

Standing Commission on World Mission
Sunday, 28 January- Wednesday, 31 January 2001
St. Christopher's Conference Center, Diocese of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina

MINUTES OF MEETING

Present: the Right Rev'd William Skilton (Convenor); Mrs. Nancy Broadwell; the Very Rev'd Kathleen Cullinane; Mrs. Diana Dillenberger- Frade; Mrs. Joan Hermon; Mr. Willis Jenkins; the Rev'd Dr. Harold T. Lewis; Mrs. Helena Mbele-Mbong; the Rev'd Dr. Titus L. Presler Executive Council Liaison; Mrs. Carole Jan Lee Staff; the Rev'd Canon Patrick Mauney. *Unable to Attend:* the Rt. Rev'd James E. Folts (due to illness); the Rt. Rev'd Wilfrido Ramos-Orench (attending a meeting of the Caribbean Region in formation); Mr. Dennis G. Case (due to illness).

SUNDAY EVENING

Dinner with the Skiltons for those able to attend. (The Rt. Rev'd James Folts arrived but due to illness was unable to remain for the meeting.) Meeting was convened Sunday evening by Bp. Skilton, who, as Chair of the Commission during the 1998-2000 triennium, had been designated by the General Convention Office as Convenor for this meeting. The meeting opened with personal sharings of where we are from and what we do, including particular interests that have brought us to membership on SCWM.

Session adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

MONDAY MORNING

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel led by Titus Presler.

Meeting opened with election of officers: Elected were: Chair, the Rev. Dr. Titus Presler; Vice-Chair, the Very Rev. Kathleen Cullinane; Recording Secretary, Diana Frade; Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, Nancy Broadwell

Organization: Titus Presler reviewed the canonical charge of SCWM. He noted that we must be a commission that is committed to prayer and partnership. New members need to be brought up to date, without assuming that they have background information on such matters as previous SCWM actions and recommendations, world mission organizations in the Episcopal Church, and world mission actions of the 2000 General Convention. It was agreed that the agenda would focus on three main categories:

- Sharing our Visions
- General Background
- Priorities

Monday morning continued with Sharing our Visions:

Harold Lewis: Impossible to look at WM without factoring in Race, Money and Power, a major priority stated but not addressed substantially by the 98-00 SCWM. There is a proliferation of missionary organizations. Some are questionable in their outlook, which brings a creeping paternalism to the ministry. Attitude of extending a hand to someone in need outside of the US but not seeing the needs right here. There have been few black appointed missionaries, including Paul Washington, Fr. Gibbs, Harold Lewis and George Brandt. "We need to name the sin of racism and reclaim the role of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS)."

Nancy Broadwell: Autonomy: For me there was the enlightenment of the racism in the Church. What we learned from the questionnaire that we sent in preparation for the Consultation on Autonomy in October 1999 is not where we want to go but rather a way to keep the relationships going. We are falling into the trap of "lady bountiful", only giving money. We cannot make the new Caribbean region feel forced into autonomy. They must be the ones to make that decision. There has been no meeting of the Central American Covenant Committee this past triennium. As SCWM, we must ask for covenant reports. Is another Consultation on Autonomy needed?

Bill Skilton: EPGM (Episcopal Partnership for Global Mission): Work with EPGM groups has been difficult because of the passion each organization brings. SCWM has enabled diverse groups to sit around a common table. With some ECUSA jurisdictions becoming autonomous, there is a loss of the "flavor" which those non-USA dioceses brought. How to retain international representation in ECUSA? In addition to concerns about the race issue, I am also concerned about social and theological issues that cause division in the church. The Primacy of Mission Statement offered by the previous SCWM continues to be important in promoting mission cooperation in the midst of other controversies.

Diana Frade: Children at Risk are a real concern for me. I feel that the Church can lift up this issue and bring different cultures and races to the table. It is an issue that should concern everyone in the Church. We have a responsibility as Christians to take care of those whom God has given to us to care for and to ensure the future of our peoples and nations.

Kate Cullinane: Religion and Culture: Different cultures help us to question our own values. It is what leads us to the "receiving". After going to Ecuador, my church group now wants to have a Hispanic congregation. After we have been exposed to another culture, we need to ask, "What is something new that you have learned about God."

Carole Jan Lee: I came into the Episcopal Church through my marriage. My grandfather was a Baptist missionary from China, while white missionaries led most churches. I am told that I still have a Baptist fervor. I am interested in Children at Risk. "The lost Daughters of China" are a concern because of the problem that the one-child-per-family policy leads to daughters being abandoned because most families want a male child to carry the family name. The Church in China and inter-faith relations. Respect for other faiths.

Helena Mbele-Mbong: Concern for dialogue between faiths. The openness of Anglicanism. Being part of a worldwide communion and the Convocation of American Churches in Europe and future Anglican unity in Europe.

Joan Hermon: Discovering the wider Church for the first time in 1997. First real experience was being part of the search process for a bishop for the Virgin Islands. Learned of "race, money and power". Greatest concern is for mission for people in the pews.

Willis Jenkins: Justice issues and spiritual values were shared by others during years at Wheaton College in Illinois, but now those same people are no longer involved in the Church. Generation X is much in demand. Church needs to get the message out that there are mission opportunities. Definite need for short-term mission standards. Debriefing needs to happen after mission trips. Insight into Race, Money and Power as a focus, and all impact the environment, which is another major interest.

Titus Presler: We need an overall Vision for Mission in the 21st century for the Episcopal Church. Diversity of the Church has enriched us. We need to be in community so that we can understand one another. There needs to be an articulation of a vision that honors all of the Church's internal diversity. Reflection on the intersection of Race, Money and Power is a central concern. Envisioning process is also important as a basis for recommending to General Convention 2003 an approach for how to designate world mission funds that become available as ECUSA subsidies to now autonomous jurisdictions decrease over time. In order for a vision statement to be credible, it must reflect close collaboration with world mission organizations throughout the Church as represented in EPGM.

Comments on the Vision Sharing:

- *Articulate mission that allows for real differences and vitalizing similarities
- *Money, Race and Power permeate all our concerns and need to be spoken
- *Religion and Culture (both abroad and in USA)
- *Receiving mission from abroad in the USA is still minimal
- *Rescue motif frequent in mission, as in adopting foreign children
- *Training and debriefing mission groups is crucial
- *Mutual Responsibility and Interdependence (MRI) in the Body of Christ

Is autonomy an appropriate goal?

Is self-reliance a cultural value specific to the USA?

MONDAY AFTERNOON

AGR Report: Pat Mauney as director of the Anglican and Global Relations Cluster at the Episcopal Church Center, reported on AGR and world mission developments from the AGR perspective. He distributed copies of the 2001 World Mission Sunday poster, which features both historic and contemporary DFMS missionaries; the newly updated Anglican Communion Map; the AGR Mission Statement; and the Young Adult Service Corps pamphlet. A brief summary follows:

- ◆ Three Young Adult Service Corps volunteers have been trained.
- ◆ The Rev'd Canon Ricardo Potter has retired and is being replaced by the Rev'd Juan Marques from the Dominican Republic.

- ♦ Bishop Julio Cesar Holguin from the Dominican Republic has been elected president of CLAI (the Latin American Council of Churches).
- ♦ Willeen Smith, coordinator of the United Thank Offering is retiring. Plans are to have someone in place by the spring before Willeen leaves the Church Center.
- ♦ Major downsizing in 1994 eliminated area desk officers in AGR, lack of which is felt especially keenly in the case our African partners (one-third of the Anglican Communion from Africa). Pat continues to lobby for a staff person to act as liaison with African Anglicans.
- ♦ Resolution A129, Autonomy Process: Recommendation for rotating membership on covenant committees: Pat has suggested to committees that they move toward implementation. For Province IX dioceses, Pat suggests developing a mutually agreed upon evaluation/challenge process for Province IX so that funds will be allocated to the dioceses that have the greatest needs. No increases have been given in the past ten years, which means ~*** decrease in buying power.
- ♦ Resolution A134, Young Adult Service Corps: Willis Jenkins has been contracted to help with the development of this new initiative.
- ♦ Resolution B005, Geographic Provinces: The Standing Commission on Structure and Province IX are to look at where they are and make a report to the next General Convention; SCWM is to be consulted.
- ♦ Resolution B012, Endowment for the Philippines: This must be pursued by Executive Council.
- ♦ EPGM: \$25,000 per/year has been budgeted for this network by General Convention 2000, in accordance with the EPGM Plan. Dr. Tom Bates and Rita Redfield have been selected as the Executive Council liaisons to EPGM.
- ♦ From among three names forwarded by the Presiding Bishop, the Rev'd Dr. Ian Douglas has been selected by the Anglican Consultative Council to represent the Episcopal Church on the Inter-Anglican Standing Commission on Mission and Evangelism (IASCME), the successor body to Mission.
- ♦ Pension issues for the Episcopal covenants group: The Church Pension Fund is revisiting this issue, with the possibility that Mexico and Puerto Rico may qualify I and the situation of IARCA may be re-examined.
- ♦ All covenant committees for former ECUSA jurisdictions are scheduled to meet this year.
- ♦ Culture, language, personalities and politics continue challenge the formation of the Caribbean region.

Background Orientation continued after Pat Mauney's presentation.

- ♦ SCWM Report to the 2000 General Convention was reviewed in detail.
- ♦ October 1999 SCWM Consultation on Autonomy minutes were circulated and reviewed.
- ♦ Current status of discussion in the Convocation of American Churches in Europe was reviewed in detail by Helena Mbele-Mbong, who represents the Convocation on SCWM. Bill Skilton briefly reviewed his visit to the Convocation on behalf of SCWM.
- ♦ Statement on the Primacy of Mission was discussed. Willis Jenkins suggested that the statement be revised to avoid any implication that sexuality issues are simply being shelved as world mission is pursued and to include anticipation that further discussion among group's of all views will shed further light on the matter.

- ♦ EPGM Plan was reviewed in detail.
- ♦ Organizations on the EPGM membership list were introduced.
- ♦ Preliminary "Standards for Sending Long- Term Missionaries," as drafted by the Sending Standards Group of EPGM were circulated and reviewed; Titus Presler serves on that group.
- ♦ Other resources were introduced and recommended: "Fling Out the Banner," a history of the world mission of the Episcopal Church by Dr. Ian Douglas; the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, 2001-2002; the world mission plan of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and the bi-monthly Prayer Calendar of missionaries and Anglican partners compiled and published by the Episcopal Church Missionary Community (ECMC).

MONDAY EVENING

Topics Emerging from Vision Sharing

- ♦ Race, Money and Power
- ♦ Autonomy
- ♦ EPGM monitoring/evaluation
- ♦ Religion and Culture
- ♦ Inter-Faith Relations
- ♦ Environmental Violence
- ♦ Vision for the 21st Century
- ♦ Training and monitoring of short term mission trips
- ♦ Children at Risk
- ♦ Companion Dioceses
- ♦ Receiving Mission
- ♦ Young People & Young Adult Service Corps
- ♦ Europe monitoring

Discussion of these areas resulted in a decision to focus attention and action during the 2001-2003 triennium on three issues:

- I. Race, Money and Power in World Mission
- II. Vision for World Mission of the Episcopal Church in the 21st Century
- III. Clarification and Revision of the Autonomy Process.

TUESDAY MORNING & AFTERNOON

7:30 a.m. Eucharist in the Chapel, with Bill Skilton presiding.

The commission decided to use brainstorming to address the question of how SCWM will address the three major focus areas during this triennium. Welcome in the brainstorm were contributions of all kinds: general ideas, elaborations, specific proposals, resource persons, modes of addressing the issues, and the like.

- I. Race, Money and Power: Their Intersection with World Mission

- Disclosure of \$ (we hide it)
- Transparency within ECUSA and with international partners
- \$ often used to influence policy
- Learn to listen
- Percentage of ECUSA budget used for mission
- Blindness to attitudes
- Resources -Race: Harold Lewis, Ed Rodman Money: Jonathon Bonk
- Others: Edmundo DeSueza, Will Herzfeld, Burgess Carr, Byron Rushing, Frank Butler, Christopher Duraisingh, John Pabee, Kwok Pui-Ian, Jane Surles
- Repentance, forgiveness, amendment
- Acknowledge mission's growth in Two - Thirds World (relinquish critical myopia)
- Missionaries of color
- Eco-Justice: environmental violence among poor of color
- White and American arrogance (how we listen is culturally conditioned)
- Mission stereotype of white people going to people of color

Consultation on Race, Money & Power emerged as major way to initiate progress:

- Case studies
- Prospects for future to be stressed as well as historical reviews
- Length of meeting: Two days
- Invite mission agency heads
- Mission areas: Autonomous jurisdictions former in ECUSA
- ECUSA beyond USA
- Mission totally beyond USA
- Policy recommendations to General Convention 2003
- Consultant/Moderator
- Planning group: Kate Cullinane (chair), Harold Lewis, Titus Presler, Jim Folts, Dennis Case.
- When? October 3-6 is first priority, September 26-29 is second priority

II. Clarification and Revision of the Autonomy Process

- Meet with the Caribbean Region (late March, 18-22, or April 1-5 I 2002)
- Follow-up Consultation with Meeting? Questionnaire? Invite Partners?
- Respond to Covenant Meeting Reports (Receive, Read, Review)
- Review and Revise Resolutions 235a of 1991 General Convention
- Philippine Endowment: monitor progress by Executive Council
- Resolution A129a or 2000 GC: monitor progress by Executive Council:
 1. Responsibilities
 2. Nurture ECUSA's companionship with international jurisdictions
 3. Financial goals for overseas budget
 4. Campaign for autonomy
 5. Include international jurisdictions in communications
 6. Brief Executive Council annually
 7. Ensure international jurisdictions' representation on decision-making bodies
- Future of Province IX: liaise with Standing Commission on Structure

- Be informed by the consultation Race, Money and Power

Implementation

1. Caribbean meeting March or April 2002
2. Followup to the Consultation on Autonomy?
3. Planning Group: Nancy Broadwell (chair), Bill Skilton, Joan Hermon, Wilfrido Ramos-Orench, Diana Frade

Tasks

- Establish meeting dates
- Obtain, circulate and review Covenant Committee reports
- Review Resolution A235a
- Ask what is helpful or not about the consultation
- Internalize the discussion of Race, Money and Power in world mission

III. Vision for World Mission of the Episcopal Church in the 21st Century

- Ecumenical: ecumenical movement grew out of mission movement; Lund Principle (1952); WCC, COCU, ELCA & ARCIC should be taken into account in ECUSA re-visioning
- Sending groups will continue to evolve, so continue networking; EPGM crucial
- Missionary Attitudes: healthy, de-romanticized, serious, more than just showing up, mutual respect, two-way street, death of Lady & Lord Bountiful
- Mission Receiving: how to stimulate and nurture?
- Missionary Training: short-term as well as long-term; receiving as well as sending
- Mission as Pilgrimage: What have you discovered about God?
- Inter-Faith Relations
- Quality of Witness: offering, not imposing; proclaiming, yet respecting
- Theology of Salvation: one/all/unique; exclusiveness, inclusiveness, pluralism
- Where do we put our money? is a grounding question for ECUSA's future
- Practical applications and guidelines
- Recommendation to General Convention 2003
- Youth and Young Adults: invitation and formation
- Eco-Justice: emphasis on community wholeness and sustainability
- Jubilee Justice: globalization, structural adjustment, Two- Thirds World debt, Macdonaldization of religion
- Corporate Identity of ECUSA as DFMS
- Children at Risk
- Implementation: Where does this go? Guidelines needed
- "Development" vs. Wholeness: "witness and service," compare ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development) and CWSW (Church World Service and Witness)
- South-to-South Relationships

Implementation

1. Planning Group: Willis Jenkins (chair), Helena Mbele-Mbong, Jim Folts, Carole Jan Lee, Titus Presler

2. Consultation with other organizations crucial: EPGM members, international companions, SCOM, DFMS, IASCME, ELCA; via e-mail and individual meetings into fall 2001
3. Incorporate Race, Money and Power discussions
4. People resources: heads of mission agencies, Ian Douglas, Jim Griffiss, Frank Griswold, John Pobe, Michael Nazir-Ali, Marian Maclure (PCUSA), Michael McCoy (South African missiologist)
5. Ecumenical study of mission personnel currently being undertaken by the Forum on Mission Personnel, in which DFMS participates
6. Bibliography to be prepared by Titus for this working group and for SCWM

IV. Matters to Monitor during 2001-2003 Triennium

- EPGM: general progress, with special attention to standards and training Persecuted Christians: be prepared to catalyze discussion of emerging crises World Mission Sunday: encourage participation; be prepared to suggest ideas
- Convocation of American Churches in Europe: follow progress in episcopate and discussion of Anglican unity in Europe
- Covenant Committees: receive, circulate and discuss reports
- Resolution A 129a: follow Executive Council's implementation
- Resources for Short- Term Mission Teams

TUESDAY EVENING

Evaluation of This Meeting

- ♦ *Helena*: Fascinating, great meeting. Happy to be part of the group
- ♦ *Bill*: Is there anything that we could have done differently to bring new members on board?
- ♦ *Helena*: I was glad to get the packet of information. That info really did it.
- ♦ *Carole*: The packet of info arrived in time and helped. Having the Blue Book report helped.
- ♦ *Nancy*: When Dennis and I came on the commission in 1997 we didn't receive anything, so we really arrived cold.
- ♦ *Bill*: We can make sure that this is done again for the next triennium
- ♦ *Nancy*: Dennis and I didn't know what any of the initials meant.
- ♦ *Bill*: If we had waited until they told us we could call a meeting we would not have had time to prepare all of the materials.
- ♦ *Helena*: Everyone on the commission is very busy so we need to have the dates well in advance to prepare.
- ♦ *Titus*: That is what happened with Bp. Ramos, for he already had a commitment.
- ♦ *Nancy*: The bishops do have so many obligations, and often they are the convenors.
- ♦ *Titus*: What was not done the last triennium was a full report on the background information. I feel that really enabled us to be so productive this time.
- ♦ *Bill*: Your mentioning of the background material might help the two absent bishops catch up.
- ♦ *Helena*: It might be that the next agenda should have time for them to catch up, maybe come in a couple of hours early for a debriefing.
- ♦ *Willis*: Background was good and helpful.

- ♦ *Carole Jan*: Great vision and challenge for the church. Autonomy is in the forefront. Will be interesting.
- ♦ *Diana*: I really appreciated the clarity and organization that Titus has brought to the discussions.

Meeting Adjourned Tuesday, January 30, at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diana Frade, Secretary