

Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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18th October 2017

Memorandum

TO: Clergy and Other Church Workers holding the Bishop's Licence

SUBJECT: Intentional Discipleship Programme

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At the last meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council held in Lusaka, Zambia, in 2016, among its many areas of deliberation and decision making was the passage of Resolution 16.01 which deals with Intentional Discipleship. As one of the four Instruments of Communion which holds us together as one Communion in spite of the diversity of nationalities, languages, cultures, histories, and theological and biblical perspectives, it makes recommendations to which we adhere by means of consensus. Accordingly, it was recommended and agreed by various Provinces, including our own, that there should be a period of concentrated focus on Discipleship. The wording of the Resolution is as follows:

The Anglican Consultative Council –

1. acknowledges with gratitude the work of the Anglican Witness Core Group accomplished in the last six years and particularly the work of advancing discipleship; and
2. in light of the Gospel and theological imperative to make disciples, recognizes the need for every province, diocese and parish in the Anglican Communion to adopt a clear focus on intentional discipleship and to produce resources to equip and enable the whole church to be effective in making new disciples of Jesus Christ; and
3. requests the Standing Committee to work with the Secretary General and Mission Department to effect a Season of Intentional Discipleship for a period covering ACCs 16, 17,18; and report back at ACC-17 on progress.

4. commends the report, *Intentional Discipleship and Disciple making—an Anglican Guide to Christian Life and Formation*, for study across the Anglican Communion.

Consistent with the recommendation of the ACC, the Diocese will be hosting the co-authors of the book on Intentional Discipleship mentioned in clause 4 of the Resolution, Canon John Kafwanka and Canon Mark Oxbrow. They will lead two two-day seminars, one in Kingston, at the **St. Andrew Parish Church Hall, Ellesmere Road**, and the other in Montego Bay at the **Holy Trinity Church Hall, Westgate**, on November 6-7 and 9-10 respectively, to which both Clergy and Lay Representatives are being invited. The Clergy and lay participants from the Mandeville Region are invited to join the seminar which is nearest to their residence. Further details regarding these seminars may be obtained from the offices of the Bishops of Kingston and Montego Bay.

On **Sunday, November 12, 2017**, there will be a special service of the Holy Eucharist to launch the season of Intentional Discipleship in this Diocese and which will be held in the **deCarteret College, Mandeville**, commencing at 10:00 a.m. We are inviting the congregations within the Mandeville Region to make a special effort to be present, and in addition, representatives from the various congregations across the Diocese. Both events provide an opportunity for each congregation to be identified with this diocesan and Communion-wide undertaking which will occupy a central part of the life of the diocese in going forward.

We look forward to your support of this significant undertaking with the mission and ministry of our Diocese.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours



Rt. Rev. Howard K. Gregory
Bishop of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands