



Handle with prayer

News – ANiC and AEN

Church planting wisdom

Bishop Ron Ferris has prepared [a brief report](#) summarizing the key lessons he has learned from planting an ANiC church in Langley, BC – Church of the Ascension. For example, Bishop Ron says he's learned that "All that you really need for a church you can carry in two filing boxes..." and that the most effective way to grow membership is through personal invitations, and "Rental space liberates a parish from the worries of maintaining a property" allowing more focus on discipleship and community building.

Primate of Southeast Asia to visit, September 18-19

The [Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada](#) is bringing Archbishop John Chew (Southeast Asia) to the Anglican Network Church of the Good Shepherd (Vancouver) for the weekend of September 18-19. Although details are still being worked out, the planned schedule of events for Archbishop Chew's visit are:

Saturday, Sept 18 (all events at Church of the Good Shepherd, Vancouver)

- Morning – by-invitation-only meeting with the clergy and leaders of ACNA and our partners
- Afternoon – gathering open to all focused on mission in the Global South
- Evening – celebration banquet open to all

Sunday, Sept 19, 11am – Archbishop Chew will preach at Good Shepherd

"Sir, we would see Jesus"

A theme has been chosen for ANiC's 2010 synod, slated for November 4-6 in Ottawa. This theme, selected by our Moderator, comes from John 12:21, which tells of people approaching a disciple with an earnest request, "*Sir, we would see Jesus.*" (KJV) Bishop Donald Harvey chose this theme to ensure that the synod – which will focus on constitution, by-laws, elections and other administrative details – not lose sight of our primary purpose: to know Jesus and to make Him known. Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali will be a featured synod speaker. Please pray for those planning and preparing for synod.

Clergy events planned – Save the dates!

In addition to the Clergy Day planned for **November 3** in Ottawa, immediately prior to ANiC's 2010 synod, clergy can look forward to ANiC's annual clergy retreat, **March 29-31** near Abbotsford, BC. Be sure to save the dates!

Parish and ministry news

Asian Ministries, Anglican Network Church of the Good Shepherd (Vancouver & Richmond)

– Three evangelistic events were held in July, primarily reaching out to restaurant workers in Richmond. At an event in the late evening of July 6 (when restaurant workers are done their shifts), one of Hong Kong's top five chefs, Tong LI shared how he had surrendered to Christ and now sought to honour God through his life and work as a chef. 94 restaurant workers and others attended the gathering. On July 17, a full-day training course on gospel preaching for restaurant workers was conducted by Esther Lin and Amen Tang, evangelists from Herald International of Los Angeles. A total of 41 people from various Vancouver-area Chinese churches participated in the training. Then, following the training, on July 19, a late evening evangelistic meeting attracted 66 restaurant workers and others. Praise the Lord that four made decisions for our Lord Jesus Christ and ten others resubmitted themselves to God.

Good Shepherd House ANiC project (Sioux Lookout, ON) – Please pray for God’s blessing on two upcoming community outreach events:

- As part of the town’s Blueberry Festival, Good Shepherd House will hold a “Madame Blueberry Tea” Saturday, August 7 at which the Veggie Tales movie will be shown and visitors will be served tea, punch and cake.
- August 9-13, Good Shepherd House is holding a VBS (Vacation Bible School for children). Pray for a response from the kids and for connections with families in the community.

Holy Trinity Church (Marlborough, MA) – ANiC’s moderator, Bishop Donald Harvey ordained Michael Bickford to the sacred priesthood on July 23 – the 15th anniversary of his ordination as a minister in the United Church of Christ. Since becoming an Anglican, the Rev Bickford has completed a Master of Sacred Theology (STM) degree at General Theological Seminary and is now a PhD candidate at the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education, Fordham University. He is also writing a book entitled, *Everybody Dies, But Not Everybody Lives* which applies the monastic idea of a “rule of life” to our everyday Christian journey. Father Bickford assists at Holy Trinity Church.

All Saints’ Mission (Rutland, VT) – Father Michael McKinnon also reports that “*Bishop Harvey presided and preached at Solemn High Mass for the Feast of St James the Greater on Sunday, July 25 at All Saints’ Mission, Rutland, VT (a Mission of Holy Trinity Church, Marlborough, MA). During the Eucharist, he received four persons into this Fellowship of Christ’s holy Catholic Church. It was a wonderful and joyous occasion. All Saints’ Mission, Rutland, VT continues to grow both spiritually and numerically.*”

St Matthias & St Luke’s (Vancouver) – Having recently returned from a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, the Rev Simon Chin and parishioners will hold a “show and tell” on Sunday, August 29 at 8pm at the church during which they will share what they saw and learned. The choir will also participate in the celebration. See photos of their trip [on the ANiC website](#).

Calendar of upcoming events – for your interest and prayer support

- Aug 13-15 – [Anglican 4th Day](#) Ultreya gathering in Bedford, Texas with Archbishop Duncan
- Sept 13-16 – BC Court of Appeal hearing in Vancouver
- Sept 17-19 – St Luke’s, Spiritual renewal seminar with Bishop Malcolm & Ven Paul Crossland
- Sept 18 – St George’s Ottawa, *Day of Prayer* in preparation for ANiC synod (with Garth Hunt)
- Sept 18-19 – Archbishop Chew visits Vancouver on behalf of the ARDFC
- Sept 24-25 – St Timothy’s (Montreal), *Pursuing Intimacy with God* led by the Rev Garth Hunt
- Sept 25 – [ACA conference](#) at St Brides, Clarkson, ON entitle “*The plans I have for you*”
- Nov 3 – Clergy day, Ottawa, ON
- Nov 4-6 – ANiC synod with featured speaker Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, Ottawa, ON
- March 29-31 – ANiC’s 2011 pastors’ retreat near Abbotsford, BC

News shorts – Anglican Church in North America (ACNA)

Archbishop Duncan speaks to Insights 2010 conference in Virginia

You can [watch an AnglicanTV video](#) of Archbishop Robert Duncan sharing his perspective at the Insights 2010 conference at The Falls Church in Virginia.

Nigerian primate challenges ACNA diocese

The Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANANA) – a diocese of ACNA and a mission of the Church of Nigeria – held its annual council meeting in Virginia last week, welcoming Nigerian Archbishop Nicholas Okoh. In [his address](#), Archbishop Okoh offered bold counsel and called the Western Church to “*avoid selective preaching*”.

He said, “*We must avoid dressing sin in a new garment of words in order to neutralize its offensiveness before those we pastor, thus hindering their chances of repentance... This is the greatest challenge you face, my brothers and sisters. The Western world has become afraid or is unwilling to acknowledge that there is right and wrong – that there is good and evil... We are*

Christians. We must affirm our faith and identity, while we make allowance for others to affirm theirs as part of the grace for a plural society. We must, as orthodox Anglicans, uphold and continue to defend the biblical understanding of the family and its moral implications... Like those missionaries who came to my nation many years ago, who preached the gospel in Nigeria, I now appeal to you in North America to declare the full gospel of Christ."

The Nigerian Church has been accused of "cross-border intervention" and dividing the Communion. However, Archbishop Okoh [told the Christian Post](#) that Nigeria's intervention in fact helped to hold the Anglican Communion together. *"If the Nigerians didn't step in, the global Anglican family would have lost a lot of people... We came because we love the Anglican Church and we do not want the Anglican Church to split... That would've been the case if we didn't come in."*

ACNA's Anglican 4th Day "Ultreya" gathering

ANiC members who were involved in Cursillo will be interested to know that ACNA's version of Cursillo, Anglican 4th Day is holding its first Ultreya, a province-wide gathering, August 13-14 in Texas. The full schedule for this Ultreya is [available online](#). For more information see [the ANiC website](#) or the [Anglican 4th Day website](#), or contact ANiC's Anglican 4th Day coordinator, the Rev Gary Stobbs, [by email](#) or by calling 604 854-5380.

