

24-05-10-08

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Travel Report: Uganda, Sudan and Tanzania
April 15th-30th 2008

Partners Visited:

- The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Langford, *Volunteer in Mission*, Diocese of Ottawa: Principal, Ankole Western Institute for Science and Technology (AWI); Episcopal Church of Sudan Liaison Office, Kampala, **Uganda**;
- *Episcopal Church of Sudan*, Juba, **Southern Sudan**;
- Mr. and Mrs. Bruce and Gerry Melville, *Volunteers in Mission*, Diocese of British Columbia, Canon Andrea Mwaka School (CAMS-International), *Anglican Church of Tanzania Provincial Office*, and *St. John's University of Tanzania*, Dodoma, **Tanzania**.

Travelling Uganda and Sudan with The Rt. Rev. Peter Coffin, Bishop of the Canadian Military Ordinariate, Ottawa. +Peter returned to Canada on Friday, 25th April to take up responsibilities with the Military Ordinariate in Edmonton.

April 15th-16th: Travelled Toronto-Amsterdam-Entebbe over 21 hours, met by Carolyn Langford and taxi at Entebbe International Airport. Return Kampala @50 km, UGX 50,000/CDN30.00 (return), to Hotel City Square (UGX30,000/CDN\$20.00) per night with buffet breakfast), in heart of Kampala city.



April 17th: Activity towards securing air tickets and travel permits for Saturday's travel to Juba, Sudan, with assistance of staff at ECS Kampala office staff, situated on Marum

Road, Mengo, just below Sir Apollo Kagwa Primary School. Several taxis and banks later, submitted passport and funds for tickets and permits to ECS office for pick up tomorrow afternoon.

Note: Ugandan banks and airlines will only accept new USD (no older than 2003). Check series acceptance before future travel to Uganda.

Carolyn seems well and enjoying her administrative and teaching work at AWI. She is presently busy with year-end end grading and exams, and two major development campaigns. AWI is seeking institutional partnership with a local regional university, and Carolyn, with others, is trying to make this happen in the next two weeks before graduation. AWI advertised university degree commencement several years ago to attract students. University affiliation has yet to happen and students are understandably irritated. Carolyn is also beginning to plan the layout of a new computer lab made possible through a large grant from St. Bartholomew Anglican Church, Diocese of Ottawa. Lab furniture will be made locally. 4 terminals will cluster around 1 computer, serving 34-36 students in total per class. A for-profit internet and email café for students and others is planned.

Carolyn is willing to continue to work at AWI for another 12-18 months after her current term expires next year. If and when this invitation is extended, a conversation with her support committee is needed, as with the Diocese of Ottawa regarding a later return to parish ministry.

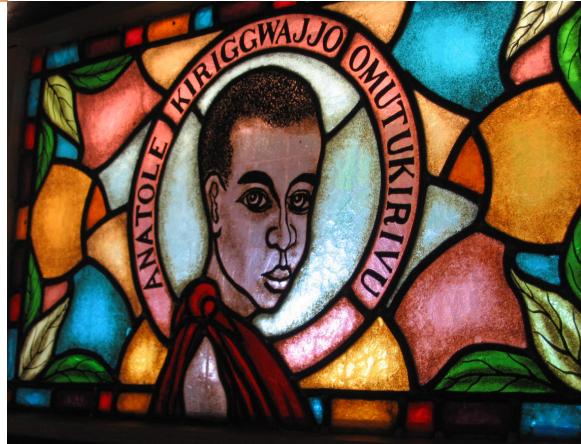
AWI continues to develop from strength to strength, supported by the surrounding community and region. The construction of new buildings on the Institute's own land, adjacent to the existing site, is scheduled to begin next year.

Relations between Carolyn and the Church of Uganda, Diocese of West Ankole, are good. Formal relationship no longer exists between the Church of Uganda (COU) and Partners in Mission & Ecojustice, General Synod, as a result of the COU's position on partnership with churches allowing a rite of blessing for covenanted same-sex relationships. However, in addition to Carolyn and the Rev. Paul Jeffries, Diocese of Fredericton, and former VIM, Global Relations is quietly supporting the doctoral studies in theology of Canon Edidiah Mary Onjingo, Diocese of West Ankole. Canon Onjingo is in the dissertation writing stage of her doctorate and hopes to graduate from Makerere University, Kampala, in 2008 or 2009. Her scholarship was initiated prior to the ending of partnership with COU Province.

Friday, 18th April: Visited the Shrine of the Uganda Martyrs, Namugongo. 22 young men were slowly burned alive on June 3rd, 1885, on the orders of the king of Buganda, who was threatened by the converts' primary allegiance "to another King". The Martyrs of Uganda are now remembered every June 3rd by pilgrims from every parish in Uganda, from neighbouring countries and from around the world. Every year 1000s of pilgrims visit the Shrine during the week of June 3rd. Gardens, walkways and a small lake

contribute to the still, quiet beauty of the area. Kingfishers and snowy egrets are plentiful.

Obtained passports, travel permits and air tickets from the ECS Liaison office.



Saturday, 19th April: Awakened every morning at 4:30am by magnificent call to worship by the muezzin at a nearby mosque. Departed Hotel City Square 7:30am for Entebbe Airport, where we met American Episcopalians and Lutherans also travelling to Juba for the Enthronement. One-hour drive to Entebbe took us past Lake Victoria, a huge fresh water lake claimed by Ugandans as the headwaters of the Nile River. Egrets, orioles, herons, and wagtails are plentiful.

Note: Entebbe airport: No departure tax. Also no international calling or internet services.

