

## **Vision Theology Worship Working Group**

### **February 4, 2009**

**Present:** Jonathan Schmidt, Susan Titterington, Colleen Sym, Bill Mous, John Brewin.  
**Regrets:** Nigel Packwood. Unable to participate: Margaret Cornish.

#### **Agenda**

1. Input from Oversight Working Group
2. Response, brainstorm re Theological Reflection at fall meeting
3. Reviewing Worship
4. Next Meeting

#### **Brief check-in**

- John Brewin was in Washington D.C. for Barack Obama's inauguration but unable to see it from a distance the equivalent of Queen St. to Bloor St.! Watched it on TV instead, but with a strong sense of "being there".  
- John mentioned an earlier conversation with Maylanne about organizing some kind of cross Canada event before General Synod to engage people in thinking about the Anglican Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- Maylanne was in Belem, Brazil two weeks earlier attending the World Forum on Theology and Liberation. Would like to share some of the broad insights and themes from that event and find ways to engage PMEJ Committee in reflecting.
- Susan Titterington is on the Vision 2019 Project Management Group. Pending formal approval from General Secretary, Primate, and COGS, they also want to engage Anglicans and others in reflection and conversation on broad themes such as "Does faith matter? Does Jesus matter?" But after rather than before GS 2010.
- Nigel is relocating from Swan Lake to Brandon to be with his wife. Nigel will be working in construction until a new position opens up with a parish.
- Jonathan – (sorry – don't remember your check in!)

#### **Input from Oversight Working Group**

- Oversight group is suggesting as a theme, "What is Partnership?" – exploring Anglican approach, Ten Principles of Partnership, Partnerships in the context of conflict and complexity.
- It might be an opportunity for training committee members in conflict resolution and/or "public deliberation"  
<http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdfs/LukensmeyerReport.pdf>
- [Ecojustice WG discussed inviting Florence Ayban, Caroline Chum, Richard LeSueur, Andrea Mann plus external resource people (Anglican or Lutheran) to give a presentation on a cross-cutting issue, e.g. mining, resource extraction, Alberta tar sands.]
- The chairs could facilitate a check-in among members using a visual tool such as mind mapping to identify partnerships – involvements, associations, involvements, relationships.

## **Response, Brainstorming**

- Susan – use our meeting as an opportunity to support companionship between BC and Myanmar, a complex and potentially conflictual situation considered by the provincial social justice commission
- John – consider reflecting on “Theology and Liberation” from a Canadian Anglican perspective rather than a regional focus
- Contextual point of departure – does it open up too much? Mining raises questions of NIMBY, jobs, international investors, employers from China.
- Jonathan – described how he prepares mission personnel for an intercultural experience. He invites them to reflect on their own culture and context, then asks “how does it shape your theology?”
- PMEJ is a national church committee
  - how should the Anglican Church be dealing with these issues now?
  - how can we connect these issues with a theology of partnership or liberation?
  - what are the consequences for a church that is trying to sustain dialogue in the midst of conflict and tension?
- Bill – how do we prepare people for the fall meeting? The panel discussion may not open the depth and complexity of what we’re trying to get at. After the fall we may be meeting only one more time. What can we offer in the way of preparation and follow up leading to General Synod? Is there a way of generating a national conversation?
- Maylanne – floated her idea of generating a Wiki page as a way of engaging others in a constructive reflection on distinctively Anglican engagement in mission and justice.

**Summary** - John Brewin summarized what he heard being suggested:

- That PMEJ focus on “theology and liberation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century from a Canadian Anglican perspective within a framework of partnership”

**Next step** → Jonathan Schmidt will try to frame a paragraph for consideration by and feedback from Oversight Working Group.