Our primate interviewed on AnglicanTV

Archbishop Bob Duncan, primate of the Anglican Church in North America, in a 10-minute [interview on AnglicanTV](#), offers his evaluation of the significance of the Global South meeting in Singapore and the recent degeneration of Communion governance which he called a "sad trajectory". He mentioned that the Standing Committee, a key governing body in the Communion, now represents about 20 per cent of those in the Communion and adds that the current structure of the Communion reflects outdated colonial structures. He also explains further the reason the Anglican Mission (formerly known as AMiA and ACIC) chose to become a ministry partner with ACNA rather than be integrated into ACNA. Talking about the ambitious church planting goals in ACNA, he says that the Anglican1000 office is receiving an average of about one call each day from people seriously interested in pursuing church planting.

ACNA job openings

The Anglican Church in North America is seeking a communication director – as well as candidates to fill a number of other ministry positions. For full details and to apply, [see the ACNA website](#).

Other ACNA news

Savannah Now – July 29 2010 – [Christ church files appeal to state Supreme Court](#)

Living Church – July 26 2010 – [Nigerian Archbishop bolsters CANA](#)

News shorts – Canada

Anglican Catholic Church of Canada (ACCC) votes to unite with Rome

The [Anglican Catholic Church of Canada \(ACCC\)](#), a member of the 500,000 member global Traditional Anglican Communion, [has voted](#) at its recent synod to accept the pope's invitation and become a Canadian Anglican Ordinariate within the Roman Catholic Church. The ACCC consists of about 36 parishes across Canada.

A group of ACCC clergy and parishioners on Vancouver Island have decided not to join the rest of their church in becoming Roman Catholic, as [reported earlier](#) by VirtueOnline. This group is [now reported](#) to be joining the [Anglican Province of Christ the King](#), which left the Episcopal Church in 1977 and currently consists of over 40 parishes across the US. This group is not associated with the Anglican Church in North America.

ACoC makes partnership with the Diocese of Jerusalem top priority

The [Anglican Church of Canada says](#) its partnership with the Diocese of Jerusalem is "*emerging as an international priority*".

Anglican Church of Canada priest gives dog communion

A priest has created [some embarrassing publicity](#) for the Anglican Church of Canada by giving a dog communion during Eucharist on June 27 at St Peter's Anglican Church in downtown Toronto. The Rev Marguerite Rea offered communion to a visitor to the church as well as to the dog the man had brought with him. The story has been widely canvassed in the media. The story has also received wide coverage in international media including: [the BBC](#), [the Daily Mail](#), the [Telegraph](#), the [AFP news agency](#) and [the Catholic News Agency](#).

The [National Post](#) quotes ANiC's Chancellor Cheryl Chang explaining that "*Communion is a symbol of the sacrifice of Jesus' body...*" Although one article refers to "wrath" "anger" and "offense" taken by Christians or Anglicans, and others media reports imply similar reactions, Cheryl was clear in talking to reporters that she did not personally harbour such sentiments. She merely explained how this was another symptom of the profound theological differences which caused the split between the ACoC and ANiC.

Lutherans meet, hope to form Confessional Lutheran Network in Canada

Representatives from a number of Biblically-faithful Canadian Lutheran organizations met in June under the theme: "Toward a Confessional Lutheran Network in Canada." [According to a news release](#), it is hoped that this meeting will lead to more gatherings at which the groups will seek to find common ground.

Anglican Communion Alliance plans conference

Anglican Communion Alliance [is hosting a conference](#) on Saturday, September 25 at St Brides Church in Clarkson, ON (near Toronto) featuring the Rev Dr Ephraim Radner from Wycliffe College. The conference, entitled "*The plans I have for you*", will include four workshops:

1. A presentation by [Zacchaeus Fellowship](#).
2. Biblical Sexuality
3. Catechism
4. Tools for Linking Churches

Cost is \$25 per person. Cheques should be mailed to Essentials Niagara, PO Box 688, Virgil, Ontario, LOS 1T0.

Anglican Church of Canada general synod reprised in the Anglican Planet

The summer (14 July 2010) edition of the [Anglican Planet](#) – a publication worth supporting – features a series of articles evaluating the Anglican Church of Canada's 2010 general synod. What follows are excerpts from these interesting analyses.

In [GS2010 – a series of very polite events](#), the editors say:

For those of us who have been dreading the moment when the church crosses the threshold, I think we can breathe a sigh of relief as we have another three year reprieve.

What was touted as the great success of General Synod is the 'respectful dialogue' surrounding the major issue of the day. If speaking respectfully is the best we can do as a church, then things really are in a dire state.

What we saw in Halifax was essentially a re-framing of the question from one of blessing same-sex unions to one of remaining a full member of the Anglican Communion...

So we are still together, not unified in understanding, nor meaningfully discussing the real questions facing us as a Church, but politely waiting for external forces to pass...

There has been a growing awareness amongst many that our divisions are causing us to become more and more a congregationalist church... Certainly it is a distortion of our glorious Anglican ecclesiology... Dr. Ephraim Radner, who keeps a keen eye on the Anglican Communion, has gone so far as to suggest that we should employ congregationalism as a strategy for the next decade while things at the Communion level get worked out.

[Why local option legislation floundered in Halifax](#) discusses the same-sex blessing issue:

Although the “local option” motion failed on the floor of General Synod in 2007, over the next three years it became the de facto practice in five dioceses (New Westminster, Huron, Niagara, Montreal, Toronto) and two other areas (the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior, and the Military Ordinariate)...

Neither did the Primate, the Council of General Synod nor the House of Bishops discipline those seven bodies exercising the local option...

So why did local option legislation fail?

First, the very fact that such an exodus from the ACC had occurred after Winnipeg [General Synod 2007] may have caused many liberals to fear another even larger exodus...

Second, the inclusion of more First Nations voices in the discussion groups...

And third, just days before the Halifax Synod the Archbishop of Canterbury had issued a... warning of removal from international committees of representatives from any national church which “formally” authorized public rites of same-sex blessings by its Synod...

In [Dropping the ball at General Synod](#), Sue Careless questions why so much time was devoted to team-building games and so little to substantive topics like the Anglican Covenant. She also asks why the synod required nine days – costing delegates about \$900 each just for meals and accommodation – while the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada requires only four days. She also notes that delegates were not given the information needed to make informed decisions. For example, elections for the Prolocutor and Deputy Prolocutor – important offices – were held without delegates having time to review information on the candidates. Also, only one binder of official proceedings was provided per table and delegates were not always given adequate time to read resolutions displayed on the screens prior to votes.

In [Old stats need updating: Anglican stats in Canada are almost a decade old](#), we learn that the “Anglican Church of Canada has released no new official statistics since those of 2001... The national church used to release fresh figures annually... All parish clergy are required by their diocese to collect and submit stats on Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)... It would not be hard to file these diocesan stats electronically with the national office and then have them integrated and released to the public. What is Church House trying to hide”?

Other Canada news

National Post – July 23 2010 – [An Anglican who no longer feels safe](#)

News shorts – United States

Presiding bishop says conflict in the church is a “a gift from God”

The [Christian Post reports](#) that the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the US, Katharine Jeffers Schori said in a webcast this week, “*If there's no conflict, it means that we're dead... There has always been push and pull in the church. It's a sign that the diversity among us is passionate and that is a gift from God, not something to be squelched.*” Presiding Bishop Schori was reporting on the Anglican Communion Standing Committee meeting. [See more on that meeting below]

Other US news

San Antonio Express News – July 19 2010 – [National debate prompts breakup...Episcopal church](#)

Modesto Bee – July 18 2010 – [Land disputes still raging on](#)

Pew Forum– July 16 2010 – [Foundation donates \\$400K for Episcopal gay liturgies](#)

New York Times – July 29 2010 – [Episcopal committee is working on gay rite](#)

News shorts – International

Discredited Standing Committee meets at Lambeth Palace, July 23-27

The [Anglican Communion News Service reports](#) that Canon Kenneth Kearon, Secretary General of the Anglican Consultative Council, told members of the recent Standing Committee meeting in London “*that the credibility of the Primates' Meeting and the ACC was being openly questioned by*

some and this criticism was increasingly focused on the Standing Committee itself.” The Archbishop Rowan Williams also reportedly questioned whether the Anglican Consultative Council’s committee structure was appropriate for this new century.

