it.

**T**he Fifth Mark of Mission of the Anglican Communion calls us to 'strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'.

The past year has seen more extreme weather events which point to the impact of climate change: Cyclone Idai bringing death and destruction to a swathe of south-eastern Africa; droughts elsewhere on the continent leading to food shortages; record high temperatures in parts of Europe and the Arctic; forest fires consuming thousands of hectares in the US; rising sea levels threatening the very survival of islands in the

South Pacific. Climate change may seem a distant challenge. But it has become a matter of life and death.

At its meeting in Hong Kong, the Anglican Consultative Council – which draws delegates from across the Anglican Communion – recognised the world faces a 'global climate emergency' and called on member churches to respond. One idea was for churches to identify and assist those communities within the Communion deemed most at risk. It also suggested that one day during the Season of Creation should be promoted as a day of public repentance.

Climate activists had a direct impact on a key date in the USPG calendar this year. The Archbishop Emeritus of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, the Right Reverend Winston Halapua, had been invited to preach at the Eucharist service to celebrate Thomas Bray Day. He was so moved by seeing thousands of protesting schoolchildren outside the UK parliament that he made them the focus of his sermon, recalling that Christ is the heart of creation and encouraging everyone to stand up and act. ■



**Pictured top: Rt Revd Winston Halapua led a Eucharist service to celebrate Thomas Bray Day on Friday 15 February at Saint Botolph Without Aldgate, London.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon



**Pictured bottom: Pangaimotu, an island off the coast of Tonga, which 10 months earlier was dry land.**

Credit: USPG/Naomi Herbert

# Anglicans cultivate Godly farming revolution

Churches in Tanzania and Malawi are driving changes to agriculture increasing harvests, blessing communities, and honouring creation.

**T**he Anglican Church in Malawi has helped to establish 25 farmers' clubs across all four dioceses. Households have been trained in 'smart farming'.

They learn techniques to improve soil by creating organic manures and to plant more diverse crops and trees which increase resilience to extreme weather conditions. These are essential skills: most of Malawi has experienced flooding and drought for each of the past five years leading to crop failure and widespread hunger.

Farmers are also learning to rear livestock. Such diversification has encouraged many to establish small businesses. And because they are now organised into clubs, the farmers are able to share expertise and manage their savings and businesses as teams.

The impact on vulnerable rural communities has been dramatic. Many more households have three meals a day; there's sufficient income to send children to school; reliance on expensive inorganic fertiliser has dropped, which is benefitting the environment and saving the farmers money.

Smart farming is also reducing gender disparity. That is because almost 80% of the people taking part in the programme are women. The increase in incomes and greater food security is improving their quality of life.

Similar results are being seen in Tanzania where the Anglican Church has been



involved in advocating a technique called Farming God's Way. The aim is to teach a Biblical vision for creation stewardship. Once churches and communities have embraced a God-centred vision for creation, that vision is put into action. This goes beyond farming to include tree planting and managing water. The practice of mulching is known as applying 'God's Blanket'.

The results on the ground have been obvious – better soil fertility, fewer weeds and better and bigger crops. But the benefits are broader: healthier, more prosperous communities where more children attend school. Farmers are investing in their businesses and helping neighbours in need. And because they are using sustainable techniques, the environment is also benefitting. ■

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**Pictured: Mrs. Mng'ong'o milks her cow at her home in Peluhanda, Tanzania.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon



# People of the land fighting for the indigenous rights in the Philippines

The land belongs to God, not to the landlords, not to the plantation companies, not to the mining companies, not to the government. The land belongs only to God. He created it, he owns it, and he created it to be shared.

**T**his is what I have learned in Church since childhood. But woe to me for this is not what I see. I see people owning lands as if they are God. I see people owning vast tracts while others have no place to live, people in power who grab the lands of the powerless.

Thankfully, that is not all I see. Blessed am I because I also see powerless people wielding power in their struggle for land and life. In 2012 I got a call from some indigenous peoples in Quezon, Bukidnon, in Mindanao, in the southern Philippines, who requested my presence as a priest. Together with a colleague, I found the Manobo-Pulangihon tribe camped in front of the Municipal Hall of the Quezon government. This was their

response to being evicted from their ancestral land and then moved on several times. They wanted to bring their situation to the local government and seek intervention so that they could go back to their ancestral land grabbed from them by a sugar cane plantation company.

I asked what I could do. Their reply was, 'Your presence here father is already enough'. When the municipal mayor said he would talk to them, they also requested our presence. But again they said my presence was sufficient help.

Since then I have accompanied them and offered my ministry of presence. It is their struggle. I and my Church are but their accompanier. Now, after years of struggle, with deaths, deceptions and countless harassments, the Manobo-Pulngihon tribe have got back a portion of their ancestral land. But they have not still recovered all of it. Their struggle continues. So does our accompaniment. ■

**The Very Revd Christopher N Ablon**  
National Program Coordinator  
Iglesia Filipina Independiente

**Pictured: The Very Revd Chris Ablon at the USPG stand at Greenbelt 2018.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon





# The launch of the Green Protocol for Green Discipleship

The Church of South India (CSI) is setting the pace when it comes to churches around the Anglican Communion pressing for environmental changes. It has been recognised by the United Nations Development Programme for its commitment to protect the planet.

**I**n August CSI hosted an international *Eco-Conference on Sustainable*

*Living*, bringing together church leaders, scientists, theologians and others. Earlier it launched a 12-point *Green Protocol*, setting out a stream of ideas and recommendations to address environmental concerns.

The guidelines aim to ensure that the Sustainable Development Goals are reached. CSI encourages all its dioceses to follow the guidelines. The areas covered include: energy conservation, water conservation, waste management, farming, transport, and reducing the use of plastic.

CSI has put ecology in its constitution and mission statement. In the protocol, the Church says Christians have a duty to protect God's creation. It wants to promote sustainable development and build power.

'We believe that the *Green Protocol* should reflect in the life and ministry of the Church,'

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**Pictured: Pechi Kumar and Mohammed Fazil with the organic and plastic waste depot at the CSI Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Diocese of Coimbatore, Church of South India.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon



it says. 'We believe that the Church should respond prophetically or lament like Jeremiah when people exploit natural resources.'

CSI asserts that 'developed countries' model of development is responsible for the global ecological crisis and it demands a change in thinking. It says it will support development that fulfils the requirement of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

## NEWLYWEDS EMBRACE PROTOCOL

One idea is for newlyweds to plant a sapling to celebrate their marriage. The first couple to do this within CSI, Anjay and Nisha, were married at St Thomas' Church in Punnackadu by the Moderator of CSI, Rt Revd Thomas Oommen; but they went further. As well as planting jackfruit saplings, the couple gave all their wedding guests packets of vegetable seeds to encourage more cultivation. ■



# Mozambique rebuilds after devastating cyclone Idai

The United Nations called Cyclone Idai 'one of the deadliest storms on record in the southern hemisphere'. It cut a swathe through Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe in March this year. More than 1,200 people are known to have died.

**M**ozambique was worst hit. More than 1.8 million people were affected. Esther Kazilimani-Pale, part of the Communion Wide Advisory Group for USPG, has seen first-hand how communities there suffered – and how they are responding.

The Lebombo diocese in Mozambique covers the area south of the Zambezi river to the borders with South Africa and Swaziland. The ecclesiastical district of Pungue in Lebombo was profoundly affected by Idai. Two months after the cyclone struck, the Mothers' Union executive council went to see its impact.

During our conversations with the church community, we were told that they are trying

to rebuild their houses; the women were helping their families cut bamboo to do this. Some people have come back from the camps and are beginning to rebuild.

## **FORCED TO LIVE IN 'WAITING HOUSES'**

In Lamego the devastation was so great that the people have been forced to live in what they jokingly call their 'casas de espera' or 'waiting houses'. These thatched structures will be their temporary accommodation until their homes are rebuilt. As we looked at

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**Pictured top: Villagers receive food supplies, Pungue, Lebombo, Mozambique.**

Credit: Esther Kazilimane Pale



them, we could barely hold back tears imagining what they went through.

They told us they had been given seeds to plant but insects and rodents had eaten much of it. The maize seed that had germinated was now being attacked by army worms. There will be no harvest for this maize crop.

Incredibly those who planted sorghum and millet are the lucky ones. These plants were flattened by the floodwaters and the rains, yet they have recovered and there will be a crop to harvest this summer.

In one area we visited, the women and children had gone to queue for food. They waited all day. When the food came there was not enough and it had to be distributed and shared among families. One 50kg bag of maize was divided between two families. This would not be enough for the month, but they were happy to have at least something for now.

### STILL WORSHIPPING AND PRAISING GOD

In all this one sees the resilience of human being and the in-built will to survive; the people are rebuilding, they are doing what they can. In Lamego only the pillars of a church are standing and people still worship under a big tree. Yes I say *still* worship because these people lost everything. After what they have gone through, they still believe there is a God out there. The Bible study topic was the story of Job. They identified with Job: yes God took everything away from Job and he never cursed God. They still sang praises and welcomed us with song and dance. We saw the meaning of 1



Corinthians 13:13 which says 'and now these three remain: faith hope and love'. A new day has brought hope and they have the faith to continue, as tomorrow is a new day. It is the love we have for our neighbour that should remain as we try to pull them through. The church building will be rebuilt later but for now we have to rebuild the families. ■

**Pictured top: The waiting houses, Pungue, Lebombo, Mozambique. Pictured bottom: A displaced woman beside her 'waiting house'.**

Credit: Esther Kazilimane Pale



# Exploring church-state relations

**Negotiating the complexities of church-state relationships across the Anglican Communion was the theme of UPSG's latest International Consultation in Barbados.**

**T**he gathering brought together representatives from 17 of the 40 provinces of the Communion to share experiences and reflect on how to respond. The conference included a powerful visit to Codrington, site of a former slave plantation.

USPG Chief Executive, the Revd Duncan Dormor, said experiences were different among participants. 'This is a particularly important issue for many leaders in the Communion,' he said. 'Often they need to decide how and when to speak out and when to remain silent. Some face attempts to co-opt their Church, others experience discrimination.'

The opening address was given by the Hon. Kay McConney, Barbados' Minister of Innovation, Science and Smart Technology,

who is a lifelong Anglican. She challenged Church and state to think about what they would unite against, what would make them stand together and what would they not let come between them. She then set out a model of how Church and state might work together in Barbados to care for an ageing population.

The Consultation featured presentations about the Church in a number of the provinces including Tanzania and Jerusalem and the Middle East. Dr Rienzie Perera, priest in the diocese of Colombo, spoke about the Easter Day bomb attacks while a priest from Hong Kong, Chan Kwok Keung, gave insights into the ongoing political tensions in the territory. Representatives were encouraged to pray for each other's differing situations.

Halfway through the week, the group travelled to Codrington for a day focusing on



the legacies of enslavement.

The Consultation also heard from Dr Agnes Abuom, Moderator of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches and representative of the Anglican Church of Kenya. She spoke on the theme of Lament and Hope.

‘Lament because our history and our ancestors were complicit in the oppression, enslavement and abuse of people by state power,’ she said. ‘At the same time, the motif of hope is essential because in the midst of a long history of forces of evil and death, there were men and women who exercised their conscience – a faithful remnant. The faithful remnant remains a factor in our time when communities around the world are engulfed by forces of death.’

On Pentecost Sunday, delegates were sent in groups to various parishes across the diocese to worship with local congregations. The week concluded with a reception hosted by the Governor General.

‘Our conclusions focused on the fact that grounded in prayer, discernment is a central task for the church in relation to the life of the nation to decide when is the time for dialogue and conversation, and when is the time for prophecy and proclamation,’ said Director of Global Relations, Rachel Parry. ‘As we went home, we certainly had deepened our sense of the fundamental challenge it is for churches to voice their concerns when the gospel demands, and indeed the risks inherent when doing so.’

## CHURCH AS HUMANITY'S CONSCIENCE

The Consultation culminated with an eight-point communiqué stressing that our calling as Christians demanded that churches act as the conscience of humanity, speak truth to power and speak out against injustice and corruption. Discernment must be a central task for the Church in deciding where and when to speak out.

The communiqué notes the importance of each church knowing its history, culture and

context and to engage with the cultures that they are serving.

It also called on churches to be salt and light: to build broad coalitions for the common good, working ecumenically and with other faiths where appropriate - for example, when Christianity is the minority faith and also to be deeply conscious of other minorities where Christianity is the majority faith.

The experiences and stories shared through the week demonstrated the significance of context when navigating sensitive, delicate and potentially dangerous power balances. And also the importance of listening to those on the ground who really know the realities and consequences of the impact of speaking out.

Delegates noted that too often it is easy to make assumptions, jump to ill-informed conclusions or think one knows best how a church or church leaders should act, when in fact we know only a part. They felt that their engagement together deepened →



**Pictured top: Delegates gather following the official Opening Ceremony of the USPG Triennial Consultation at The Cathedral Church of St Michael and All Angels, Bridgetown, Barbados.**

**Opposite: The Most Revd Dr Maimbo Mndolwa, and Mr Ben Kuevidjen, join the drummers at a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.**

Credit: USPG/Richard Bartlett

## WORDS ON THE PLAQUE

*'Erected of wood in 1819, built of stone in 1833, The Chapel of the Society was renamed The Church of the Holy Cross in 1954.*

*Its original purpose: to minister to its enslaved community.*

*Its present purpose: to minister to a changed and rapidly changing community.*

*By historical association, a reminder of a cruel past and a challenge for the future. With the grave of Bishop Rawle, a reminder of the enduring missionary task of the church. The Church stands as a sentinel over the ocean, across which enslaved persons travelled from Cape Coast, Africa, and against human trafficking in the present.'*

**Pictured: Delegates to the USPG Triennial Consultation meet prior to Evening Prayer on the lawns of Codrington College, Wednesday 12 June, 2019.**

Credit: USPG/Richard Bartlett

shared understanding that the contexts faced by churches needed collective prayer, solidarity and respect from brothers and sisters around the world.

## UNVEILING THE PLAQUE

A moving ceremony to unveil a plaque at the site of a former slave plantation was a poignant moment at the heart of the week. The plaque was unveiled by the Bishop of Barbados, Michael Maxwell, and the Archbishop of the Internal Province of Ghana where so many people were captured and enslaved.

The plaque is outside Holy Cross Church. A chapel was first built on the site 200 years ago by slaves living and working on the Codrington Plantation Estate.

This chapel makes a direct connection with the Society Chapel built in Cape Coast, Ghana, over the caves which held captured human beings, awaiting their brutal passage across the sea, many of whom were destined for slavery in Barbados.

In his sermon at the Holy Cross, Archbishop Emeritus Dr John Holder, while not flinching from criticising the missionary church of the evils of slavery in the past, also challenged the church of today where leaders still think they can determine who can receive God's blessing. ■



The communiqué can be found on the USPG website:  
[www.uspglive.org.uk/wpress/2019/06/speaking-truth-to-power](http://www.uspglive.org.uk/wpress/2019/06/speaking-truth-to-power)

# Call for nuclear-free world after radioactive disaster

Anglicans in Japan have told of communities still suffering from the devastating Fukushima nuclear disaster in March 2011. Priests and laity spoke at the International Forum for a Nuclear Free World organised by NSKK – the Anglican Communion in Japan. Rebecca Boardman from USPG Global Relations was there and reflects on what she saw and heard.

**T**he clean-up following the earthquake and tsunami is almost over but the impact of radioactive contamination continues.

