



**Key Stories**

- + **ACK Consecrates 1<sup>st</sup> Female Bishop**
- + **Green Anglicans:**  
The Church Led initiative To Combat Climate Change
- + **Advocacy:**  
Archbishop Meets Anglican Parliamentarians

She is the new creation  
By water and the word,  
From heaven he came and sought  
her  
To be his holy bride,  
With his own blood he bought  
her and for her he died.

2. She is from every nation,  
yet one of all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation,  
One heart, one faith, one baptism;  
One, holy name she blesses  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.

3. The church shall never permit  
herself to be defiled,  
By schism, and heretics,  
No to the end,  
So that these who love her,  
In her path, may continue  
In her peace, and  
In her joyful witness  
To the world, till she shall  
Present herself, a glorious  
Church, without spot or wrinkle,  
Or anything of the kind,  
When she shall appear,  
With her Lord, to receive  
his kingdom.

15.

She waits the consummation,  
Of peace and communion,  
Till, with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious  
Shall be the Church of rest.

6. Yet she on earth hath union,  
With God the Father and the Son,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest he's won,  
With all her sons and daughters,  
Who, by the waters' flood,  
Lead through the deathly waters,  
Rescue in Eden land.

7. O happy ones that truly  
Love God, let us be glad,  
Like them, to see the day,  
On high may dawn upon them;  
There, past the border night,  
Wherein we've sojourn'd,  
With their joyous voices,  
Forever glad.

## Green Anglicans: The Church Led initiative To Combat Climate Change



Pupils and teachers at Kalulini Primary School join a local Government Official during a tree planting session after a function at the School. Photo/ADS Eastern

**For Christians**, the story of creation represents God's intent for mankind and the world. The orderliness within the ecosystem is a reminder that all creation was as planned -and beautiful. However, the emerging realities of climate change cast doubts on human commitment to care for creation. At the core of these changes, is the desire to satisfy one species within the ecosystem- Human Beings. A seemingly fundamental duty to care is confronted by an imbalanced desire to develop. Restoration of nature requires everybody's efforts- at times, little. Regardless though, and in the conviction of the Late Nobel Peace Laureate and environmentalist, Prof. Wangari Maathai, our little effort is likened to that of the Humming Bird. Visibly inconsequential, it can, nonetheless, help reverse the damage done to the environment.

The Anglican Church of Kenya underscores that a sustainable balance in the ecosystem is achievable. The Church has -as a pillar in her Decade strategy (2018-2027), Wholesome Ecology to guide its participation in conservation. Owing to her wide coverage in the country, the church is a resourceful partner in championing better environmental management. The Provincial Synod adopted the Green Anglicans Movement (GAM), a global initiative by the Global Anglican Communion to respond to climate change.

### Our Interventions

GAM seeks to promote adaptive mechanisms to climate change, effectively reducing (and eliminating) community vulnerabilities. It also champions the adoption of rehabilitative initiatives to replenish fractured ecosystems.

To contribute to increasing the country's tree cover, the church mobilizes communities to grow and tend trees during individual and church events. Trees help in protecting water catchment areas and in air purification.

variety of trees including fruit and medicinal trees. This diversification ensures communities are both food and income secure. Trees with medicinal value are also used to treat some diseases.

Overreliance on fossil fuel products for industrial and household consumption increases carbon emission hence global warming. While cutting down on the use of such energy products, there is need for consumers to shift further away towards other forms of renewable energy. The church therefore advocates for adoption and investment in green and renewable energy. Through the use of other innovative energy solutions, we can incrementally -and significantly, reduce the amount of carbon released into the atmosphere. The church has embraced innovations such as solar-powered sound systems and the GAM energy-saving cookstove.

The cookstove helps reduce health risks associated with smoke produced during cooking; lessen reliance on wood as well as saving time and money.

The effects of improper waste disposal are not only negative to the environment but also pose huge risks to the Country's health and economy. Industrial and household waste are a key contributor to contamination leading to compromised soil productivity; and health conditions in humans, animals, and aquatic life. The church, therefore, promotes better waste management through advocating Rethinking alternatives; Refusing to adopt harmful material; Recycling & Reusing waste; Repairing and Refilling areas affected by waste. The church also engages in frequent public clean-ups.

So as to increase awareness on eco-stewardship, the Church embeds the Theology of Ecology in its mission. This awareness also seeks to ensure conservation is backed and strengthened by policy. Eco-funding and integration of conservation in development plans



Green Anglicans Steering Committee Members during a Strategic Plan review Session. Photo/ADS Kenya

are critical in ensuring Development does not impede conservation efforts. When the masses are enlightened, there is increased demand for action and accountability from the Government.

Examples of such efforts are the ADS regions of Western and Eastern. The regions participated in the development of the County Development Plans for Busia, Kitui and Makueni counties. This resulted in the inclusion of climate funding in county budgets with Kitui County establishing a climate change fund. The Church also pursues with other likeminded institutions that offer complementarity in this course.