In addition, one lay committee member, Dato’ Stanley Isaacs (an attorney from Malaysia) [is reported](#) to have argued passionately that the US Episcopal Church should be barred from participation in the Standing Committee and other Communion governing bodies due to its refusal to abide by Communion consensus. While his motion failed, the Standing Committee later agreed to a token resolution stating it *“regrets ongoing breaches of the three moratoria that continue to strain the life of the Anglican Communion; regrets the consequential resignations of members of the Standing Committee which diminish our common life and work on behalf of the ACC and the Primates’ Meeting; recognises that the ACC and the Primates’ Meeting are the appropriate bodies to consider these matters further.”*

A [Virtue Online commentary](#) by Canon Gary L’Hommedieu makes the point that, by refusing to enforce the Communion consensus on Biblical standards of morality as expressed in [Lambeth resolution 1.10](#), the ACC is actually changing the Communion’s standards.

The committee’s decisions included:

- Adopting new [Articles of Association](#) which were made public for the first time and transformed the ACC into a UK/EU based company. The [Anglican Communion Institute an analysis](#) of the pitfalls of this change, including:
 - As a company, the ACC is now subject to UK/EU laws.
 - The new constitution gives the Standing Committee greater authority than the ACC.
 - It infringes on the authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Primates Meeting and reduces the role of the member Churches in the governance of the Communion.
- [Ratifying the appointments](#) of two members who were ineligible under the constitution in effect at the time of their appointments – specifically Bishop Ian Douglas (US) and Canon Janet Trisk (South Africa). However, the Anglican Communion News Service justifies the appointments, saying, that under the new *Articles of Association*, which are designed to allow the committee “*maximum flexibility*” in filling vacancies, the appointments were valid.
- Changing the committee’s name from “The Standing Committee of the Anglican Communion” to “The Standing Committee”.

The Standing Committee is said to be one of the four “Instruments of Unity” in the Anglican Communion. It is chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury and is comprised of members drawn from both the Anglican Consultative Council and the Primates meeting. With the wave of recent resignations of ‘conservative’ members – including Archbishops Orombi, Akrofi and Anis, and Bishop Azad Marshall – and the controversial appointments of new members, the credibility and authority of the now largely ‘liberal’ committee has been severely diminished and deepens the rift with the Global South. For more information on the Standing Committee, see a Q&A on the [Anglican Communion website](#).

Additional analysis and discussion of the Standing Committee includes:

Church of England Newspaper – July 16 2010 -- [ACC membership rules ‘are discretionary’ says official](#)

Anglican Curmudgeon -- July 19 2010 – [Explaining much, but not all: New ACC articles filed](#)

Anglican Communion governance in disarray

Immediately prior to the Standing Committee meeting and in response to widespread criticism, a spokesman for the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) told media that observance of the organization’s constitution and bylaws were “discretionary”. The [Church of England Newspaper ably explains](#) the controversy around the unconstitutional appointment of Committee members which has destroyed what little credibility the Committee still had. It reports that *“An aide to a senior African primate said the general mood among the GAFCon primates was weariness with the machinations of the ACC. They are so disillusioned with the Communion structures that they have*

“now taken a hands-off approach and are willing to let them just hang themselves...” Canon Phil Ashey, chaplain of the American Anglican Council, also [wrote an interesting piece on the matter](#) in the AAC’s weekly newsletter of July 16.