Described as an invisible enemy – unable to be seen, smelt or touched – radioactivity around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant makes it difficult to carry on with life as it was before. The natural environment may look healthy but local residents notice the changes: the number of insects has dropped; flowers have changed their shape and the iconic cherry blossom no longer blooms.

Radiation is still beyond safe limits in a number of towns. Families remain displaced. Many have fractured - having been separated during evacuation.

Efforts to remove contaminated topsoil continue, but with humankind unable to dispose of nuclear waste, this challenge will continue for generations.

The eyes of the world may have turned away, but the NSKK continues its unwavering commitment to the people and communities forever changed by the disaster. Not stopping at relief and rehabilitation efforts, the NSKK is

advocating for a nuclear-free world to ensure that no one else suffers in this way.

We are often told that nuclear power is the only way to reach carbon reduction targets and ensure energy security. The experience in Japan leads us to question whether we can truly call nuclear energy clean or safe.

Drawing together Anglicans from around



the world, the Forum asks that we all actively remember the triple disaster, witnessing for those affected. It calls churches to transition to renewable energies so that we can truly preserve the integrity of creation and renew and sustain life on earth. ■

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**Pictured: Participants in the International Forum for a Nuclear Free World, Japan.**

Credit: International Forum for a Nuclear Free World



# Confronting the past to rethink mission

Challenging churches, and Christians, to confront their legacy was a common thread of USPG's third Rethinking Mission conference, which took place at Liverpool Cathedral earlier this year.

**T**he conference heard Christian perspectives from four parts of the world which were involved in the transatlantic slave trade.

'Barbados built Liverpool' declared the Revd Dr Michael Clarke in a powerful and poignant address. Dr Clarke, who is principal of Codrington College, Barbados, reflected on the chains binding the UK and the Caribbean through the brutal commerce of the slave trade. Wealth had come to Europe, but degradation and death came to Africans kidnapped and compelled to work on plantations in the Caribbean. Among them, the Codrington estate, where the theological college now stands, which was bequeathed to

SPG, the forerunner of USPG.

Dr Clarke highlighted the need to reinvent church in order to reimagine mission. In the 21st century, he said, mission needed to be done with an understanding of the faith and culture of the disciples involved.

The Revd Dr Daniel Eshun, Chaplain of Whitelands College in London, spoke of the contradictions experienced by his ancestor,

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**Pictured top: Delegates at the Rethinking Mission Day Conference 2019 *Remembering History* in March at the Lady Chapel, Liverpool Anglican Cathedral.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon



the Revd Philip Quaque, the first African ordained to the Anglican priesthood and an SPG missionary, who had to minister to the slave traders at Cape Coast Castle in Ghana. Trade at Cape Coast generated huge profits for Britain who exchanged goods and guns from places like Liverpool for captives in Africa who were then sold in the West Indies and Americas.

The incoming Bishop of Dover, Rose Hudson Wilkin, spoke about the situation for people of colour in the UK and called for delegates to challenge conscious and unconscious acts of bias and racism in their communities. She stressed the importance of looking back in order to go forward because what had happened in the past was still having an impact.

'If we can't stop and recognise this, we won't be able to stop it,' she said, urging people to remove their own blindfolds and walk as children in the light.

The Revd Winnie Varghese from Trinity Church, Wall Street, New York, delivered a powerful final session, inviting delegates to stand in that place of feeling challenged and disturbed by what they had heard, a shameful history, to face that shame and to find tools to help themselves and one another.

'I believe we can repair and heal the breach because the Bible shows us how and it is our job to act,' she said. 'We who caused the mess must fix the mess.'

USPG General Secretary, the Revd Duncan Dormor, stressed the need for truth-telling and justice alongside healing and forgiveness as Christians' response to the deeply shameful history of the British slave trade.

