



Highlights of diocesan news in printable format — August 17, 2022

If you have email, you can sign up to receive *The VOICE Online*, currently published every other Wednesday. Visit dioceseofnewark.org/subscribe

From Bishop Hughes

Posts from Lambeth 2022

Bishop Hughes posted reflections from the 15th Lambeth Conference on her Facebook page. Her posts since the Aug. 3 issue of The VOICE Digest are collected here in chronological order.

Day 8 – August 3, 2022 (continued)

Today we took a break from our regular routine and traveled to Lambeth Palace, the London home of Archbishop Justin and Caroline Welby. Imagine inviting 1200 people to lunch in the garden of your home. On arrival we received a program booklet and letter from Queen Elizabeth. The main focus today was care of creation and the climate. The secondary focus was a time to relax and enjoy each other's company. And then there was God's focus which so often sends us on a mission far different from what was planned.

At lunch I sat next to Junia, spouse of a Sudanese bishop. She told me stories of painful situations and a long delayed hope for life without war or terror. She longs to visit the USA, but insisted that I visit her diocese first. "We need to see you. And you need to see us in Sudan." She then asked me to pray: 1) for children and youth to get education. Exile due to war has destroyed schooling. 2) for widows who are deciding that death by suicide is a better alternative than rootlessness and endless violence. 3) for an end to war.

Her spirit seemed heavy with countless burdens she tends. These days at Lambeth have been a respite for her. She needed to share her story as

much as I needed to hear it. We prayed together and she asked for my promise to keep praying for her and the people of her diocese.

I have felt the comfort and power of your prayers while at Lambeth. Please add Junia your daily prayer list. This too is what being part of the Anglican Communion is about.

Day 11 - August 6

Friday was the first day that I could see and feel the end of the conference approaching. It seems as if the limited time we have left infused today's speakers with heightened energy and insight. Sometimes the best is saved for last, or in this case almost last. Here is what I heard that I want to hold onto for years to come:

"We are revolutionaries... the Christian revolution must be one of mercy and forgiveness, generosity and engagement. Revolution should be part of the institutional life of those who proclaim Christ."

Archbishop Justin Welby

"We are trying to form Christians, not churchians."
Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

"People have been threatening to leave the Anglican Communion for a long time. I am telling you it is a new beginning to the Anglican Communion and we are threatening to stay!"
Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell

It was the last day of our small group. I left with mixed feelings. I am grateful for the time we had together and even more aware of the incredible divide that is between us. I also cannot help but feel the tension about sexuality between predominantly white provinces, like ours, who

seem hopeful and those in some of the predominately black provinces who feel silenced. I am glad for the challenging small group experience and I am exhausted from it too. I leave it with my eyes wide open, recognizing the struggle continues and in some cases it is a life or death struggle. I do not know if the relationships begun in our group made any difference to any of our thinking or beliefs, but we all left knowing the individuals of our group. We know each other's beliefs, hopes, burdens and worries. I trust God to hear and answer our prayers for each other and our dioceses.

I rejoice that for these 10 days we have been one people, focused on God's tender love and mercy for all people and all of creation. And I hope we continue to find our way together for a very long time. The quotes above, along with those of Dr. Esther M. Momboko during our retreat and Bishop Vicentia Kgabe at the opening Eucharist, mean the world to me because the speakers voiced truths we need to hear. Listen up Diocese of Newark, northern New Jersey needs us to remember what we are about: a revolution of God's love and mercy. I am praying for you and our shared ministry. David and I remain grateful for your continued prayers. Please keep Junia on your prayer list.

Day 12 - August 7

One more plenary and worship service tomorrow and Lambeth will come to a close. We did not coast today and many others have posted the details of the day. Rather than review the day, here are three items that have my attention as I head to bed way past my bedtime.

First, Archbishop Justin and team devoted themselves to holding us together. Time will tell in the long run, but during the 12 days of Lambeth hundreds of bishops have worked diligently to get to know each other. We talked about our lives, ministry, and dioceses. We chose to be in relationship with each other and this time has been a blessing to our spirits. I leave with three places on my heart to hold in prayer: Burundi, El Salvador, and Kenya.

Second, I am grateful for the expanded view of who we are as the Anglican Communion. Sometimes we do not know what we don't know. This gave us all a chance to know more about the breadth, depth, and width of the Anglican Communion.

Finally, tonight was our night to join Archbishop Justin and Caroline Welby for dinner at their home. They have done this every night of the conference. Listening to David and the Archbishop of Canterbury talk about educational needs in the city of Newark left me with an even greater appreciation of David who has been a steady support throughout the conference.

Another full and wonderful day. Alleluia and amen.

Diocesan Announcements

Clergy ministry transitions

Arrival:

The Rev. Deacon William "Billy" Adams
Associate for Church Growth,
St. Elizabeth's, Ridgewood
September 1

Departure:

The Rev. Debra Brewin-Wilson
Rector, St. Mary's, Sparta,
September 8

Newark priests are Ohio bishop candidates

Two priests in the Diocese of Newark are among the candidates for 12th Bishop of Ohio: the **Rev. Diana L. Wilcox**, Rector of Christ Church, Bloomfield/Glen Ridge, and the **Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas**, Rector of All Saints, Hoboken.

Episcopal House summer closings

Friday, Aug. 19, 1-5 PM

Friday, Aug. 26, 1 PM through Labor Day Monday, Sept. 5