Following the Standing Committee’s meeting, Canon lawyer A S Haley (aka the Anglican Curmudgeon), in [his analysis](#) of the discredited body, says, “*The listing by geography [of Committee members] shows that none of the major African provinces of the Communion, with more than 60% of its total members, is even represented on the Committee. It follows that the current make-up of the Committee is designed to effectuate the will of a minority within the Communion. This conclusion is borne out fully by the actions the Committee took as soon as it met.*” Haley’s conclusion is not hopeful considering the Standing Committee is currently designated as the body overseeing the Anglican Covenant. He says:

Thus the "Anglican Communion" is in the process of redefining itself. On the outward side, we have the Covenant adoption process, which will take another six to ten years. But internally, we have the "Standing Committee", which is establishing itself -- including as the decision-maker in the event of disagreements about the Covenant -- as representing only the [theologically liberal] minority of those in the Communion.

This is a recipe for schism and breakup. Those who cannot achieve fair representation on the "Standing Committee" (which decides all discretionary matters under the Covenant) will not sign on to the Covenant. And those who believe themselves so represented, but who object to the current provisions in the Covenant, will not sign either. The Covenant will as a result become an irrelevant joke. And the Anglican Communion as we know it will be no more.

More on the Church of England synod and women bishops

A number of high profile leaders in the Church of England (CoE) continue to comment on the possible repercussions of the decision by the recent synod to consecrate women bishops with minimal protection for those who believe the Scriptural model is male headship in the Church. Canon Dr Chris Sugden [wrote in the American Anglican Counsel newsletter](#), “*The issue to be decided was not whether there will be women bishops, but how much room will there be for those who cannot in conscience accept them. The present answer is 'some' room at the discretion of the bishop, but not statutorily guaranteed room as of right.*”

In an [interview on AnglicanTV](#), Canon Sugden also noted that synod handled the issue according to a secular human rights notion of power rather than from a New Testament perspective – which many believe presents a model of church governance that is contrary to the modern worldview. He found it interesting that “*the voices that were so clearly heard on diversity and inclusivity on women’s legislation were nowhere to be heard on behalf of the view not in favor of women’s legislation.*”

Additional information and media coverage includes:

Thinking Anglicans -- July 17 2010 – [Generosity – a news release from WATCH](#)

Church Times – July 26 2010 – [Traditionalists lament “broken promises”](#)

Church Times – July 16 2010 -- [Traditionalists face threadbare future as Measure is passed](#)

Catholic.net – July 15 2010 – [How Women Bishops Affect Anglican-Catholic Dialogue](#)

Free Republic – July 18 2010 – [Vatican official: Anglican women bishops an ‘enormous obstacle’ to Christian unity](#)

All Africa Bishops Conference planned for Uganda

The Church of Uganda, under the auspices of the Council for Anglican Provinces of Africa (CAPA), is hosting an “[All Africa Bishops Conference](#)”, August 23-29 in Entebbe. The theme will be *Unlocking our potential (Hebrews 12:1-2)*. [New Vision reports](#) 400 bishops are expected to attend.

News in brief from around the world and the Communion

Uganda – The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that the Somali Islamist group al-Shabaab took credit for the July 11 terror bombings in Kampala that killed at least 74 people and injured dozens as they gathered to watch the World Cup. Archbishop Henry Orombi [responded in a pastoral letter](#) by strongly condemning the attacks but called upon Ugandans not to seek revenge. He said, *“I ask you to fix your eyes on the cross of Jesus. The cross is a reminder of human cruelty to an innocent person; the agony of pain He went through enables Him to share in our pain as well. He had to pay a price for us to receive our freedom. The blood of the Ugandans spilled on Sunday will bring to Ugandans peace.”*

The Anglican Church in North America has called on us to pray for Uganda. The [ACNA website](#) reports that Canon Alison Barfoot, who serves as Archbishop Orombi’s assistant for International Relations, said the bombings have affected Ugandans in much the same way the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon affected Americans.

Burundi – Archbishop Bernard Ntahoturi [has been unanimously reelected](#) for a second five-year term as primate of the East African Church.