White Christians in the UK needed to reflect much more deeply on their heritage and history and its consequences, and

develop a wider understanding of the slave trade and its legacy. He pledged that USPG would continue to explore these issues and invited delegates to join in. ■

**Top: The Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the Speaker at the House of Commons, speaking at the *Rethinking Mission Day Conference 2019*. Middle: The Revd Daniel Justice Eshun. Bottom: The speakers at the *Rethinking Mission Day Conference*.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon



USPG will host Rethinking Mission Conference on  
Saturday 21 March 2020 at St John's Church, Waterloo, London.  
Booking opens in October. See [www.uspg.org.uk](http://www.uspg.org.uk) for details.

# USPG voice at international conference on SDGs

USPG have been engaging with the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD) for three years, with the aim to broaden conversations and understanding of where faith and development meet.



This suggests that donors may be missing some of the most exciting and transformational work simply because current reporting methods aren't up to the job and that the voice of young people must be brought into the centre of debates.

PaRD is also a chance to be moved and inspired by others. USPG's Emma Bridger, who was at the conference, was particularly struck by the Revd Dr. Kenneth Mtata, General

USPG played an active part in PaRD's annual conference in Copenhagen in May, ensuring that of a wide range of views from around the Anglican Communion were brought to the meeting.

USPG presented their recent research in collaboration with Hope Africa and the Anglican Student Federation in South Africa, entitled 'Keeping Faith in Faith Leaders'.

Secretary of the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, who spoke on the Shrinking Space for Civil Society.

'He highlighted the rise of nationalism as the main cause of this and suggested that faith groups should create safe spaces where people can express themselves freely. He called on them to unite and build solidarity with other religious communities and through international networks.

'Given increasing nationalism in the UK, it left me wondering what the role is for USPG and parish churches in creating safe spaces,' said Emma. 'How do we better connect our partners and others to stand in solidarity with each other?' ■

## ABOUT PaRD

PaRD brings together governmental and intergovernmental organisations with faith-based or religious organisations, to build the relationships and understanding necessary to work towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Pictured: Participants at a PaRD Annual Meeting.**

Credit: PaRD

# Hospitality for bishops before 2020 Lambeth Conference

More than one thousand bishops and spouses from around the worldwide Anglican Communion have already registered to attend next summer's Lambeth Conference, and USPG is planning to play a significant role in making them welcome.

**T**he Lambeth Conference runs from 23 July to 2 August in 2020. Bishops and spouses from more than 165 countries have been invited. The theme of the event, to be held in Canterbury, is 'God's Church for God's World: walking, listening and witnessing together'. Participants meet together for prayer, Bible study, reflection, fellowship, worship and dialogue. It will be the first Lambeth Conference since 2008.

The bishops and spouses have been invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. He said his prayer was that the conference would reinvigorate the Communion to bring the transforming love of Jesus to every level of society around the world.

Many bishops and spouses will arrive in the UK before the conference and will be welcomed through the Lambeth Conference Hospitality Initiative which runs 15-22 July.

USPG is offering to host up to 10% of the visiting bishops and spouses from parts of the Communion where USPG has existing or historic links. USPG volunteers and supporters are being encouraged to offer to host bishops and spouses from 15-20 July, and then bring them to the USPG Conference at Swanwick in Derbyshire from 20-22 July.

From there, the bishops and spouses will be taken directly to the Lambeth Conference. The aim is to dovetail with similar hospitality being offered by dioceses across England, Scotland and Wales.

USPG Director of Mission Engagement, Revd Canon Richard Bartlett, encouraged supporters to get involved: 'The arrival of so many bishops and spouses from around the Communion provides a wonderful opportunity for parishes, chaplaincies, schools and communities to engage with and learn from our visitors,' he said. ■



**Pictured: Caroline Welby and the Most Revd Justin Welby at Lambeth Palace.**

Credit: Lambeth Palace

If you would be willing to be a part of the hosting on behalf of USPG, or would like to make a financial contribution to enable others to do so, please contact Revd Canon Richard Bartlett at [richardb@uspg.org.uk](mailto:richardb@uspg.org.uk)





# The joy of walking together

Looking after the jewel in the crown of USPG mission personnel programmes for the past 21 years has been a privilege and blessing.

