

Anglican-Lutheran International Co-ordinating Committee

Hong Kong

19–25 November 2014

Communiqué



The Anglican-Lutheran International Co-ordinating Committee (ALICC) held its second meeting at the Mariners' Club, Hong Kong, 19 to 25 November 2014, under the leadership of the Rt Revd Dr Tim Harris of the Anglican Church of Australia (acting co-chair as Archbishop Mauricio was unable to attend), and of Bishop Michael Pryse of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

The meeting was hosted by the Anglican Communion and the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui. The Committee warmly appreciated the generosity and the hospitality received from the Mission to Seafarers.

The Committee continued its work of mapping Anglican and Lutheran relationships around the world. In order to fulfill its role to be a catalyst for such relationships, it drew up a template of the differing patterns of relationships and the contexts in which they are lived out. For example, some are national churches meeting with other national churches, while others share the same geography. Some have relatively the same demographics, while in other places one church is much larger than the other. The Committee hopes to provide examples of the kinds of joint initiatives which might be appropriate for some rather than others.

The Committee is exploring the theological theme of 'communion in mission', and hopes to provide resources for deeper mutual engagement with this theme, which undergirds the living out of the ecumenical calling.

This meeting in particular developed plans for resources through which Lutherans and Anglicans can commemorate together the year 1517, a moment of greater direct significance for Lutherans, but one which launched a wider reforming movement into wrestling with what it means for the Church to be both catholic and reformed. The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) theme for the year 2017 is 'Liberated by God's Grace' and includes the subthemes of 'salvation not for sale', 'creation not for sale' and 'human beings not for sale'. ALICC will encourage Anglicans to use the resources being produced by the LWF in ways that are appropriate for them in their contexts. The Committee is also planning to produce a devotional resource for use by individuals and communities, using ALICC's theological themes: communion in mission and diakonia, within the framework of the LWF themes (as above). Liturgical resources will also be developed.

On Sunday, members of the Committee were welcomed and enriched by attending the Sunday Eucharist at the Martinson Memorial Lutheran Church. In the afternoon it was their joy to participate in the consecration of The Revd Canon Dr Timothy Chi-pei Kwok as Bishop of Eastern Kowloon at St John's Cathedral, and in the banquet that followed. They are deeply grateful to Archbishop Paul Kwong and to the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui for their generous hospitality.

The Committee appreciated a fruitful meeting with Dr Gareth Jones of Ming Hua Theological College and discussed matters relating to Anglican theological education.

The Committee was welcomed to the Lutheran Theological Seminary where Dr Nicholas Tai, one of its members, is on the faculty. They took part in morning devotions, heard about the history and development of the college and its contribution to the formation of church leaders in mainland China and in the Mekong Delta, and ate lunch with students and faculty.

The next meeting of ALICC will be in 2015, hosted by the Lutheran World Federation.

Members of ALICC:

Anglicans:

The Most Revd Maurício Andrade, Brazil (Co-Chair) Unable to be present
The Revd Dalcy Dlamini, Swaziland, Southern Africa
The Rt Revd Dr Tim Harris, Australia, (Acting Co-Chair)
The Revd Augusta Leung, Hong Kong
The Revd Canon John Lindsay, Scotland
The Revd Canon Dr Alyson Barnett-Cowan, Anglican Communion Office (Co-Secretary)
The Revd Neil Vigers, Anglican Communion Office

Lutherans:

Bishop Michael Pryse, Canada (Co-Chair)
Rev. Ángel Furlan, Argentina Unable to be present
Rev. Joyceline Fred Njama, Tanzania
The Ven. Canon Helene Tärneberg Steed, Sweden and Ireland
Rev. Anne Burghardt, Lutheran World Federation (Co-Secretary)
Prof. The Rev. Dr Nicholas Tai, Hong Kong China