



THE DAILY ENCOMPASS



GENERAL CONVENTION 2006 NEWS & COMMENTARY FROM THE AMERICAN ANGLICAN COUNCIL

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2006

A CALL TO MISSION

The American Anglican Council (AAC) is a network of individuals (laity, deacons, priests and bishops), parishes and specialized ministries who affirm Biblical authority and Christian orthodoxy within the Anglican Communion. In response to the Lord's calling and by His grace, we commit ourselves to proclaim the Good News to every person and to reform and renew the Church of Jesus Christ. We are uniting in order to fulfill our apostolic mission and ministry, working to build a faithful Anglican witness in the Americas.

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." (Eph. 6:10-12)

Windsor Report

REPENT + REAFFIRM + ROLLBACK

The Daily Encompass

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Witnesses at Special Committee Hearing Urge Clarity

BY SARAH HEY

Over 1500 Episcopalians gathered in the Hyatt Regency ballroom to listen and participate in the main hearing on the Special Legislative Committee resolutions, specifically resolutions A160, A161, A162 and A163. The atmosphere was highly charged, yet respectful throughout the 2.5 hour hearing.

Thoughtful clergy, laity, and bishops from a wide variety of dioceses—17 of them—spoke in support of using the *Windsor Report's* clear and direct language for moratoria on the consecration of non-celibate homosexual bishops and same-sex blessings, as well as the precise expression of regret that is called for. They asked for honesty from our church at this important juncture.

There was striking and ironic similarity between the request of progressive and traditional Episcopalians to clarify the language of the

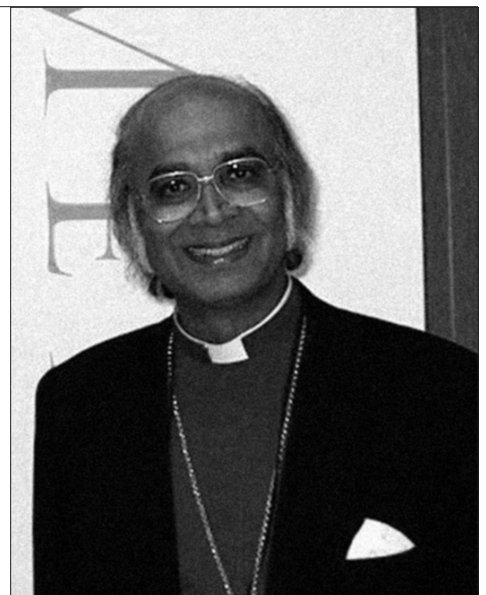
resolutions. By a vast majority, both wings of the church asked for honesty, integrity, and clarity representing their divergent and irreconcilable theologies. Of some 75 witnesses to the resolutions, about 34 spoke from a progressive perspective and about 30 spoke from a traditional perspective; all insisted on clarity. Approximately nine people, evenly mixed in perspective, asked to move the resolutions in their current form to the floor for a vote.

Finally, and most importantly, the Archbishop of York, the Most Rev. John Sentamu, spoke graciously, yet directly and clearly, about the resolutions in their present form. He suggested that the resolutions in their present form were insufficient for repairing the broken friendship that is the Anglican Communion.

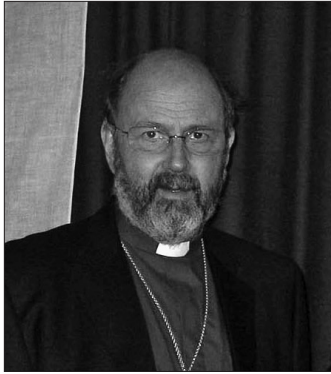
Overall, it was a victory for clarity and honesty in the debate over the future of the Anglican Communion. +

Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali to Preach at AAC Eucharist

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Nazir-Ali, bishop of Rochester, UK, and a staunch defender of the faith, will be preaching at an AAC-sponsored eucharist on Friday, June 16, at 7:00pm at the Nationwide Arena. The Rt. Rev. Peter Beckwith, Bishop of Springfield, will be the celebrant. All are welcome to attend! +



Bishop Wright Calls Special Commission Resolutions Inadequate



The Rt. Rev. Dr. N. T. (Tom) Wright, Bishop of Durham and member of the Lambeth Commission, has issued a strong admonition to the Episcopal Church USA regarding their response to the *Windsor Report*. In a comprehensive analysis of Special Commission resolutions entitled, "The Choice Before

ECUSA," released June 13, 2006, he evaluates the resolutions in light of what *Windsor* "said and meant." He assesses the proposed legislation as falling far short of "*Windsor* requirements" for choosing to walk together.

From his perspective as one of the authors of the *Windsor Report*, Bishop Wright notes that each word, phrase and line of the *Windsor Report* was carefully crafted and designed to elicit clearly defined responses and choices. He also explains that the Primates and Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) endorsed the *Windsor Report*, which in his view, brings "as much weight as the Communion can muster."

"The *Windsor* recommendations were not general, arm-waving aspirations; they were precisely focused, thoroughly thought through and carefully worded. Many on the Commission wanted to say more, many would have preferred to say less, but all were agreed that these recommendations were the essential requirements if ECUSA were to continue in full communion and fellowship with the rest of the Anglican Communion."

The resolutions neither express regret for the actions that breached the bonds of affections nor establish moratoria on consecrations of non-celibate homosexuals and public rites for blessings of same sex unions. For Bishop Wright, the resolutions therefore depart fundamentally from the clear meaning as well

as the spirit of the *Windsor Report*.

He concludes that "unless the relevant Resolutions are amended so that they clearly state what *Windsor* clearly requested, the rest of the Communion is bound to conclude that

"IT IS VERY IMPORTANT NOT TO LET THE PLETHORA OF MATERIAL, IN THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENT AND IN ALL THE VARIOUS COMMENTARIES ON IT, DETRACT ATTENTION FROM THE CENTRAL AND QUITE SIMPLE QUESTION: WILL ECUSA COMPLY WITH THE SPECIFIC AND DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS OF WINDSOR, OR WILL IT NOT? AS THE RESOLUTIONS STAND, ONLY ONE ANSWER IS POSSIBLE: IF THESE ARE PASSED WITHOUT AMENDMENT, ECUSA WILL HAVE SPECIFICALLY, DELIBERATELY AND KNOWINGLY DECIDED NOT TO COMPLY WITH WINDSOR. ONLY IF THE CRUCIAL RESOLUTIONS, ESPECIALLY A160 AND A161, ARE AMENDED IN LINE WITH WINDSOR PARAGRAPH 134, CAN THERE BE ANY CLAIM OF COMPLIANCE."

ECUSA has specifically chosen not to comply with *Windsor*." +

The full statement is posted on the AAC GC2006 web page, www.americananglican.org/gc06

Quotable Quotes from the Special Committee Hearing

"Where is clarity and honesty?"

The Rev. Dr. Kendall Harmon, Diocese of SC

"The Episcopal Church is a global church...the Episcopal Church must convince only the Archbishop of Canterbury, who commissioned the Lambeth Commission, that it is continuing in a process. We have only to convince the Archbishop of Canterbury, not the Bishop of Durham."

The Rt. Rev. Pierre Whalon, Convocation of American Churches in Europe

"The *Windsor Report* offers recommendations and invitations, not ultimatums...we cannot faithfully do work [listening] by making an idol of clarity..."

The Rev. Susan Russell, President of Integrity

"Whether public or private rites, rites of same sex blessings are either right or wrong."

Judy Mayo, Diocese of Ft. Worth

"The debate on Lambeth 1.10 was vitriolic, destructive and utter dysfunctional...it was not enlightened by the Holy Spirit and neither was Lambeth 1.10."

The Rev. Colin Coward, Changing Attitudes, UK

AAC Lunch Briefings

The AAC is hosting daily General Convention legislative briefings at the Nationwide Arena at the corner of Nationwide Blvd. and West Street three blocks west of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Briefings will begin approximately 30 minutes after the adjournment of the House of Deputies and last for 30 to 40 minutes. +