

Episcopal Church Limited in Involvement with the Worldwide Anglican Communion for Three Years

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Below I have included information that has made news over the last week regarding the Primates' Meeting in Canterbury, England. It includes several links to further reading that will be helpful in understanding what has taken place.

Some have asked me what the decisions that were made in Canterbury mean for us in the Episcopal Church, and here at Church of the Resurrection. Obviously, it remains to be seen what effect, long-term or short-term, these actions have on us, but there will be no change in normal church operations, nor in ministry in Christ's name. We remain members of the Anglican Communion, even though officially sidelined from the inner workings of Communion governance for three years.

The reason for the sanctions--our change in definition of marriage at the General Convention last summer--continues to be controversial within the Episcopal Church and the greater Anglican Communion. I ask you for your prayers for the whole Body of Christ as we continue to walk together and faithfully discern God's will.

Understanding the Outcome of the Primates Meeting:

The Primates of the 38 Provinces of the Anglican Communion have just completed their gathering in Canterbury, England. Links to important articles and documents are below. I invite you to read these carefully for yourself so that you are not left to rely solely on social media commentary that may not be accurate. Information will be shared about these matters in a variety of contexts in the Diocese of West Missouri in coming weeks.

We ask your prayers for reconciliation, hope and peace as we move forward as part of the Anglican Communion. Pray for this world-wide body, of which we remain a part, as we strive to walk together in the face of our differences.

- [Statement from the Primates](#)
- [Episcopal News Service article](#)
- [Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop and Primate Michael Curry on the actions at the Anglican Primates meeting](#)

Primates are the senior archbishops and presiding bishops who are elected or appointed to lead each of the 38 autonomous provinces of the Anglican Communion. They are invited to the Primates Meetings by the Archbishop of Canterbury to consult on theological, social and international issues.

The Anglican Communion Primates Meeting is one of the three instruments of communion, the other two being the Lambeth Conference of bishops and the Anglican Consultative Council, the communion's main policy-making body. The Archbishop of Canterbury, as primus inter pares, or "first among equals," is recognized as the focus of unity for the Anglican Communion.

Each province relates to other provinces within the Anglican Communion by being in full communion with the See of Canterbury.

I hope this is helpful, I invite questions as you may have them.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. David