**I** have often been amazed at the wonderful ways in which the Lord has demonstrated his faithfulness and his purposes in the lives of the diverse range of people drawn to participate in USPG's *Journey With Us* programme, formerly the *Experience Exchange Programme* (EEP).

By sharing in the lives and journeys of many of the volunteers, I have seen attitudes and perceptions challenged and transformed, and mine too. Many have been encouraged and inspired about God's mission. I have wonderful memories of over 500 special people who have come through the programme.

Countless relationships continue to be established across the world, hopes and dreams are being revived; faith in God

expanded; new direction and understanding is being revealed for many; the good news of the Gospel is being lived out in practical and meaningful experiences; the blessings to both the sending churches and the hosting churches are impossible to count. Once again to God be the Glory.

Established over 60 years ago as USPG STEP (*Short-Term Experience Programmes*), *Journey With Us* continues to provide unique opportunities for volunteers resident in Britain and Ireland, to gain practical experience of

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**Pictured above: Emmanuela Williams  
*Journey with Us* with children at Sunday  
school at St Pauls Church in Villa Felicidad,  
Progreso, Uruguay.**

Credit: USPG/Leah Gordon

the life and mission of USPG partner churches overseas, participate in what God is doing and see the world differently, through God's eyes. The guarantee we make is that 'your life will be changed for good when you take part'.

It's a self-funding scheme, open to everyone aged 18+ irrespective of church background or stage of faith journey. No special professional skills are necessary. Placements are between three-12 months and tailored to suit individual preferences. Costs vary according to location.

Bishop Ossie Swartz of Kimberley Kuruman, South Africa, has been hosting USPG volunteers for over 20 years: 'It has been a tremendous joy and privilege to invite friends to journey with us through the USPG people's programmes. This journey of accompaniment has enabled us to learn so much from each other and, also importantly, about ourselves.' ■

### **Habib Nader**

Programmes Manager

## **WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID**

'I am quite certain that I was brought here and that everything I have seen and experienced is being used in some way by God, and that all shall be well. I have enjoyed this time... it has given me space and time for reflection.'

MARY MASTERS 77, RETIRED, FROM GLASTONBURY, ON PLACEMENT AT ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY CROSS, LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

'I was seeking a time of refreshment and challenge to reflect on my journey so far and my future direction. I was keen to return to India, my birthplace, to use my experience as a teacher and communicator and live as part a community. *Journey With Us* is enabling me to fulfil all these hopes – and giving me unexpected new opportunities.'

REVD SARAH MILLER, 54, FROM EDINBURGH

'I pray with purpose and with meaning now. I really know what I'm asking God for and what I am praising God for. I know that the Lord is guiding me and that ultimately if I put my faith in Him all will be well. I can sense Him testing me and His awesome power helping me. Quite frankly it is amazing.'

JAMES MARSH, 18, STUDENT FROM CUMBRIA, ON PLACEMENT IN WINDWARD ISLANDS

'I have persevered through situations and circumstances I never would have thought possible. And my attitude has changed: my mother commented 'she is grateful for everything and nothing fazes her'. Going with God to the other side of the world has caused our relationship to grow exponentially and I am so thankful. And for the incredible men and women I met and journeyed with.'

SIOBHAN KERR, 23, MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY GRADUATE FROM FERMANAGH, ON PLACEMENT IN MUHEZA HOSPITAL, TANZANIA



# State funeral for Ghana bishop who advised presidents

**T**housands of mourners, including a number of former presidents, gathered in the Upper East region of Ghana for the state funeral of Bishop Jacob Kofi Ayebo, the bishop of the diocese of Tamale, who served not only the Church but also his country with distinction for many years. Bishop Jacob died in February, aged 59. Many of the tributes recognised his commitment to provide better opportunities for his people.

Apart from his episcopacy, he served in Ghana's Council of State for eight years, providing advice to two presidents. In his local region, he was a presiding member of the Bawku West District assembly for six years. He also served on many boards, both local and international. He was the Executive Director of ADDRO, an NGO working in northern Ghana with people of all faiths.

Bishop Jacob was an international trustee of USPG from July 2011 to June 2014. USPG Director of Finance and Resources, Ben

Kuevidjen, who attended his funeral, said the bishop made a real impact.

'He brought a new way of thinking in development and our programmatic work. He was approachable and very likeable with a friendly and warm smile that hardly wore off. He was a passionate development worker and was instrumental in many developmental projects in his diocese including a hotel complex which USPG part funded. The whole of the USPG family will profoundly miss him.'

An educational endowment fund has been set up in memory of Bishop Jacob to continue with his good work. USPG will be contributing to the fund. ■

**Pictured top: The Rt Revd Jacob Kofi Ayebo, Bishop of Tamale with his family.**

Credit: Anglican Church of Ghana

**Pictured opposite: The Revd Patrick Appleford.**

Credit: USPG





## THE REVD PATRICK APPLEFORD

1925-2018

**The Revd Patrick Appleford, who died last year at the age of 93, was a former Education Secretary for USPG, but he will be remembered by most people as a hymn writer. The Honorary Assistant Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Rt Revd Brian Castle, has written of the power and potential of congregational song. Here he reflects on Patrick Appleford's story.**

The Reverend Patrick Appleford's best known hymn is *Lord Jesus Christ* (also known as *Living Lord*, the name of the tune) which was written for the youth club he ran when he was a curate in Poplar, East London. Through the hymn, he was wanting to show that Jesus was not a dead hero but a living lord. Composed in the 1950s when the Christian faith was facing fierce challenges over its relevance in an increasingly secularizing society, the hymn first appeared in a hymn booklet commissioned by *The 20th Century Church Light Music Group* (co-founded by Patrick Appleford) whose aim was to express, in the musical idiom of light music, the common worship of the People of God. Voices of support were drowned out by those of outrage who felt that the Group's music was unsuitable for Christian worship, and would be more at home in pantomime. And yet, *Living Lord* entered hymnody's hall of fame, and continues to be sung in a number of languages worldwide.

The story of *Living Lord* sheds important light on the gifts and ministry of the remarkable Patrick Appleford. In 1961, after three years as chaplain at a theological college, he joined USPG as Education Secretary. His gifts of communication, apparent in his hymn writing, were shaping his ministry. These gifts were both used and sharpened when, in 1966, he moved to Zambia, where he became Dean of Holy Cross Cathedral, Lusaka. Just two years after Zambia had gained its independence and four years after the Cathedral was built, Appleford took up his ministry in buzzing and uncertain times as the country charted its future.

Returning to the UK in 1975, Patrick Appleford became Director of Education for Chelmsford diocese, where his wide and varied communication skills, deepened by his musical talent and widened by his experience in Zambia, enriched his work. He left stipendiary ministry in 1990, but his music continued to develop and flourish until, at 93, he went to be with his *Living Lord*. ■



# COME AND DISCOVER YOUR PLACE IN THE WORLD CHURCH

We are holding a series of Regional Days to showcase mission in the churches of the Anglican Communion. Hear how USPG's church partners across the world are putting God's love into action and be inspired. This is also a chance to meet others from your area with a passion for global mission.

## 2019 DATES

- Friday 4 October Carmarthen, Diocesan Office
- Friday 11 October Manchester Cathedral Visitors Centre
- Friday 1 November Stamford, All Saints Church
- Friday 8 November Bath, Christ Church
- Friday 22 November Birmingham Cathedral

## 2020 DATES

- Monday 20 January London, USPG Office
- Friday 7 February Bicester, Emmanuel Church
- Thursday 28 February York, St Olave's Hall

All days are 11.30am to 4pm, and include lunch.

To book email [claires@uspg.org.uk](mailto:claires@uspg.org.uk)  
or visit [www.uspg.org.uk/regionaldays](http://www.uspg.org.uk/regionaldays)

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