

## THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA MISSION COUNTRY REVIEW FINDINGS AND INSIGHTS

### Overview

There is need for a consistent message on the mandate or vision of mission. Heart for evangelism and discipleship should be constantly stirred to promote evidence of spiritual growth, unity and grace. There is no obvious evidence of mentoring and discipling of general personnel involved in mission with appropriate deployment to specific areas of gifting. Some depict satisfaction, high morale and enthusiasm while others are quite low. Multi-cultural teams are limited in the field since ACK has a historic tribal strength with significant ministry location within people groupings. However, mission is a movement, to Judea, Samaria, and on to the outermost parts of the earth. Consequently, we require **long term ministries** for our **frontier towns** such as Isiolo, and Garissa. Mission is intentional goal to impact for the Kingdom.

We need intentioned training in cross-cultural missions for all believers, for those with special calling, for professionals, and even for those in exile. We should be persistent in sharing the good news and learn to use every small or little base available for ministry. Every mission event or activity should enhance impact to those involved, those served and their families plus entire ministries. For the above to happen, there should be a lot of **mentoring** in process, investing, orienting, and building of confidence in all those involved.

The Church is in a new paradigm on Mission wherein the old traditions and methodology may not work. There is need to take note of balkanized areas or people, and places of tourist attractions that need mission. Believers should be challenged to use the skill deposited in them by God with the understanding that we all have an assignment from God. In mission, people should be challenged to work, to upgrade their livelihoods and improve their physical health.

Today's mission should acknowledge the rapidly growing breakdown of traditional family systems, the multi-cultural set-up of today's society and numerous organizations Christian or otherwise that have no clear networking systems. As a result, people are demarcated and confused.

### Church Planting

- The Church in Kenya has mission capability and high capacity; hence there is no need of expatriate Church planters. Nonetheless, mission leading clergy need more training as well as developing mission trainers for articulate mission to un-reached people groups.
- Partnering and networking with Mission agencies that are good at evangelism and **discipleship as a lifestyle** should be encouraged.

- While acknowledging God places people where they are (Acts 17) Church planters should sensitize people culturally without fragmenting any given people group and **influence** a peoples' culture with right teachings in order to improve lives.
- **Intentional coaching** of those involved in mission **impacts the ministry** and contributes to the **well-being** of those involved.

## **FAITH**

- Our call is to share faith. Share **CHRIST** in you. Acknowledging that people live differently socially and in life standards share **time** with those you witness or reach-out to and invest into their lives for holistic growth. Baptize those who believe and use offices to teach the word. Many Christians have little depth in God's word.
- Teaching and preaching content should address all aspects of a Christians' life to challenge post-modernist philosophy and enable Christians uphold moral absolutes.
- Biblical faith should be upheld in the midst of "*emerging Church*" concept which is re-defining everything that is Church.
- Evangelism and discipleship needs to be **embraced** as a **lifestyle** and not as occasional events in the life of the Church.
- To build a strong Church, we must intentionally **INVEST** in the children, youth, adults and older persons of both genders.
- Baptism is a meaningful witness and needs to be well taught.

## **Insight/Thought Provoking Questions**

- What are we as ACK known for? Is it skills, order, sacraments, tradition, good theology, prayerfulness? There is a gaping need to focus our energy on discipleship and mentoring. There is need to walk and come alongside new believers.
- Nairobi is a strategic hub for the country and the Pan African region whose worth should be capitalized on. However, ministries should be cautious not to stay and over-concentrate in Nairobi. The clarification of each ministry's vision and mission should help **stipulate strategies** that are meaningful and intentional within Nairobi and beyond.
- The following are concerns in the Sub-Sahara Africa:- ethnicity, social-economic disparities, growth of prosperity gospel, inter-religious tensions, corruption, gap in the integration of faith with day to day living, Church's failure in true discipleship with

vices of pride, unwillingness to submit to authority with break-away teams/individuals, unresolved conflicts, and rivalry as many strive for popularity, image gain and power.

- Is the Church taking mission as a movement from Judea, Samaria to outermost parts of the earth?
- What are we good at?
- Are we known for **our** purpose and **identity**? Are we **equated** with programmes instead of who we are?
- In un-reached areas youth is a **key** and predominant **audience**.
- It's **imperative** that the Church disciple the youth with continued prevention and education on HIV and Aids with peer education for **life skills**. We should engage spiritually with the youth in sexual purity issues.
- How **involved** are the clergy in cell Church? (Clergy should train leaders/disciples and visit home cells periodically).
- There is need for intentional training of professionals in Garissa/Isiolo on cross-cultural mission/witnessing.
- Help **design** or find a **culturally appropriate** training for support development.
- Build team approach for fund-raising.
- We should equip faithful people to **disciple the Kenyan youth** to maturity and holistic ministry.
- We should undertake Church leadership development for **holistic** (spiritual, social, economic, governance etc) transformation.
- We should be **brave** in **developing new models** of mission that are inclusive, open and interdependent.
- We should **build effective strategies** or integrated partnerships.
- We need effective recruitment to sustain current ministries.
- Nairobi has a responsibility in the region of East Africa. It is possible to influence the region for Christ from the **hub** of Nairobi.
- A prayer movement for peace is needed for 2012 elections.

- It is imperative that the Church evangelizes and disciples the youth.
- There are not enough ministries to the youth and children.
- There is an emerging generation of Kenyan Church leaders who are mission-minded.
- **NB:** Globalization influences materialistic attitudes.
- Need for culturally appropriate support raising training for Kenyan missionaries.
- Resource Center (Library and Orientation school) should be encouraged, supported and expanded.
- **NB:** There is need for **strategic** Church leadership development.
- To reach the un-reached we must think multiplication rather than doing it ourselves. Long-term ministry must be envisioned.