



A Covenant of the Companion Relationship
Between
The Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma
And
The Anglican Church of Uruguay
2010

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Partners in Mission

Introduction

Our Lord Jesus Christ calls us into relationship with one another in order for the spread of God's Kingdom on earth. The Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma and The Anglican Church of Uruguay are committed to entering into a companion relationship as a response to Jesus' call.

Through the love of God we are all made one in the Body of Christ. The mission of this companion relationship is to strengthen the bonds of unity. As companion dioceses, we will journey together in our common call, learning from each other as we share our human, spiritual, material and financial resources.

As companions, we will also encourage and pray for one another as we go about being the members of the Body of Christ in the world around us.

In order to establish a successful partnership, both the Diocese of Oklahoma and the Anglican Church of Uruguay agree to a clear understanding of this partnership, the responsibilities of each diocese and the common vision that we seek to serve God's people. This covenant sets out to define the mission we share together as members of the Body of Christ.

Principles of Partnership

God has given each diocese a variety of gifts needed to fulfill the work that God has called us to do in the world. In this, we recognize and affirm the following as we partner together in mission:

- + We are called to proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.
- + We are called to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves.
- We are called to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.
- + Our work is to be carried out in a spirit of mutual respect and trust.
- + In all our work together, we continually seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Components of Companion Relationship

We are called together in mission to serve and care for God's people and one another. Our covenant seeks to live out our ministry in variety of ways, upholding the notion that neither diocese shall be considered the "contributor" or "recipient," but rather mutual partners. To that end, we will live out our ministry through the following:

Financial Support

We recognize that the financial resources of our respective dioceses are one way in which the mission of God's Church is achieved. We are entrusted as stewards of these resources and as such, we will work to ensure that financial resources, whether monetary or in-kind, are utilized to help in our common mission.

Mission

We will create opportunities for the people of each diocese to engage one another, and the people we serve through work in the mission field. We will develop opportunities that will allow people of all ages from each diocese to work side by side in service to God's people.

Spiritual/Fellowship

We will create opportunities for the clergy and laity of each diocese to participate in programs and retreats that will foster and deepen relationships among the youth and adults of our dioceses.

Clergy and Lay Leadership Development

We will create opportunities to enhance the skills and talents of the clergy and lay leaders of our dioceses in order to equip them with the tools necessary to carry out the mission of the Church.

Parish to Parish Relationships

We will create opportunities for parishes of each diocese to foster relationships and mutual support of the ministries within the local parishes and communities, not only through prayer, but through the sharing of monetary and in-kind support.

We agree that the term of this covenant is for five (5) years from the date of signing and is renewable for additional five (5) year terms upon the consent of The Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma and The Anglican Church of Uruguay.

The Diocese of Oklahoma and The Anglican Church of Uruguay are excited about this new relationship and for the opportunity to strengthen our communities through mutual ministry.

This Covenant relationship was approved by the 73rd Convention of the Diocese of Oklahoma meeting in Midwest City, Oklahoma on November 6, 2010.

This Covenant relationship was approved by the Diocesan Synod of the Anglican Church of Uruguay meeting in Montevideo, Uruguay, on November 13, 2010.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Edward J. Konieczny Bishop of Oklahoma

The Rt. Rev. Miguel Tamayo Bishop of Uruguay