

Building Bridges of Reconciliation

American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans

October 21-23, 2016

West Des Moines, Iowa

“We need constructive support from our Sudanese brothers and sisters outside the country as we seek to restore peace and rebuild trust in South Sudan.”

-- Rev. Peter Gai, Chairman, South Sudan Council of Churches (2015)

Conference Goals:

- 1.** practice the arts of listening and conversation.
- 2.** explore opportunities to support the Sudanese diaspora in the USA as it seeks to contribute to reconciliation in South Sudan.
- 3.** explore ways the friendship of Americans can contribute to peacemaking in the Sudans

Schedule

Friday, Oct. 21: Conference Day 1

- 9:00 a.m.** **Registration opens**
- 10:00 a.m.** **Orientation for discussion leaders** - Rev. Phil Groves, ,
Continuing Indaba Project, Anglican Communion
- 11:00 a.m.** **Lunch**
- 12:00 Noon** **Welcome and Opening Prayers**
Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, Bishop of Iowa
Rt. Rev. David C. Jones, President,
American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans
Rev. Thon Moses Chol, Pastor, Sudanese congregation,
Alexandria, Virginia
Rev. Ranjit K. Mathews, Global Partnerships Officer,
The Episcopal Church
Mr. C. Richard Parkins, Executive Director, AFRECS
Rev. Oja Gafour, Pastor, St. John's Cathedral, Denver, Colorado
- 1:00** **Break**
- 1:15** **Dr. Dane F. Smith, Jr.**, former Senior Advisor to the U. S. Special Envoy
for Darfur; former U. S. Ambassador to Senegal and Guinea;
author, *U. S. Peacefare* (introduced by Bishop David C. Jones)
“Christian Approaches to Peacebuilding”
- 2:00** **Break**
- 2:15-3:30** **Discussion Groups**
- 4:00** **Film:** *“One Big Step Together”* (Peace mobilizers training, Committee
for National Healing, Peace, and Reconciliation, 2015)
(introduced by Dr. Henry Lejukole)
- 5:00** **Prayer**
- 6:30** **Supper**
- 7:30** **Reflections from Discussion Groups**
Moderator: Rev. Phil Groves

Saturday, October 22: Conference Day 2

7:45-8:45 a.m. Breakfast

Saturday, Oct. 22: Conference Day 2

9:00 a.m. Prayer

9:10 Dr. James A. Leach, retired U. S. Representative, 1st District, Iowa; retired Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities
“The Role of Faith in War and Peace”
 (introduced by retired State Senator Patrick Deluhery)
 Responses: Ms. Anita Sanborn, Director, Colorado Episcopal Foundation;
 Rev. Oja Gafour; Prof. Isaac K. Gang, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

10:15 Break

10:30 Successful American Partnerships with Sudanese Dioceses, Schools, and Enterprises
 Moderator: Rev. Shirley Smith-Graham, Christ Church, Glen Allen, Virginia
 Five Talents – Ms. Suzanne Schultz-Middleton
 Dioceses of Mississippi & Twic East -- Rt. Rev. Duncan M. Gray, III;
 Mr. Peter B. Malual
 Water for South Sudan -- Ms. Lynn Malooly + AquaAfrica -- Mr. Buey Ray Tut
 Dioceses of Chicago & Renk – Ms. Julie Donalek

12:30 Lunch

1:30 Mr. Pa’gan Amum, former Secretary General, Sudan People’s Liberation Movement
“State- and Nation-Building in South Sudan”
 (introduced by Ms. Anita Sanborn)

2:15-3:00 Discussion Groups

3:15- 4:30 Concurrent Workshops (choose one):

1. Building Reconciling Congregations in the North American Diaspora

Moderator: Mr. Bill Andress, Co-Founder, CASS

Rev. Thon Moses Chol, Rev. Oja Gafour, Prof. Isaac K. Gang

2. How to Support Reconciliation Initiatives by Churches and Governments in the Sudans

Moderator: Rev. Ranjit K. Mathews

Rev. Ian Woodward, Diocese of Salisbury; Mr. C. Richard Parkins

4:30-5:30 Reflections from Discussion Groups

5:30 Prayer

7:00 Closing Banquet: David C. Jones, Host; Phil Groves, Speaker

Sunday, Oct. 23 Conference attendees are warmly invited to attend Holy Eucharist in downtown Des Moines at the Episcopal Cathedral.

7:30 a.m. **Buses depart Marriott Hotel for St. Paul's Cathedral,
815 High Street, Des Moines**

8:00 **Networking Breakfast**

8:45 – 9:45 **Cathedral Forum with Ambassador Dane F. Smith and
Rt. Rev. Samuel Peni, Bishop of Nzara**
Moderator: Rt. Rev. David C. Jones

10:15 **Holy Eucharist**
Presiding: Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, Bishop of Iowa; Rt. Rev. David C. Jones,
Retired Suffragan Bishop of Virginia and President of AFRECS
Preacher: The Rt. Rev. Samuel Peni, Bishop of Nzara and Chair,
Commission on Peace, Justice, and Reconciliation,
Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan