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News from Our Anglican World

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"Who can disagree that the Episcopal Church has seriously departed from the received faith of the universal and ancient church--and on a matter of ultimate importance: God's stated will for humankind in the matter of sexual relations and God's ordained sacrament of Holy Matrimony?" ~ The Very Rev., Canon Robert S.Munday, Research Professor of Theology and Mission at Nashotah House Theological Seminary.

"If there are two opinions about anything - ours and God's. Ours is wrong." Dr. Tony Evans, pastor, speaker, author, and radio and television broadcaster

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

"There is no substitute under the heavens for productive labor. It is the process by which dreams become realities. It is the process by which idle visions become dynamic achievements." ~ Gordon B. Hinckley, (1910-2008) 15th President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

"When God has a word of revelation for us through His Holy Spirit which we do not want to hear, we raise up the wall of unapproachability, content to surround ourselves with the walls of self-delusion. When God wants to speak to us in prayer, we make ourselves unavailable by just not praying. When God asks us for something which we do not want to give, we pretend we don't hear Him or, even worse, deny that we even know who He is. But as Christians there is one thing we know, and that is that while we were unapproachable, steeped in sin, God approached us and saved us. While we insulted God, God forgave us. But other people are not God, and we have the ability to make ourselves unapproachable as far as they are concerned. In so doing, we make ourselves worthless. When we have Jesus there is no need for the wall of self-preservation. When we have been preserved for all eternity by God's sovereign act, what wall of protection from the world do we need?" ~ George Flint, from his series named "Bread", 30 July 2015

Today, Important News about the Planned January Meeting in Canterbury

Will the Anglican Communion heal its divisive existence? Can we look forward to a reunited Communion?

In a surprising act, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has called for a meeting of all the 37 Primates of the Anglican Communion to come to Canterbury from January 11-15, 2016. This indicates that Welby has recognized the deep divisions within the Communion cannot continue as is and his concern for the ongoing participation of the more traditional church leaders around the world, including those belonging to the GAFCON movement, who represent the majority of the global Communion's membership.

Of great interest to CHC, a 38th invitee is The Most Rev. Dr. Foley Beach, Archbishop of our Anglican Church in America. Adding Abp Beach apparently results from the GAFCON Primates Council, to which Beach is a member, having previously advised the Abp of Canterbury that they would not attend any meeting at which The Episcopal Church or the Canadian Church were represented, nor would they attend any meeting from which the Anglican Church in North America was excluded. Be clear, Abp Beach has already been recognized as a fellow Primate of the Anglican Communion by the GAFCON Primates and those of the Anglican Global South.

Will the GAFCON Primates attend this meeting? Will Abp Beach? These GAFCON Primates say they will prayerfully consider their response to the Archbishop of Canterbury's invitation, recognizing that the crisis in the Communion is not primarily a problem of relationships and cultural context, but of false teaching which continues without repentance or discipline. Abp Beach has indicated that if his fellow GAFCON Primates attend, he will attend. The response from GAFCON concluded with this statement, "In the end, our confidence is not in any

structural reorganization, useful though it may be, but in the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and in the abiding truth of the Bible.”

Just today, 6 October, the news has broken that for their departure from the faith, discipline of The Episcopal Church (and presumably the Anglican Church of Canada), both historical members of the Communion, will be the first item on the agenda when the Primates meet in Canterbury. This is according to a report from the Anglican news source, *VirtueOnLine*.

It is further reported that if they are disciplined, repent and do the right thing and leave, the Global South archbishops will stay on. Can this happen?

In the end, is there a way for these church bodies to share one altar and one chalice? That has been the central question, for many decades. Time will tell!!

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Sources: VirtueOnLine – www.virtueonline.org, The Daily Mail – www.dailymail.co.uk, Christian Today www.christiantoday.com, Anglican Ink – www.anglicanink.com