## ✝ ACK Consecrates 1<sup>st</sup> Female Bishop, Appoints Provincial Secretary



The Rt. Rev. Dr. Emily Onyango during her consecration ceremony. Photo/Courtesy



Canon Prof. Joseph Galgalo . Photo/ADS Kenya

**The** Rt. Rev. Dr. Emily Onyango has become the first female Bishop in the History of the Anglican Church of Kenya. Bishop Dr. Onyango was consecrated on the 27th of March as the Assistant Bishop in the ACK Diocese of Bondo after her nomination by the Diocesan Synod. The service was presided over (on behalf of the Archbishop) by the Rt. Rev. George Mechumo (Bungoma Diocese), and a host of other Bishops with the Rt. Rev. Joel Waweru (Nairobi Diocese) giving the sermon). She will serve with the Rt. Rev. Prof. David Kodia who is the current Diocesan Bishop. As the assistant Bishop, among other duties-she will oversee training of clergy, women's ministry within the Church, and gender issues, including the empowerment of boys and girls; and tackling gender-based violence.

Bishop Dr. Emily is a Church History lecturer at the St. Paul's University. She is also the chair of The Africa Centre for Biblical Equity (TACBE), a Langham scholar – one of the leading evangelical team of scholars and founder member of the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians. She holds a PhD from the University of Wales (UK). Her research is on the history of women's Education in Kenya. She obtained her Master's Degree from the Asian Centre of Theological studies and a Bachelor of Divinity from St. Paul's University.

Bishop Emily has been in ministry for over a decade, starting from the ministry of Children in the Diocese of Maseno South. She was made a Deacon on 29th July 1984 and priested two years later in December 1986. In February 2018 she was appointed a Canon in Bondo Diocese.

Her teaching ministry started at Saint John's School of Theology in Kokise, where she served as Academic Dean and acted as the-Principal. She later moved to Saint Andrews Kabare and served as lecturer, Academic Dean and Vice Principal. From Saint Andrews Kabare she was appointed Lecturer and Dean of Students in 1999. Bishop Emily's Scholarship spans many areas within mission and church history. She has authored and edited several volumes and articles in different books and journals. Her books include For God and Humanity: 100 years of St. Paul's United Theological College and Gender and Development: A History of Women's Education in Kenya.

At the Provincial Level, The Rev. Canon Prof. Joseph Galgalo has been appointed as the Provincial Secretary in Charge of Mission Strategy, Research and Linkages. Prof. Galgalo holds a PhD in Systematic Theology from the University of Cambridge, UK. Prior to his appointment, he served as the Vice Chancellor of St. Paul's University. He brings on board vast experience in inter-contextual and contextual theologies; and theological education for over 20 years.

A born again Christian and an Honorary Canon in the Diocese of All. Saints Cathedral, Prof. Galgalo has served on various technical Church working groups both at the Global and regional levels. He is a recipient of numerous awards in recognition of his service including the most recent award of the *Cross of St Augustine* for Services to the Anglican Communion from the Archbishop of Canterbury.

## Capacity Building: ADS Monitoring teams undergo capacity Building Trainings

*The* Anglican Development Services (ADS) Kenya organized a capacity building workshop for Monitoring and evaluation teams drawn from all ADS Regions. The training took place from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of March at the ACK St. Julians Conference Centre in Limuru, Kiambu County. The workshop sought to strengthen and harmonize the ADS Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems in line with the institution's Strategic Focus Areas. A standardized Reporting template to be used in future reporting was also developed. Dr. Norman Kiambi, a member of the ADS Kenya Board, attended the workshop. He expressed confidence that the process would enhance ADS' efficiency and effectiveness through a dynamic and robust monitoring and evaluation mechanism. He explained that this would be used to measure the impact of ADS' work in communities.



ADS M&E officers during a capacity Building Seminar. Photo/ADS Kenya

## Advocacy: Archbishop Meets Anglican lawmakers



The Archbishop with a section of Anglican Parliamentarians during a breakfast meeting in Nairobi. Photo/ADS Kenya

A section of Anglican parliamentarians has pledged to rally their colleagues within the country's legislative arms to promote public good in the country's lawmaking processes. This was during a breakfast meeting co-hosted by the Anglican Church and International Justice Mission (IJM) at the Serena Hotel. The Meeting was attended by The Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Kenya, The Most Rev. Dr. Jackson Ole Sapit among other top church Leadership, as were The IJM (Kenya) Director Benson Shamala and Staff; and a host of members of parliament and senators.

In his address, the Archbishop pointed that as Leaders, they 'had the Honour to make decisions that affected the lives of their constituents.' He added that 'they were therefore required to poses values that reflected and safeguarded the future of the Nation.' 'What kind of a Nation will we leave behind? What identity should we bear and how can it Shape this Nation,' he posed. The Archbishop further expressed optimism that Partnership between the Church and the State served as an opportunity for reflection on how the two institutions could work to promote cohesion and improve the quality of lives of Kenyans together.

Citing the recent by-elections held across various parts of the country, he decried the increase in political animosity among a section of leaders. He urged those in attendance to promote healthy political dialogue among supporters. He alluded working democratic systems to vibrant engagements and National Dialogue on ideas that would help build the Nation. "Elections should be a test on the maturity of our Democracy and not a threat to the stability of this country," he said.

The senate majority whip and Kiambu County Senator, Kimani Wamatangi, commended the initiative by the Church to engage the Country's leadership. 'The church has always been part of the life of this country, contributing tremendously to the Socio-political processes of Kenya since pre-colonial times.' Pointing to the Church's wide coverage, he appreciated that the church had steered various development initiatives among communities, complementing the government's efforts to better the lives of people.



The Archbishop hands over donations of health supplies to a member of staff of the ACK Mt. Kenya Hospital. The supplies were mobilised under a partnership between ADS Kenya and the Health Partners International Canada (HPIC). Photo/ADS Kenya

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