Arrived Juba in one hour, met by ECS members. Quick passage through immigration to Southern Sudan Hotel, a new hotel in the greater Juba area. Expensive, as everything is Juba (USD\$160.00/night). Admittedly a lot more comfortable than the ECS Guest House at the Cathedral compound, which has deteriorated further since December 2006. Extended accommodation and meals at the Guest House are not recommended.

Attended Enthronement rehearsal and dinner. Among ECS friends and partners in attendance: Archbishop Emmanuel Kolini, Rwanda, Archbishop Benjamin Nzimbi, Kenya, Bishop Evans Kisekka, Church of Uganda, UK dioceses: Bradford, Salisbury, USA dioceses: Virginia, South Florida, Missouri, Chicago, and TEC, ERD, ELCA/LWF. All but two ECS bishops were in attendance. More than 1000 are expected for the enthronement at All Saints Cathedral. Heavy rains are keeping the daily temperatures cooler in the evening and the ground, a rich red mud. Meals cooked and provided by the Mothers' Union of Diocese of Juba.

Good opportunity to begin re/connecting with Provincial staff and diocesan bishops, with questions relating to our existing partnership: status of reestablishment of Provincial office in Juba, financial management capacity, and progress by the Theological Education Commission on its strategic development plan. Met specifically with Bishop Peter Amidi, Diocese of Lainya, and Chair, Financial Management and Development Commission, and Bishop Hilary Garang Deng, Diocese of Malakal, and Chair, Theological Commission (ecs_malak@hotmail.com) .

Regarding the re-establishment of the Provincial Office in Juba: Provincial Office Budget 2008 has been developed and is estimated @SP700,000 (USD350,000). (The entire Provincial budget including educational and health institutions and programs in dioceses is @SP7million /USD3.5million). The largest item in the Provincial Office budget is the payment of Provincial staff and 20 southern bishop's stipend arrears (USD 200,000). If all grants pledged are sent in full, the Province expects a @USD 50,000 deficit this year. Global Relations annual grant to the Province is CDN7500. In 2008 an additional CDN6000 was sent to the Province for the Electoral Primatial Synod and Enthronement.

A visit to the Provincial Office was helpful for actually seeing the office building and meeting the people who work there, for briefly assessing property, vehicles, and ongoing infrastructure needs (washrooms and plumbing, electricity and wiring, paint and wall repair, furniture, photocopier and computers, etc.). It is encouraging the office is re-establishing itself in Juba, that existing infrastructure allows some work to take place. The compound is nearby the Cathedral and close to the downtown area. The property fence and grounds are well maintained. A number of outbuildings and ship containers provide needed storage and meeting room space.



Regarding the development of financial management capacity, according to the Commission's strategic plan, and in addition to the development of an annual Provincial Office budget, Ms. Judith -----, Diocese of Delaware, Chartered Professional Accountant will make a second visit to Khartoum and Juba from May-August 2008 to review, sort, and account for grants received by the ECS from external partners over the past 3 years. Ms. _____ is a TEC volunteer who will also assist the newly appointed Provincial Treasurer and existing office staff with training in developing effective accounting systems and procedures. We will contact Judith to share with her the extent of Global Relations funds sent to the ECS in 2005, 2006 and 2007. In fall 2008, partners will receive a full accounting of grants sent since 2005.

Regarding the ECS's plan to develop capacity for theological education, the Commission has resolved that the best way of meeting the needs of the church for trained priests and lay workers in areas where few physical resources currently exist, is to develop 5 regional centres rather than diocesan bible schools and a national seminary. No clear plans currently exist for the refurbishment of Bishop Gwynne College, Juba, which has been all but defunct for a number of years. Adjacent to the Cathedral, the college buildings and compound are in poor repair, few students are in training, and teaching staff are ill prepared.

In the meantime, ECS will continue to send its best students and young church leaders outside of Sudan for training, to other African countries, the UK, USA and Canada with partners' scholarship and bursary support. Global Relations has not sponsored an ECS student in theological studies in Africa or Canada for many years. This is one way we can strengthen our commitment to working with the Province in developing trained, educated personnel. Global Relations sends a grant of CDN7500 to the Province annually for theological education.

Note: Further to accommodations and meals in Juba: Juba is a cash only city: USD and Sudanese Pounds (SP). Credit cards and ATMs are not useable/available. Staying in Juba requires a lot of cash, particularly since clean, accessible low cost accommodations are not available. It is very important to check the series year of USD. Bills older than 2003 are not accepted. Unfortunately, we were not advised of the costs of staying in

Juba and of the strict currency criteria. Not having enough acceptable currency was a distracting challenge from an already challenging context. Hotel Manager suggested an excellent payment option because we didn't have sufficient funds to pay our hotel bill. Wire funds through Dahabshill Bank. Process of doing this: Dahabskill Bank branch in Toronto: Take cash for amount owed, set a transfer code and question and answer password to start the transaction, give the hotel's name and address in Juba for deposit in the Ivory Bank account of the hotel, contact Mr. Taifa Kuer Mach, Manager, South Sudan Hotel, Juba with code and question and answer password by email southsudanhotel@yahoo.com so that the hotel can retrieve the funds.

Sunday, 20th April: Enthronement of the Most Rev. Daniel Deng Bul, 4th Archbishop of the Episcopal Church of Sudan and Diocese of Juba, 9:30am-9:30pm, including Enthronement celebration and Eucharist, lunch and speeches, and a celebratory dinner. Attended by more than 1000 people from across Sudan, the Archbishops of Rwanda and Kenya, Primatial representatives from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Canada, Jerusalem and the Middle East, Southern Africa, Uganda and USA. Archbishop Emmanuel Kolini preached.

Lt. General Salva Kiir Mayardit, 1st Vice President of the Republic of Sudan, President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS), and Chairman, Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM), and special enthronement guest, spoke highly of the Church's tireless efforts of supporting people throughout the war. He called upon the ECS and all churches to now determine their role and mission in post-war Sudan. This was also the call of the leadership of the ECS and SCC as, with other churches and church organizations, the second largest civil society organization in Sudan today. The challenges are enormous in every sector of society, not the least of which concern the return and support of displaced peoples to their lands and villages, progress towards continued implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and preparation of the peoples of the south for determining the outcome of the 2009 elections and 2011 referendum on self-governance. On a lighter note, much singing, laughter, thanksgiving and praise, and many informal conversations continued throughout the day and evening.



The theme of Archbishop Daniel Deng's speech was *Resetting of a new Nation* (Nehemiah 4: 1-23; John 17). Text of the speech is in the Global Relations office.

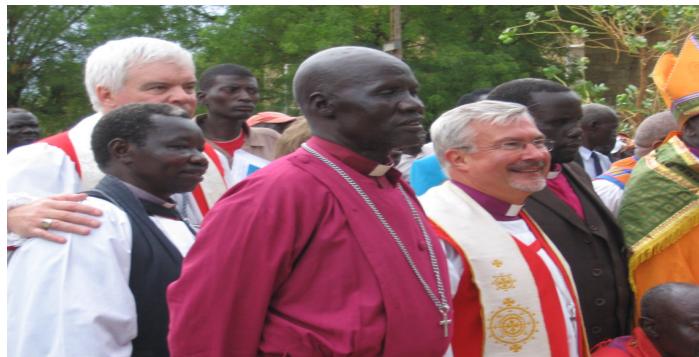
Key points included: *ECS, Sudan is at a crossroads, now that war is over and the immediate joy of peace has turned to consideration for building a strong, faithful church and country. Let our vision be peace, love and unity. Let our work eradicate tribalism, nepotism, corruption in elected leaders and government administrations. May every human being be allowed the right to decide their destiny. May we welcome our people home from all corners of the world and work to resettle them.*

In conclusion, I wish to make an outline policy on what the ECS should be:

1. *Strong united ECS, spiritually and economically,*
2. *Strong ECS based on Biblical foundation,*

3. *Self-sustainable Church, I would like all the members of ECS to hear me and faithfully pay their tithes to the church,*
4. *ECS believes that God created humanity in His image: irrespective of ethnicity, religion, culture, sex or otherwise, having the same value, right and dignity,*
5. *ECS will work hard to eradicate ignorance and assist in the support of the right of the poor and oppressed and to remove injustice.*

*The Most Rev. Daniel Deng Bul
 Archbishop and Primate, Bishop of Juba Diocese
 On the occasion of his Enthronement
 All Saints Cathedral, Juba, 20th April 2008*



Monday, 21st April: Archbishop Daniel invited partners to the morning session of the House of Bishop meeting: *We are here together so we might know one another, so we will know one another when next we meet.* These welcoming remarks were also the Primate's first words in his enthronement address, introducing his family to those gathered "so you will know them when you see them".

Dean of the Province, Bishop Nathaniel Garang, Diocese of Bor, opened the session with a reflection on Jesus' teaching "trust in God, trust in me" (John 1:14), reminding listeners [my interpretation] God came to the world as a human being to teach humans to trust God in ways we might understand; to be 'in our skin', where we are and as we are. This intimate act of incarnation comforts, challenges, converts us to trust, more than doctrine or written theology. In God's love for Jesus, our fears and doubts are transformed to confidence and courage for life where there has been death, hope where there has been despair, peace with justice where war and oppression have prevailed.

Archbishop Daniel spoke of the *ECS today at a crossroads from which it must go forward, though the challenges will be many. The ECS must encourage and help people resettle in home territories and villages, though they have nothing in their hand, nothing*

to return to, leaving refugee camps where housing, schools, food and water have been better, more nutritious, cleaner for many years. The ECS supported people during the war, supported the peace talks and continue to support the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Now it must become involved in resettlement. The people are asking this of us, expecting us to be involved. It will be difficult to bring together and support those who have been scattered around the world, separated from each other and from Sudan for 21+ years. Returnees are in shock, and where there are no houses, clinics, schools, or services, they are returning to back to camps until things change.

Diocesan bishops need a lot of support from one another, and from ECS' partners. Bishops need transportation, communications equipment, and especially, connections with the wider Anglican Communion and world, where they will meet and make friends and be assisted practically with the huge responsibility of establishing and restoring dioceses from rubble or nothing. Partners' presence at this time of celebration and thanksgiving for peace and a way forward is a great encouragement. I will ask each bishop to introduce himself and the needs of his diocese, so that you will know his situation and begin to discuss possible partnerships.

The ECS grows in membership daily, through primary evangelism and returnees. 7 new dioceses have been approved from existing mission districts to bring the number of dioceses to 31. These new dioceses will be taken care of by our members, but will greatly appreciate partners' friendship, prayer and practical support. We need technical people to assist us in agricultural methods, management practices, stewardship etc.

And on the Comprehensive Peace Agreement: The CPA is deadlocked over the determination of the boundary between northern and southern Sudan. The Government of Sudan continues to move the boundary south to serve its interests in oil revenues, and continues to arm its security forces where south and north meet. The Government of Sudan continues to portray the country internationally as Arab and Islamic, while, in reality, Sudan is African and Christian. The Government of Southern Sudan has opened its back doors to the world. Many of you are here because of that. Khartoum would never have allowed such a large number of you to gather here in one place at the same time.

Churches, together with international partners globally, should speed up and insist upon the implementation of the CPA, should insist upon resolution of the humanitarian crisis in Darfur, should cry aloud for peace with justice. We are still at war, still without recourse to our basic humans rights as people of the south.

20 diocesan and assistant bishops spoke briefly about their dioceses and most pressing needs. Among the most pressing challenges, aside from infrastructure development, were the need for prayer books, bibles, clergy training, resettlement resources, partnerships with dioceses elsewhere in the Communion.



The Rt. Rev. Peter Amidi, Diocese of Lainya

15 partners, representing the Dioceses of Salisbury, Pretoria, Ethiopia, Anglican Church of Canada, and The Episcopal Church spoke briefly about their commitment, interests and capacities for partnership with the Province and dioceses of the ECS. AFRECS and Salisbury Link are in May and July respectively hosting gatherings at which ECS bishops, including the Primate, and partners can continue to discuss and discern effective partnership connections.

Archbishop Kolini spoke at length to the House and partners then present. He urged: *Encourage the return and resettlement of Sudanese people, ‘home is home’. There is no one refugee experience but many. The work of helping people to resettle will be very hard, requiring flexibility and patience. Before ECS existed, God knew it would come into being, knew what you would experience, knew what you are now facing. You are either ready for what comes now, and tomorrow, or you are not. The option: exile, being second-class citizens in a country that will never be home. The Lord has brought you to this place to do this work, now. Encourage your people to stay. Share. Support land reform. Repent and forgive. There are two abominations: hatred and dishonesty. The only way to reconciliation is through a broken and contrite heart, to touch the bleeding heart of another with deep humility. You must teach your people that forgiving first benefits them, not the other. Love and work for God’s diversity in your church and in the world.*

Bishops and partners shared lunch together at the Cathedral before bishops returned to the Provincial Office for an afternoon session.

Met Mama Harriet Baka, Provincial Mothers Union worker, involved in leading pre-Lambeth orientation for bishops' wives. Visited the Provincial MU office briefly.



Spoke with Provincial Secretary Enock Tombe about development of Juba generally, and state of the CPA. *Juba is in a state of flux as displaced people come and go from the city's settlement areas according to what they find in home districts and villages, and as a large international NGO and UN Development and Peace presence continues to monitor and invest in infrastructure development, and as hotels, office buildings, homes are built. Roads, schools, and health clinics are in poor condition, but improving. Waste management is non-existent, leading to hundreds of garbage piles and fires, widespread paper and plastic litter, unsanitary water and living conditions: a cholera outbreak in the making. The city is in survival mode, coping with enormous challenges and inadequate human and material capacity.*

+Peter met with Brigadier General Gordon Micah Lual, a former parishioner from the Diocese of Ottawa. Brigadier General Lual presently heads up the Traffic Division of the Government of Southern Sudan. An active Anglican, the Brigadier General gave valuable advice to +Peter in working with the Sudanese Anglican Diaspora in Ottawa, and was an active advocate of the CPA and rights of southern Sudanese peoples. He is also the author of some of his experiences during the war.

+Peter also met with the Brigadier General's aide, a former chaplain with the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA). They spoke about the chaplain's role during the war, and about the SPLA's strict adherence to the Geneva Conventions concerning prisoners of war. The aide had received some training from Far Reaching Ministries, California.

By chance, +Peter met Mr. Peter Dut, a member of the Ottawa Sudanese Community Organization.

Tuesday, 22nd April 2008: Day of official Census across the south to begin to identify and enumerate all southerners prior to the election of the next GOSS government planned for 2009 and Self-Governance Referendum 2011. All people were asked to stay at home until enumerated, which meant little transport and few meetings with ECS. Census will take place across the south over the next two weeks. Good day for catching up on report writing and conversation with fellow travelling partners. +Peter joined informal, afternoon meeting between Archbishop Daniel and several TEC bishops.

Wednesday, 23rd April 2008: Departing hotel at 7:30am with Bishop Peter and Mama Linda Amidi, +Peter C., and 6 ERD/TEC colleagues and two diocesan staff to visit the Diocese of Lainya, 70 kilometres and 3 hours over rutted and bumpy roads from Juba. This was a great opportunity to see the landscape and settlements outside of Juba. Driving west toward Yei and the border with Uganda, the city immediately recedes beyond new Juba. Sadly, Juba's plastic and cans and garbage have been dumped along the roadside for more than 20 kilometres. A waste management plan and implementation strategy for the greater Juba area is badly needed. The current situation is an environmental, health and sanitation catastrophe in the making.

Landscape towards Lainya changes from huge, beautiful semi-desert plain with several large mountains on the horizon to more hilly terrain, scrub bushes and grasses, occasional large trees, streams and mountains. Crops, fruit trees and gardens include: groundnuts, taro, corn, tomatoes, collard, bananas, mangos, papayas, lulu, occasional date palm, and other household vegetables. Much hard manual work lies ahead in clearing bush and rocks from arable land left fallow for 20+ years. Bird sightings included bulbuls, kites, rock doves, weavers, and others.



Stopping twice along the road to speak with land mine clearing teams, we passed the beginnings of the villages, homes and gardens of newly returned refugees, the barracks of SPLA security forces, and established villages. The Diocese of Ottawa has contributed CDN 15,000 toward mine clearing from fields and roads in the Diocese of Rejaf. This clearing was done by CAMEO, a small Canadian NGO run by the Rev. Colonel Jim McGill (retired), Royal Canadian Engineers, resident in Cornwall, Ontario.



The diocese of Lainya is beginning to rebuild itself from scratch. Situated during the war in SPLA territory, Lainya was a significant SPLA headquarters, recruiting many young men as cadres. SPLA leaders and cadres took much of the humanitarian aid that made it into the area, leaving people deprived of almost everything. The majority of people, almost all Pojulu, remained during the war as they had few options for leaving.



