



*Developing. Renewing. Equipping.*

**American Anglican Council**

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2016 Ministry Update

# Ministry Update 2016



## American Anglican Council

Our mission is to build up and defend Great Commission Anglican churches in North America and worldwide. We do this through strategy and counsel, leadership development and equipping the local church.

In 2015, the American Anglican Council (AAC) worked with over 200 clergy and lay leaders in North America, helping their ministries excel and grow. We also added more staff to meet the needs of those Anglicans seeking advice and counsel on how to grow their parish.

I thank you for your interest in what God is doing through the AAC. As its President and CEO, I am proud to lead this thriving ministry into its 20th year of service to the Gospel of Christ in the Anglican Communion.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil+".

*The Rev. Canon Phil Ashley  
President & CEO*

# Our Focus

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## Developing

How the AAC develops faithful leaders (clergy and lay) through its Lay Leadership and Clergy Leadership Training Institutes.

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## Renewing

The AAC's work around the world to renew orthodox Anglicanism.

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## Equipping

How the AAC equips local congregations to fulfill the Great Commission.

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# Developing

Faithful Leaders

The AAC provides two leadership development initiatives that are hands-on and practical. The Clergy Leadership Training Institute and the Lay Leadership Institute connect with leaders who are “on the ground” in their congregation and seek to help them with the challenges of ministry today. In 2015 the AAC trained over 200 lay and ordained leaders in the Anglican Church in North America.



**Church ReVitalization:**  
*Turning Vision into Momentum*



## Clergy Leadership Training Institute

Addressing the needs of Anglican clergy, the CLTI focuses on the “four C’s” of clergy leadership development: character, competency, compound results, and church conflict skills. CLTI cohorts typically gather for three week-long sessions over an 18 month period.

The AAC trained 75 clergy in 2015 in four separate CLTI’s.

## Lay Leadership Training Institute

A three day event designed to inform and equip lay leaders to better serve their parish and diocese. Topics range from basic principals of governance to how to deal with church conflict.

The AAC trained 115 lay leaders in January and February of 2015 in San Joaquin, CA.

# Renewing

Biblically Faithful Anglicanism

In this map you can see the faces of the very first GAFCON in 2008, an extraordinary gathering of over 1,000 Anglicans from around the Communion. The AAC played a critical role in organizing this event as well as others. Many believe the GAFCON meetings represent the future of Biblically faithful Anglicanism.

In 2015, AAC worked for the renewal of Biblically faithful Anglicanism around the globe.

- 1 Global Anglican Leaders Meeting, London, England
- 2 GAFCON Communications Planning, Sydney, Australia
- 3 Bishops Training planning for Mukono, Uganda
- 4 International Updates
- 5 Canon Law Studies, Wales
- 6 ACNA Provincial Council, Vancouver

When it comes to the larger picture of renewing Biblically faithful Anglicanism, much of the AAC's work is at the global level. In 2015 the AAC assisted and participated in high level strategy meetings of the Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON).

Another international renewal effort is the AAC's bishop training. Designed in 2015, the training equips bishops to better serve their dioceses and be more effective leaders. In 2016, the AAC will host two trainings, in Mukono, Uganda and the U.S.



The AAC sends out email updates on international Anglican events weekly from its Atlanta, GA offices. In addition, President Phil Ashley is completing canon law studies from Cardiff University in Wales. Canon Ashley finished his dissertation in 2015 and will publish in 2016.

The 2015 Provincial Council of the Anglican Church in North America provided the AAC an opportunity to connect with Anglican leaders, especially those in Vancouver, Canada where the council took place.

# Equipping

the Church for Mission

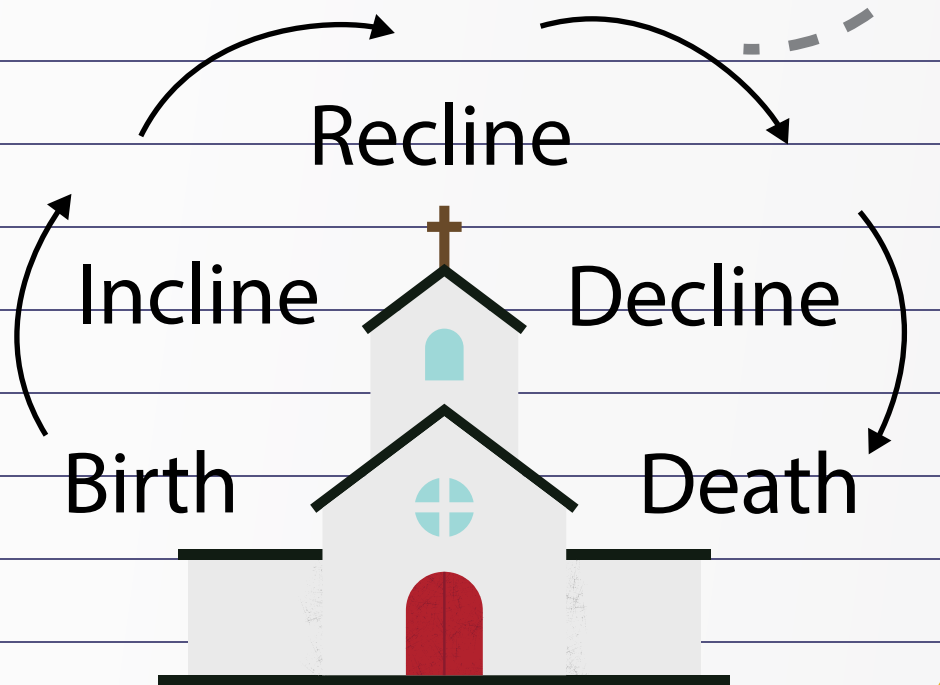
The AAC's Church ReVitalization program teaches congregations and their leaders how to:

1. Assess their health
2. Refresh their Vision
3. Overcome barriers to growth
4. Move from an attitude of maintenance to mission

For instance, during our Church ReVitalization program we introduce leaders to the normal lifecycle of any church, and how the natural progression is from the left to the right (see below)—from incline, to recline, decline and death—unless of course, the local church and its leadership “jump the curve.”

## The Church Lifecycle

Can Your Church “Jump the Curve”?





With many struggling congregations, there is a great demand for Church ReVitalization resources. To help meet that demand we hired a Director of Church Revitalization and Coaching, the Rev. Canon Steven Saul (right), in July, 2015.



The most important segment...was the 'Is Church Decline Inevitable?' session. The manner of teaching was very helpful as it made the concepts of incline, recline and decline clear in detail... This teaching allowed (participants) to diagnosis their own condition and own it rather than be told their church's condition and then have to accept the findings on faith. Of course I was glad that our people all agreed about where we are as a church and especially that they are resolved to 'jump the curve'.

- Church Revitalization Seminar Participant



# Combining Forces

with fellow Christians



As a founding member of the Common Ground Christian Network, the AAC has continued to shape and grow a team of biblically based churches and leaders. Since our first trans-denominational gathering in October of 2012, the AAC helped organize 6 more events.

Our meetings in 2015 focused on challenges to religious freedom. Congressman Frank Wolf, and other strong voices for religious freedom in the U.S. and worldwide, addressed and networked with Anglican, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Methodist leaders.

Canon Phil Ashley, President of the AAC, is on the Steering Committee of this new body, which continues to meet and work together as Biblically faithful Christians face the challenges of our day and our culture. These challenges include the Supreme Court's decision that federalized the redefinition of marriage, with potentially harsh consequences for the local church.

In September, Canon Ashley and Mr. Rich Baker—an expert in religious freedom law and AAC board member—addressed a regional gathering of Anglicans on how to practically strengthen the local church's witness and become lighthouses for religious freedom.

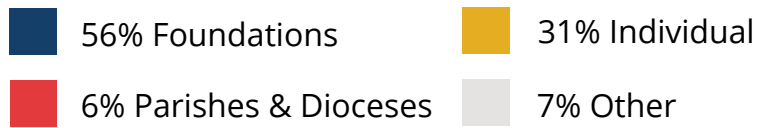


# Financial Review

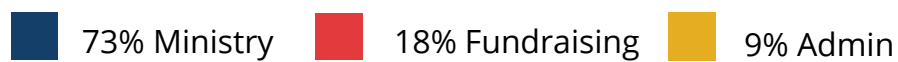
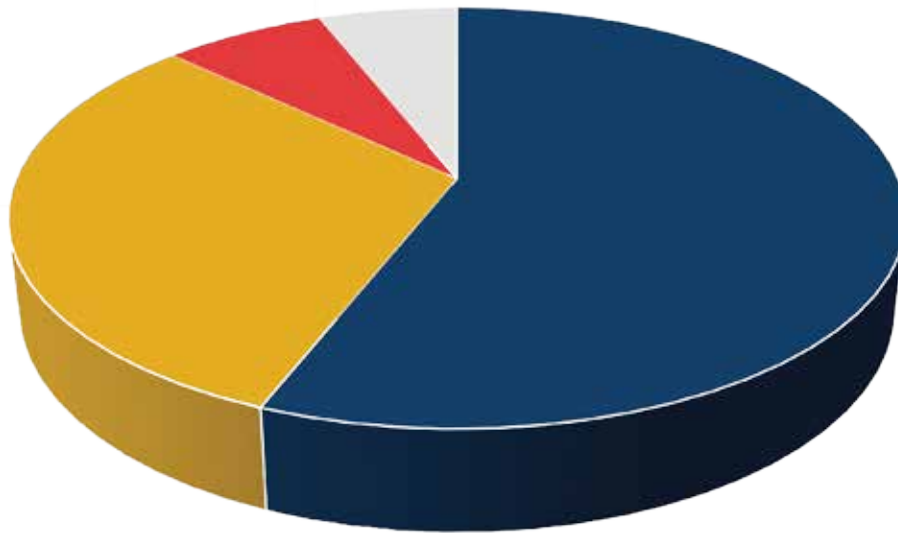
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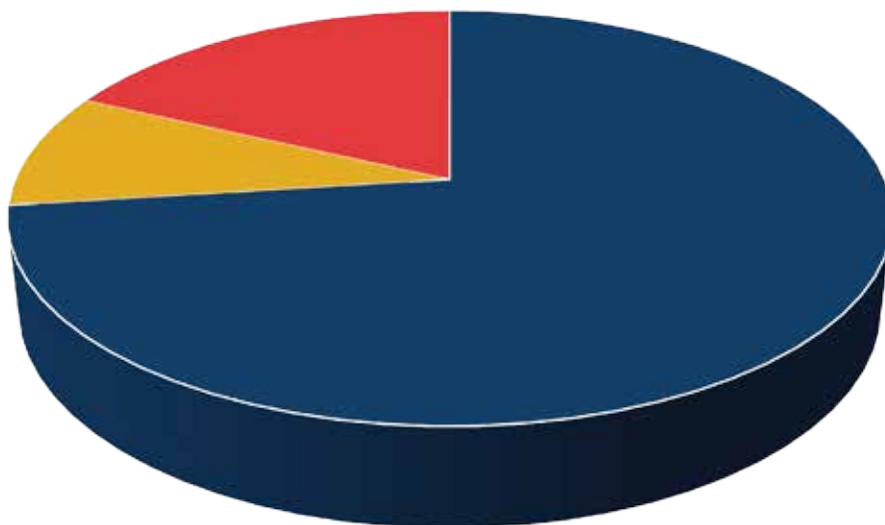
*Enhancing Trust*



2015 Funding Sources



2015 Expenses



# “Let us rise up and build”

Nehemiah 2:18



## NEHEMIAH SOCIETY

American Anglican Council

The Nehemiah Society is an association of patrons that support AAC with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more. Members will be recognized and appreciated for their sacrifice and invited to an annual, private reception in their honor.

400 years before Christ, Nehemiah led the Israelites to rebuild Jerusalem. As God’s people returned from exile in Babylon (modern day Iraq), they found their city defenseless and themselves in danger. Local enemies looked for ways to attack the Jews and sabotage the rebuilding effort. Despite the challenges, and with God’s help, Nehemiah and his people rebuilt the city’s walls, working with one hand and ready to defend with the other.

Today, Anglicans are rebuilding a faithful, Christ-centered denomination in North America but the challenges are many. While aggressive secularism and multiculturalism assaults the church in the West, militant Islam threatens our brothers and sisters in the East and Global South. Christ’s church is under attack. Like Nehemiah, the American Anglican Council, with God’s help, seeks to gather, equip and deploy leaders to rebuild and strengthen the foundations of the church. Biblically based Anglicanism has much to offer the world but not if it is defenseless and in danger. Come, let us rise up and build as we develop faithful leaders, equip the church for mission and renew orthodox Anglicanism.

## NEHEMIAH

### Report from Jerusalem

**I**n the words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah.

Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the

### Nehemiah Sent to Judah

**2**In the month of Nisan, in the twenty second year of King Artaxerxes, when wine came before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence. And the king said to me, “Why are you