2020 is the year of the fifteenth Lambeth Conference

2020 is the year of the fifteenth Lambeth Conference and as the New Year begins, this important conference is only months away.

As a global gathering of bishops and spouses from across the Anglican Communion, the Lambeth Conference provides an important opportunity for spiritual leaders to meet for prayer, worship and dialogue on Church and world issues. As we journey through this new year towards the conference, pray that people will be able to prepare their hearts, minds for all that lies ahead. Let us consider and pray for one another and the communities represented by bishops and spouses across the world.

PRIMATES’ MEETING – JANUARY 2020

As part of the spiritual preparation and planning for the Lambeth Conference, Primates from the Anglican Communion will meet together, with the Archbishop of Canterbury in January. Hosted in Jordan, this gathering will be a time of prayer, spiritual retreat and deep consultation about the shared priorities and hopes for the conference. The Primates of the Anglican Communion are the senior archbishops, presiding bishops and moderators - the chief pastors of the 40 provinces. The Archbishop of Canterbury chairs their meetings, which are held at varying intervals around the world. The Primates’ meeting is one of the four Instruments of the Anglican Communion. As Primates gather in January and as bishops from each province prepare across the year to join together in July, we invite Christians and churches world-wide to join with us in praying for the significant opportunity of the Lambeth Conference.

BIBLE READING

“We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God’s people — the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God’s grace. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”

1 Colossians 1: 3-13

Share prayers for the Lambeth Conference.

Social Media: #LambethConference #Prayer
Email: prayers@lambethconference.org
Online: www.lambethconference.org/shareyourprayers
GROWING COMMUNION CONNECTIONS - THE BIG HELLO

Growing international connections and companion links between parishes and dioceses is an important priority across many parts of the Anglican Communion. The Lambeth Conference provides a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and strengthen these bonds. In the time before the conference, Anglican parishes and dioceses across England, Wales and Scotland will be gearing up to welcome bishops and spouses from across the globe as part of a large scale hospitality initiative. Called ’The Big Hello’ it will connect conference attendees to their companion link diocese or provide the opportunity for new ones to be started. So far over 84% of bishops and spouses booked into the conference are taking part.

Welcomes will begin from the moment attendees arrive at airports through to travel to their accommodation in churches and communities. Parishes taking part have a range of activities planned including parish visits, pilgrimages, local sightseeing and community days.

Along with vital rest and relaxation after long journeys, bishops and spouses will be able to join in local church services, enjoy a range of activities from cricket matches to visits to tourist spots. There will also be opportunities for dialogue on key issues and sharing ideas on ministry and mission.

According to Phil George, Lambeth Conference Company CEO, the conference is a once-a-decade international event for which the hospitality is really important. He said: “Our prayer is that it creates a chance to say ‘a big hello’ to one another and learn from cultures and traditions in other settings.”

GIVING THANKS FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

The Anglican Episcopal family comprises tens of millions Christians who are members of 46 different Churches. These make up 40 member churches (also called provinces) and six other national or local churches known as extra-provincial areas, spread across the globe. In each season of Prayer for the Lambeth Conference, we pray for a number of Provinces.

IN THIS SEASON WE PRAY FOR:

- The Anglican Church of Canada
- The Church of the Province of Central Africa
- Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America
- Province de L’Eglise Anglicane Du Congo
- Iglesia Anglicana de Chile
- The Church of England
- Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui
- The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean
- The Church of Ireland
- The Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan)
- The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

LAMBETH CONFERENCE PRAYER JOURNEY

From Steve Tyler
My hope and prayer for The Lambeth Conference 2023: That all nations come together as one

#LambethConference
FOR REFLECTION

Walking, listening and witnessing together

Walk
Life looks different when you are walking in someone else’s shoes. What can you learn about somebody else’s role or ministry setting? What are the challenges and opportunities someone may be facing? How can you learn to support and appreciate another person’s needs.

Listen
What prayers and stories have you heard recently that encourages you about the importance of unity and shared hope. How could you listen to the stories and hopes from Companion Links across the Communion - or share some exchanges through the Big Hello?

Witness
This season’s Prayer Diary reading from Colossians shares that: ‘The gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world.’ Send a letter of thanks or encouragement to one of the Mission Agencies of the Anglican Communion, or one of the churches in your province.

PRAYER POINTERS

Pray for the Primates’ meeting in Jordan during January. Pray for deep wisdom, insight, discernment and unity as together, they explore the priorities for the Lambeth Conference.

Pray for the dioceses and parishes participating in the Big Hello hospitality initiative. Whether hosting or travelling to the UK for the conference, the Big Hello is a wonderful opportunity to grow companion links across the Anglican Communion. Give thanks to all of the people involved in this large scale hospitality programme.

The Lambeth Conference will explore a number of issues like climate change, gender justice, poverty, tribalism, modern day slavery, peace and reconciliation. The Anglican Communion has a vital role to play in working for transformation and justice in our world. Pray that this global gathering of diverse cultures and Christian traditions will be a place of creativity, hope and inspiration for all attending, that they might identify ways of tackling global issues and growing God’s Church in the 21st Century.

The conference programme is being shaped by a design group that represents the global family of the Anglican Communion. Chaired by The Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Reverend Thabo Makgoba, the Design Group shapes the programme of the Lambeth Conference, in consultation with The Archbishop of Canterbury. Comprised of archbishops, bishops, theologians and other lay members, the Design Group represents a diversity of culture and experience from around the Anglican Communion. The Design Group has been meeting regularly since early 2017. Pray for this group and the important role they play in shaping the conference.
Sign up for Lambeth Conference news and future editions of the Prayer Diary at:
www.lambethconference.org/prayerdiary

Share prayers for the Lambeth Conference.

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