UNICEF Classroom, Diocese of Lainya

Today, a generation of traumatized youth and young adults, coming of age during the war, have few work prospects. Many are illiterate, or literate at a very basic level with few if any work skills. The diocese wants to help these young men and women train for entry into peacetime economy and village life. Programs in carpentry, machinery, mechanics, masonry, and sustainable agriculture are planned. Men and women will be encouraged to enrol. Women continue to be the primary cultivators, managers, harvesters of crops and gardens, and look after their children's upbringing. Women today are also training and working as electricians, masons, drivers, and teachers.

In brief, the program priorities of the diocese of Lainya include:

1. Enabling young men and women towards whole, integrated, contributing lives and re-entry into peaceful village life and economy through skills training, trauma counselling and reconciliation programs;
2. Girls' education;
3. Water system development and management;
4. Support to returning displaced people in settling back into family lands and farming.

Specifically, the diocese of Lainya needs:

1. A large diesel generator to replace the generator taken back by the Province for its use in Juba. A generator is the most reliable source of electricity for all power needs in the diocesan compound, including the sewing programs of the women's centre;
2. Professional engineering and technical assistance to plan the rebuilding of the Vocational Training Centre situated on diocesan property, and oversee its rebuilding;
3. Room to be built adjacent to the existing Pro-Cathedral for children's Sunday programs;
4. A Cathedral to accommodate the large and growing membership of the ECS in Lainya town;
5. Additional 2000 gallon water tanks, and many more bore holes;
6. Tools to cultivate and work the land for crops;
7. Health services.



Pro-Cathedral, Diocese of Lainya, Lainya

Notably, SUDRA has consulted and worked with all 5 diocesan clusters over the past 2 years, to identify grassroots priorities. Repeated priorities include: reliable, sustainable water; training and skilled labour; receiving and resettling internally displaced peoples; and health services. In response to the expectations of ECS members and others that the ECS and SUDRA actively work towards developing healthy, productive communities, SUDRA decided training to plan and manage the Church's response. Such training is

ongoing and many dioceses now have strategic plans and priorities resulting from local consultations with Chiefs and Elders.

An emerging challenge for the ECS results from the Government of Southern Sudan's (GOSS) decision to withdraw financial support of the salaries of teachers at Church schools, in order to put funds into redeveloping a public education system. Church schools are reputed to be the best schools in the country, having excellent teachers and learning resources. ECS is now seeking a way of reclassifying its' schools so as to benefit from GOSS support.

Mama Linda Amidi, President of the diocesan Mothers Union, explained plans to begin a poultry project with laying hens to sell eggs locally. In addition to the hens and laying houses, local grain will be sought as will an additional grinding mill for making feed. Each of 4 archdeaconries has a grinding mill for human foods. The MU continues its efforts in support of young families, encouraging Christian family values, home gardening and children's education.

The diocesan Women's Centre will resume sewing classes if and when a generator is placed permanently on site. Presently, the Centre continues with literacy training for school leavers, gender awareness programs, and HIV/Aids awareness programs.

In addition to a generator, the MU and Women's Centre programs require a vehicle for MU workers and funds for MU and Centre workers stipends.



Coordinator, Diocesan Women's Centre Coordinator, Lainya

As we departed the diocesan compound, +Peter Amidi concluded: “During the war, there was nothing here but trees and fear. We want to begin in a humble way”. In the diocese of Lainya there are 5 archdeaconries, 46 parishes and 100s of congregations.

Thursday, 24th April 2008: Long travel day from Juba-Entebbe-Nairobi. Not feeling well. Relieved to arrive Hilton Nairobi, relative luxury for less cost per night than South Sudan Hotel in Juba.

Note: Uganda Airlines, Eagle, and Jetwing all fly between Juba and Nairobi so that daily flights are possible. This would be a better option than returning to Entebbe and could likely be booked by the ECS Kampala office.

Travelling and working with church partners internationally is increasingly faster paced and ‘connected’ via individual information technology. Face to face meetings with partners continue to be effective, especially where multiple ‘northern and southern’ partners and organizations meet. Yet almost all church leaders and staff use cell phones and SIM cards, blackberries, and/or wireless laptop computers to communicate not only with home and headquarters, but also with each other to arrange meetings, transportation, and to meet by phone if face to face isn’t possible. International calling services are becoming less available in airports. International lines are increasingly busy in hotels and conference centres. Recommend Global Relations Coordinator investigate the best personal communications system for international travel and request purchase by Partnerships.

Friday, 25th April 2008: Travel Nairobi-Dar es Salaam. Met warmly at the airport by the Rev. Dr. Mwita Akiri, Provincial Secretary, Anglican Church of Tanzania, and his driver Savio, and checked into the Peacock Millenium Towers Hotel, a short distance from downtown. Quiet afternoon of hand laundry and updating travel report. Still not feeling well but managing.

Dinner with Mwita Akiri covered several topics, but primarily the Anglican Church of Tanzania’s (ACT) position on the election and consecration of Bishop Gene Robinson, Diocese of New Hampshire and the TEC General Convention endorsement of his election (endorsements of elections are required by canon law). TEC’s national endorsement of a non-celibate homosexual bishop has led the ACT to declare its relationship with TEC as being severely impaired. This means ACT no longer feels it can welcome TEC and ERD programs, groups, and personnel to the Province, or accept funds from TEC Global and Anglican Relations and ERD. TEC will not be invited to Archbishop-Elect Valentino Mokiwa’s enthronement on May 25th 2008. However, ACT is willing to informally meet and speak with TEC to continue to discern possible common ground where the dignity of all is respected. ACT does not endorse the incursion of African Anglican consecrated bishops into TEC dioceses to pastor to dissenting parishes.

There is the sense within ACT, and the majority of African Anglican Provinces, that TEC and the USA generally, acts arrogantly in its dealings with other Provinces, nations. Little consideration is given to the burdensome consequences of TEC/USA decisions

born by others. There is limited appreciation for the whole humanness and dignity of people who are not American, especially if they live in poverty.

It is insulting to African Anglicans to be asked to ‘take these funds, and not be sidetracked by the quarrels of our leaders’, to be told ‘your people are in need and we have the resources to help’. Many Tanzanian Anglicans do live with the heavy challenge of insufficient financial resources, but if offered money would not accept it at the compromise of their beliefs and dignity. This strength of values in a context of tremendous struggle and personal sacrifice derives from personal Christian faith and the tradition of trusting the community’s highest leadership to do what is right.

ACT, and most other African Provinces do not ‘tar the Anglican Church of Canada with the same brush’. ACC and its decisions regarding diocesans same-sex blessings, and Canada generally are less well-known in Tanzania. More importantly, it is significant that the:

- i) General Synod has not endorsed the decisions of the dioceses of New Westminster and Niagara (such endorsement is not required),
- ii) House of Bishops and Primate are seen to be genuinely wrestling with the inevitable impact on the Anglican Communion, on Church partners and its relationships with them, of an endorsement of homosexuality as acceptable within Christian values and family,
- iii) Partnerships and PWRDF do not ask Tanzanians to compromise their beliefs and values.

For these reasons, ACT is in good relationship with the Anglican Church of Canada, its Primate, bishops (+Michael Bird and +Michael Ingham?), and dioceses (Niagara, New Westminster, Montreal and Ottawa?), with national Partnerships (Global Relations, Volunteers in Mission, Theological Student International Internship Program) and PWRDF. To date, an invitation to Archbishop Mokwa’s enthronement has not arrived.

Saturday, 26th April 2008: Travel by car Dar es Salaam –Dodoma. A quick tour of Dar including St. Alban’s Cathedral (ACT), Azania Front Lutheran Cathedral, and St. Joseph Cathedral (RC), city drive along the Indian Ocean and through embassy row. Dar es Salaam (*Port of Hope in Arabic*) is not the Islamic city I expected, though Islam is the second largest religion of the city and country. Tanzania is primarily Christian, and in Dar there are smaller communities of Muslims, Hindus, and others.

The drive west to Dodoma, situated in the centre of the country took 5 ½ hours on good highways. Beautiful countryside, including huge flat plains, gentle mountains, expansive agricultural areas for maize, grain, sisal, pineapple, and Masai herding cows. No fewer than 4 overturned trucks which, like buses, are driven much too fast.

St. Alban's Cathedral, Diocese of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam



Sunday, 27th April 2008: Sunday worship, 9:00am. English service at Holy Spirit Cathedral, The Very Rev. Bethuel Mlula presiding. Bethuel was a former PIM scholarship student at Wycliffe College, Toronto (2004-2007). Bethuel returned to Tanzania, Diocese of Central Tanganyika, in May 2007 with a Master of Divinity degree.

Holy Spirit Cathedral, Diocese of Central Tanganyika, Dodoma



Bethuel and his wife Agnes came round to the hotel in the late afternoon for a visit. Following a very interesting discussion about Communion dynamics, Bethuel spoke about the Diocese of Central Tanganyika. The Rt. Rev. Godfrey Mdimi Mhogolo is a progressive church leader, who was instrumental in the ordination of women in his diocese (the first of two dioceses in the Province. There are now 15 ordained women serving in parish ministries) and who is willing to keep lines of communication and relationship open with The Episcopal Church. A number of American Episcopalians are currently serving in the Diocese of Central Tanganyika. Bishop Mhogolo is also more of a moderate on the issue of homosexuality, weathering a bitter and fierce response to his suggestion that homosexuality was not a ‘peculiar sin’ ie. of a particular, more venal nature. Contrary to Anglican teaching, members of the church widely believe sin is rankable and that homosexuality is a state of very serious sin.

It was mentioned again how different the approach of the Anglican Church of Canada is and has been from the approach of TEC in proceeding on the divisive issue of homosexuality in the church. The Anglican Church of Canada is thought to be more respectful of others who think differently, more measured in its pace. This pace is widely understood and practiced throughout the African Anglican Communion which takes the long view, listens to elders, and expects leaders to have on their hearts and minds, the good of the church and the well being of their people.

The Anglican Church of Canada is not experienced as arrogant or self-gratifying, but rather, in its own way, struggling with integrity to do what is right and good for its members and beyond in Canadian society, as one member of a worldwide Anglican family.

Bethuel also asked to be considered for a PMEJ scholarship for 1 ½ years to complete a Master of Theology degree at Wycliffe College, beginning September 2009. He feels strongly called to ministry in theological teaching in an academic program and does not yet have the credentials to join the theology faculty of the Anglican Church of Tanzania’s St. John’s University, Dodoma. He has been ensured a teaching position there upon achieving the necessary academic qualifications.

I promised to consider his request and be back in correspondence with him about next steps by the end of May. He will print the application form for completion and endorsement and post it as soon as possible. I will confirm with Mwita Akiri that Bethuel’s further studies are endorsed by the Province. Will also contact George Sumner for further information.

The Rev. Samwel Mtewe is another ACT clergyman seeking funds for doctoral studies. Will check with Akiri re: Mtewe’s endorsement from the Province.

Lastly regarding Global Relations scholarship assistance to ACT, I will have further conversation with Mwita Akiri re: St. John’s University Scholarship Fund for students of theology at SJU.

Monday, 28th April 2008: Met Provincial Secretary The Rev. Dr. Mwita Akiri in the national offices, Dodoma. Information about ACT can be found www.anglican.or.tz. Keeping the ACT website current has become more difficult, as Provincial IT consultant Dr. Elizabeth Taylor, CMS UK, is now IT faculty at St. John's University of Tanzania. She continues to volunteer as Provincial webmaster.

In brief, the Provincial Offices are staffed by 20 full time people, including cashiers, drivers, property security, clerks, accountants, secretaries, program coordinators, and the Provincial Secretary. The Archbishop has historically lived and worked away from the Provincial office, remaining in his home diocese. Archbishop-elect Valentine Mokwina will continue to reside and work from the Diocese of Dar es Salaam. His enthronement on May 25th 2008 will be held in the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Dodoma.

Programs and services based at the Provincial Office include the General Secretariate, Youth, Mission and Evangelism, Mothers Union, Development, Health, Education, Finance, and Investment. The Province's Printing and Publication Press is situated in another building nearby. Each department is overseen by a national program committee and is chaired by a diocesan bishop.



There are presently 21 dioceses, and soon to be 8-9 new dioceses, once current mission areas can prove financial viability. Most current dioceses and mission areas are viable. Unfortunately, only 3-4 dioceses currently pay their USD1000 annual apportionment to the Province, a relatively new level and structure of organization within ACT. According

to Akiri, lack of apportionment payment is not due to poverty as much as the perceived lack of relevance, and/or misunderstanding and misinformation about the role of Provincial structures in an ecclesiastical Province.

ACT plans to hold its next General Synod later this year, 25th-26th October, 2008.

Dr. Akiri confirmed that after Archbishop Mokiwa's enthronement later this month is over, the office will complete its financial accounts and reporting for 2007. *Note: It will greatly assist Provincial accounts staff if Claudia would send with her notice of a transfer of funds, any and all available reference code and/or code numbers for the transaction. It is getting harder and harder to decipher the limited information now appearing on bank statements. The Accounts staff send their warm regards and apologies to Claudia for the long delays in responding to her emails.*

Met Provincial office staff for morning tea, and a brief opportunity to speak about the Anglican Church of Canada, my work and our churches' history of partnership. Several questions and answers but not enough time. I plan to keep in contact with the director of the Province's Women's Rural Development Centre, 25 km. Distant from Dodoma, and with Mission and Evangelism unit/staff.

Note: For future reference, separate meetings should be scheduled with Provincial staff if deeper discussion would be helpful. Provincial Secretary Akiri tends to monopolize all conversations within his hearing. His staff tend to say nothing in his presence, and seem to tune out until he's finished, which can take some time. I also found it difficult to have a conversation with him. He is keen to talk but isn't much of a listener. Sadly, he seems inclined to berate staff who fail to meet his expectations and seems to be on the telephone continuously with staff, checking up and repeating often what needs to be done and how they are to do it. Not a lot of obvious joy in the Provincial office.

Travelled short distance out of town to campus of St. John's University of Tanzania (SJUT), a new national tertiary institution of the Anglican Church of Tanzania. Met Vice Chancellor Prof. Monoris V. Meshack, Deputy Vice Chancellor Planning and Finance Mr. John M. Ham, Dr. Elizabeth Taylor, Information Systems and Technology Administrator and faculty member, and one other faculty member. Prof. Meschack presented an overview of the history of SJUT to date and an outline of current degree programs, priorities, needs. Dr. Taylor provided a CD copy of the power-point presentation for Global Relations further consideration.

In addition to addressing the first Millennium Development Goal of eradicating poverty in Tanzania, by providing accessible university education to students in an under serviced area of the country (a country of 24 million people with only 8 universities, situated mainly along the eastern coast), SJUT intends to address the need for better moral education among young adult Tanzanians, especially Muslim youth.

A number of references were made by SJUT administrators of the positive, moderating influence of Christian schooling on Muslims. By inference, Islam and non-Christianized

Muslims were not capable of much that was socially redeeming for peace and stability in Tanzania. Over 3 days in the company of the Provincial Secretary, Muslims were also associated with community problems, failed agricultural programs and poor yield areas, and ‘favoured group status’ with in the country. It was a perplexing and disturbing situation.

In response to a question to Prof. Meshack, I was assured ‘*SJUT is not intentionally recruiting Muslim students to convert them to Christianity. Rather, Islamicists and Wahidis from Saudi Arabia, who became influential during the administration of Tanzania’s second President, are encouraging young, unemployed men to extremism and socially disruptive behaviour, formerly unknown within historical African Muslim communities. Most Tanzanian Muslims are moderate, peaceful, secular people, and seek Christian schools for the high level of academic instruction from primary through secondary, and the ways in which Christian Tanzanians relate to others*

Muslim (40%), Sikh (<1%), Hindu (<1%) and Christian (60%) students comprise SJUT’s 800 member student body, in roughly the same percentages as exist in the country. All students are encouraged to be good people of faith, are expected to meet in their respective prayer groups daily, weekly.

All SJUT faculty however, are Christian and required to sign a declaration of Christian orthodox belief subscribing to ‘the Christian worldview’. When asked what this worldview was, I was told *SJUT works from the premise that man is fallen and must spend his life repenting for the state of original sin through prayer and service to God who sacrificed his Son for the redemption of those who believe*’.

I asked questions admittedly with a healthy measure of personal curiosity. I was also trying to understand SJUT’s values framework and possible ‘fit’ as a partner of the Anglican Church of Canada through Global Relations, and as fitting with Canadian Christian Foundations and Canadian Government. SJUT has been successfully establishing links with Christian universities in the USA eg. Regent University, and UK eg. York St. John, and developing networks of Friends of SJUT for raising funds. The Government of Finland contributed a large sum of money to build a science laboratory.