Nigeria – There has been more violence near Jos. [Christian Concern for our Nation reports](#) that, once again on July 17, *“Christian villagers in Mazah, a small village near Jos, Nigeria, woke up to gunfire in the night. As they ran out of their homes in fear, they were butchered by extremist Islamists armed with machetes. At least eight villagers were killed and ten houses burnt down.”*

Pakistan – Two pastors were shot and killed in Faisalabad by masked gunmen as they left the courtroom where they were on trial for “blasphemy” charges laid earlier in the month. [Christian Today reports](#) that the families of the pastors are too fearful to register a case against the suspects.

Zimbabwe – Anglicans in Zimbabwe continue to suffer at the hands of a previous bishop, Nolbert Kunonga, who was defrocked by the Church of the Province of Central Africa for politicizing the Church with his avid support of Dictator Robert Mugabe and alienating the majority of parishioners. He left the Church, but with the Mugabe-backed protection of the police, continues to control the buildings. [The Guardian reports](#) that Anglicans in Zimbabwe have asked not to be forgotten as thousands are forced to worship in tents or in the open. However the article also notes that *“the recent... gathering in honour of Zimbabwe’s first martyr... the largest gathering in recent memory, was witness to the fact that persecution and harassment strengthen the Christian faith.”*

India – The Diocese of South India has been dissolved – and is being reorganized – as a result of the ongoing criminal and civil cases against Bishop Manickam Dorai. The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) the bishop is facing charges of embezzling funds, taking over \$1 million USD in kickbacks from construction projects and threatening bodily harm to a priest in his diocese.

Meanwhile a bishop in the Church of North India, Bishop Pradeep Kumar Samantaroy, is requesting prayer for the people of Kashmir following weeks of rioting by Muslim separatists against the Hindu majority that has killed many. The [Church of England Newspaper reports](#) that the *“...minority Christians have come under the crossfire of both Muslim and Hindu extremists.”*

Israel – The former bishop of Jerusalem and personal friend of the late Yassar Arafat, Riah Abu al-Assal, [has been banned](#) from entering diocesan church property and his claims to ownership of a Nazareth school have been rejected. Charges were laid after the former bishop transferred diocesan assets at the Nazareth school, where his son was employed as headmaster, together with about \$1.5 million USD in tuition fees to his personal charitable trust. He claimed the school had been built with funds raised from personal relationships rather than under the diocese. The court’s decision follows a three year trial during which time Presiding Bishop Mouneer Anis, primate of Jerusalem and the Middle East, expressed concern that the dispute was embarrassing and *“breaking the heart”* of the Jerusalem diocese. The case follows a history of litigation in the Anglican Church in Jerusalem, including an unsuccessful attempt by the diocese while under

Bishop Riah, to gain control of Jerusalem's Anglican International School – a school belonging to Christ Church Ministries Jerusalem (CMJ), an independent mission society.

Congo – [Anglican Communion News Service reports](#) that Congolese Anglicans are pleading for more prayer. It says, *“Thousands of people have been displaced and are pouring into towns in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo as an upsurge in violence in the Lubero and Beni territories takes its toll.”* It is reported that internally displaced persons lack food and basic necessities and that people are sleeping in schools and churches. Please pray for these innocent civilians, especially women and children, who suffer at the hands of rebel groups in the Congo.

Other international news

London Telegraph – July 12 2010 – [Hundreds of... clergy poised to leave Church of England](#)

Anglican Planet – July 14 2010 – [Global South issue communiqué from Singapore](#)

Christian Post – July 21 2010 – [Breakaway groups prevented Anglican split, Nigerian Primate...](#)

Anglican Planet – July 14 2010 – [Global South issue communiqué from Singapore](#)

Church Times – July 30 – 2010 – [Standing Committee blocks move to expel US](#)

Soul food

Christianity and the Canadian media

[National Post religion reporter, Charles Lewis, discusses](#) the need for conservative religious voices in the media. He also says that, *“The number of issues confronting society in which the rights of the religious are coming into conflict with the rights of the secular are becoming more numerous.”* As a result, there is more, not less, need for reporting on religious issues. *“Religious people deserve a voice, and not just from the religious media. It is worth reminding those who would ignore religious citizens that it is most often the churches, in the name of Christ, who feed and house the homeless, who care for society's discards and care deeply about their fellow citizens. If they are ignored in the mainstream media, our democracy will suffer for it.”*

Resources

- Although written from the US legal context, the Rev Matt Kennedy, an ACNA priest, shares advice, based on his experience, in [“21 Lessons Learned during the Lawsuit”](#).
- A Presbyterian pastor [offers advice](#) to help fellow pastors become better listeners. Pastors, he says “are horrible listeners... some of the worst listeners I have ever been around”!

Chuckles at work

In the course of a job interview, the human resources director asked the young applicant: "If you could have dinner with any person, living or dead, who would it be?"

Nonplussed, the nervous applicant replied: "The living one."

A sergeant in a parachute regiment often took part in night-time exercises. Once, seated next to a nervous-looking lieutenant fresh from jump school, the sergeant tried to make conversation.

"Scared, lieutenant?" he asked.

"No, just a bit apprehensive," came the reply.

"What's the difference?" asked the sergeant.

"It means I'm scared, but with a university education."

Patient: How much will it cost me to have this tooth extracted?

Dentist: \$300

Patient: \$300 for just a few minutes work?! Man, that's expensive.

Dentist: Okay, I'll pull it out slowly if you prefer.

Courtesy: Mikey's Funnies, www.mikeysFunnies.com

Computer “bumper sticker”

As for me and my mouse, we will serve the Lord! (Courtesy: Mikey's Funnies, www.mikeysFunnies.com)

Please pray...

For a speedy recovery for ANiC's **Chancellor Mrs Cheryl Chang** who recently had arthroscopic surgery to relieve chronic shoulder pain.

For **the Rev Brian Kirby** (Parksville, BC) who was recently in hospital with acute angina.

For our **bishops and clergy** and their families – especially clergy wives battling illness.

For **ANiC projects, church plants and parishes**, and for their proclamation of Good News to those in their communities who desperately need new life in Christ. Especially pray for:

- The **Asian Ministries** outreaches in the Vancouver area to Chinese restaurant workers
- **Good Shepherd House** (Sioux Lookout, ON) outreaches to the community

For the planning and preparations for **ANiC's 2010 synod** in Ottawa, November 4-6.

For funding of the **Anglican Relief & Development Fund Canada's [Kenya Malaria Prevention Project](#)**. Donations are urgently needed to begin this life-saving and life-changing project.

For much needed **donations to the legal cases and disputes** involving ANiC congregations:

- For the **Vancouver-area parishes** appealing the earlier court decision, including a recent costs award against the parish trustees, as well as for their legal counsel Geoff Cowper & Stanley Martin as they prepare for the appeal to be heard Sept 13-16. Particularly pray for St Matthew's Abbotsford as the Diocese of New Westminster seeks to hold services in their church.
- For the **Ottawa** congregations which are newly embroiled in legal action.
- For **St Aidan's in Windsor**, as litigation is about to move forward, increasing expenses.
- For all the **congregations** involved in court proceedings and disputes. Pray for a continued focus on, and blessing upon, their ministry in the midst of this turmoil. Pray for peace for the **wardens and trustees** who are on the front lines and bear the burden of risk and responsibility.
- For the **leaders and parishioners of the dioceses** pursuing eviction of and legal damages against ANiC congregations and wardens.
- That we would seek to **glorify God** by our conduct in all court proceedings.

For those in positions of leadership and influence in the **Anglican Communion**, that they would seek to honour and obey God above all else.

For **Christians in Pakistan, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Uganda and Congo** who are suffering violent opposition.

For repentance and revival in **our nation** – a new hunger for God and a thirst for His Word.

And now a word from our sponsor

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.' As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.'"

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end...

So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Hebrews 3:7-14; 4:9-13 ESV