



The Anglican Communion Covenant



In March 2012

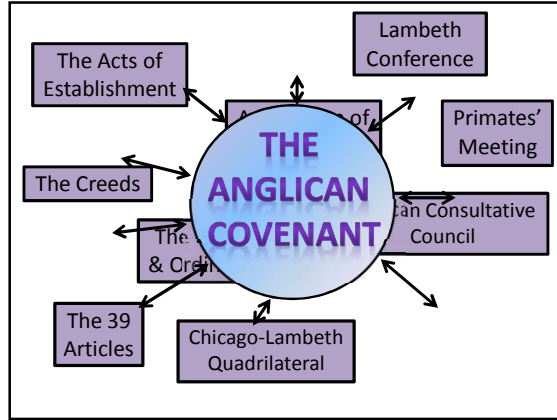
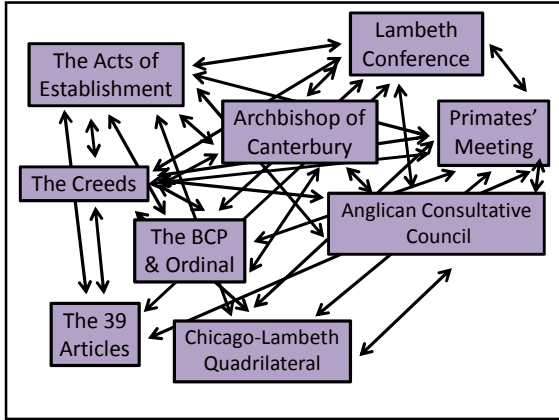
Manchester Diocesan Synod will debate the motion:

“That this Synod approve the draft Act of Synod adopting the Anglican Communion Covenant”



Who or what is the Anglican Communion?





In short, the Anglican Communion is..

- A Global Communion
- 34 Autonomous Provinces (including the Church of England)
- 4 United Churches in full Communion
- 6 Extra-provincial Churches



The Anglican Communion

Blue: The Provinces of the Anglican Communion
 Green: The Lutheran churches of the Porvoo Communion
 Red: The Old Catholic Churches in the Utrecht Union

The Four Instruments of Communion hold the Anglican Communion together.

The Archbishop of Canterbury – the first among equals amongst the bishops of the Anglican Communion



The Lambeth Conference – a meeting of all the bishops every ten years



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The Anglican Consultative Council - members appointed by the provinces (including bishops, clergy and laity) meet every 2 or 3 years



The Primates' Meetings – NOT



BUT regular meetings of the provinces' archbishops and senior bishops

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The Anglican Communion is no stranger to dispute.
Amongst the disputes that bring us to this particular point are.....


- Disputed consecrations in Singapore and Denver of Bishops for Anglican Mission in the Americas (AMIA)
- New Westminster (Canada), for the third consecutive Synod, debated and made a decision on same-sex blessings



- Gene Robinson was consecrated as Bishop of New Hampshire (USA)
- Cross-border interventions e.g. into Canadian and American dioceses

....and these have impacted on the Church of England

In 2004 The Windsor Report first proposed an Anglican Communion Covenant




Shape of the Covenant

Four Sections

The first three Sections each consist of two parts:

- ❖ Affirmations
- ❖ Commitments



**Section One:
Our Inheritance of Faith**

Se... with Others: ...tion


THE ANGLICAN COVENANT

Our... Common Life

**Section Four:
Our Covenanted Life Together**


**Section One:
Our inheritance of faith**


This section speaks of our core principles, what we believe as Anglican Christians. Almost all Christians could make these affirmations but they reflect the particular way in which the churches of the Anglican Communion have spoken about their faith and the key marks of that faith.



**Section One:
Our Inheritance of Faith**

Affirmations and commitments can be found on pages two and three of the notes





**Section Two:
The life we share with others:
our Anglican Vocation**

This section describes who we are as Anglican churches and how we function together.
It also describes our mission in the context of the universal Church.



**Section Two:
The life we share with others:
our Anglican Vocation**

**Affirmations and commitments can be found
on page three of the notes**



**Section Three:
Our unity and common life**

This section describes how we function as churches in relation to one another and the structures we have created to assist that process.



**Section Three:
Our unity and common life**

Affirmations and commitments can be found
on page three of the notes



**Section Four:
Our covenanted life together**

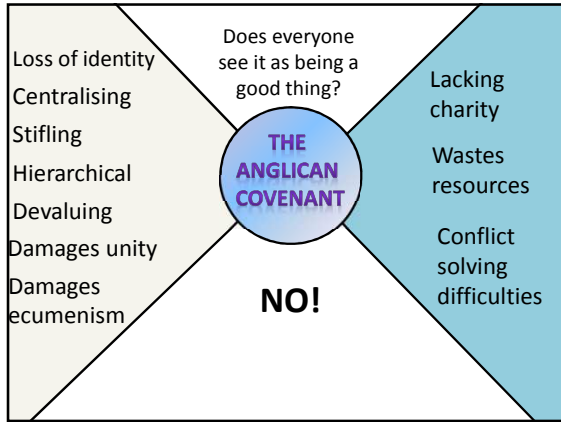
This section describes the procedures
to adopt the Covenant and living
together under it. It says:

- who may adopt it
- how resolutions in the case of
disputes can be found
- how to withdraw from the Covenant
- how it can be amended.

**Section Four:
Our covenanted life together**

Details can be found
on pages four and five of the notes





Today.....

The Deanery Synod has debated and is asked to vote on the motion:

“That this Synod approve the draft Act of Synod adopting the Anglican Communion Covenant”

This vote will inform the Diocesan Synod at its meeting in March 2012

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