While stating our capacity limitations, I promised to follow up on possible Canadian Christian Foundation (more likely) and Government (unlikely) leads, and to convey SJUT’s need for personnel to Volunteers in Mission. I suggested World University Services as a possible other source of qualified professionals, and promised to send possible links with Canadian theological colleges and universities sharing SJUT’s values and mission. They were not aware of TEE College, Johannesburg, or ANITEPAM.

Future partnership between SJUTS and Partnerships requires further consideration. Partnership with a Christian University in Africa would not be a ‘first’, and the clarification about relations with Islam and other Christian worldviews was instructive. However, aside from possible Global Relations grant support to the SJUT B.Th. scholarship fund, Global Relations does not have the staff capacity to explore potential

Canadian Friends of SJUT and broker support. Furthermore, SJUT, as other private educational institutions in Tanzania, continues to develop its institutional fund raising capacities with national commercial, government and philanthropic interests.

Scholarship funding was a point of later conversation with the Provincial Secretary, who is hoping to build a scholarship fund for SJUT Bachelor of Theology students. The B.Th. program intends to focus on Christian Education pedagogy and Business Management, presumably for church management. St. Mark's Theological College, Dar es Salaam, and St. Philip's Theological College, Kongwa, will continue to train priests for ACT, in Anglo-Catholic and CMS regions of the church respectively. St. Mark's College continues to need financial assistance with its scholarship program. St. Philip's has historically received substantial support for its students from CMS agencies and church organizations in UK, and from evangelical Episcopalian groups in the USA.

Global Relations was also asked to continue to support individuals from ACT in graduate theology degree studies.

Following SJUT, I had a late afternoon meeting with Mr. Andrew Russell, Youth Development Worker, Tanzanian Anglican Youth Organization (TAYO). Andrew reiterated the two intentions of TAYO and his leadership there as helping dioceses develop and strengthen youth programs and young adult leadership, and to enable youth and young adults in small-scale income generation projects.

Recent confirmation of support from Irish Aid will mean the launch of a small loans program designed by Andrew to help groups of young Anglicans do something, which will earn a profit for turning back into their diocesan/parish youth programs.

Andrew is also seeking funding to start up a recording studio and to record a CD of Diocesan youth choirs, which he says, are amazing. Choirs are the focus of all diocese/parish youth programs. Proceeds from the sale of the CD would be used to purchase keyboards, guitars, PA systems, generators....'all needing serious cash'.

Last but not least among continuing priorities is TAYO's bible distribution program, again designed to be income generating to purchase more bibles for further distribution. A pilot project in 8 dioceses was 50% successful, with 4 diocesan TAYO now purchasing and distributing bibles from the small profits made through direct sales. TAYO works with the Tanzania Bible Society in this project, adding capacity to the TBS, which is unable to service the country.

Andrew inquired about possible partnership with Global Relations and young adult (24years+) Canadian Anglicans in a Youth Camp, August 2009. If Andrew continues past his tenure (ending December 2008), he intends to be primary staff for such an event. Young adult groups (15 to 40 years of age) from every ACT diocese, neighbouring countries, Canada and UK would gather for 7-10days. The Event would be largely self-funding but Global Relations support would be welcomed with thanks. He will send a proposal if and when it is developed. Andrew was specifically asking for assistance in

testing this for interest within our young adult networks. He was impressed that 3 national committee members were under 30 years of age, and 2 were soon to be ordained, and he had seen the Generation 2000 website.

The main purpose of the Camp is for youth and young adults across ACT and from other Anglican Provinces to enjoy being youth together. Every group would be ‘on first’ for some activity: sport, drama skills, music. All ACT youth groups have excellent choirs. Choral singing and music making are the most important and popular activities among diocesan groups. I suggested the Canadian group might be interested in exposure to an environmental or economic justice situation involving Canadian companies. Current justice issues within Tanzania today include exploitation of natural resources and labour by extraction industries; Masai people, traditional nomadic cattle herding economy, and increasing restricted access to land. Bible study and worship would part of the daily program.

A lovely ending to this full day was an evening meal with Bruce and Gerry Melville, serving as VIMs at Canon Andrea Mwaka School, Dodoma. Bruce and Gerry are very well and keeping busy. They convey happy greetings to all. It was a delightful 2 hours of relaxing with other Canadians who also don’t quite fit into evangelical Anglican ethos.

Tuesday, 29th April 2008: Began this long day of travel with 6 hours by land from Dodoma to Dar es Salaam. A brief stop in Dar to prepare for night air travel, then depart at 11:00pm for overnight flight to Amsterdam.

Wednesday, 30th April 2008: Complete travel back to Canada, arriving Toronto @4:00pm.



In closing, this recent visit with church partners in Uganda, Sudan and Tanzania was of great assistance in deepening my appreciation and understanding of the mission and ministry of the Anglican church in east Africa, especially in Sudan and Tanzania. It was a pleasure to have another opportunity to work with Bishop Peter Coffin, who was a cheerful and insightful travelling companion, as always. Bishop Peter's observations and questions with partners and of partners were important aspects of meetings with the ECS. His participation in Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul's Enthronement, as Primate Fred Hiltz's representative, was a great encouragement and blessing to ECS bishops and church members. Bishop Peter was also helpful in suggesting different and additional communications technology in carrying out the work of Global Relations coordination.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation go to the staff of the Episcopal Church of Sudan, and to Carolyn Langford, for their generous hospitality along the way.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Mann
Global Relations Coordinator
Partners in Mission & Ecojustice
13th May 2008

