



PRINCIPLES

Why Principles?

- Church attendance is largely a cultural and sociological matter. We belong to a tidal wave of change that is beyond our control.
- Principles are theological ideas that are true and timeless and serve as anchors as we try to navigate our way through new waters
- The Principles are drawn from the experience of the Church.
- Principles also relate to our changing relationships to authority, institutions, our meaning-making, belonging and membership. Spirituality is alive and well but...

What are we here for?

- The Church exists for nothing else but to draw [people] into Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became [human] for no other purpose. **CS Lewis**
- First, the church exists to worship God in Jesus Christ. Second, the Church exists to make new disciples of Jesus Christ. Everything else is decoration. Some of it may be very necessary, useful, or wonderful decoration – but it's decoration.- **Justin Welby**, Archbishop of Canterbury



What is the fruit of a
community of the
baptized?
Mission

The Five Marks of Mission

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Why Mission?

- Because the future of the world depends on us, on our right relationship with God, the source of all life, the light of all people.
- We are the hands and heart to Christ in the World.
- For the LIFE of the WORLD

Principles drawn from

- The Anglican Church of Canada, i.e. Faith, Worship and Ministry
- Associated Parishes for Liturgy and Mission (APLM)
- Theologians, practitioners and Liturgists such as: Paul Gibson, Bill Crockett, John Hill, Lizette Larson-Miller, Rowan Williams, Louis Weil, T.J. Talley, Louis Bouyer
- Experience of thriving communities: St Benedicts Table, Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver, Church of the Redeemer, Toronto
- Scripture, Church History, especially of the Early Church: Didache, etc.
- Societas Liturgica, North American Academy of Liturgy, International Anglican Liturgical Consultation
- The World Wide Anglican Communion, Vatican II

THE PRINCIPLES



- We are the Church
- Worship and Mission are One
- Christian Formation is Vital
- Hospitality and Relationships are Central

WE ARE THE CHURCH

- The Church is the People of God, the Body of Christ in the world.
- We gather around Font, Word, and Table expressing our relationship to God in Jesus Christ, to one another, and our mission to the world in the Holy Spirit.

The Church we inherited from the 1950's

- The Church is part of empire, a social institution of civic society, the clergy have a particular status.
- The church building reflects the hierarchy of sacredness: sanctuary, chancel, nave. Holy to profane.
- The people are fed by the clergy – preaching, sacraments, pastoral care, exhortation, absolution. Worship could be characterized as observing a clerical pageant.
- Baptism is the mark of belonging to civic society, done privately with family and friends.
- The Eucharist is performed by priests who “confect” the bread and wine, through their holy status, and give to the people.

The Emerging Church, drawing on the Scriptures and the Ancient Church

- The Church is the people, the baptized, the royal priesthood. Clergy are presiders of a Kingdom People, a new creation, separate from Empire.
- The people gather around font, word and table. The People are sacred and are made holy.
- Baptism is participation in the death and resurrection of Christ, “A new creation”, sharing in the divinity of Christ. There is no higher status.
- The Eucharist is performed by all People of God with a presider.

WORSHIP AND MISSION ARE ONE

- Neither are to be “observed”; both are transforming activities, the work of the people.
- We serve the world when we glorify God and we glorify God when we serve the world.
- Whether in corporate worship or serving the community, the church building is an important enabler.
- How does the building and the way we gather reflect our mission as the people of God for the life of the world?



Lex Orandi Lex Credendi
AS WE WORSHIP
SO WE LIVE

As we worship so we live.

- The Eucharist is the transforming encounter of thanksgiving where we become what we receive. **WE** are the body, **WE** are the hands and heart of Christ. As such we go into the world as living altars, self giving and revealing the truth about the world.
- Mission is the activity where we live out that TRUE reality. We become the Eucharist.
- We celebrate the sacredness and of all life, especially human life, and its gift of free-will, the great dignity of all people made in the image and likeness of God.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION IS VITAL

- It is the future of the Church.
- Meeting Seekers and the stranger is critical – being welcoming and inclusive is as well. To what end?
- Hospitality and welcome is the first step in a journey of relationship-making with CHRIST.
- Our mission is to form Christians – for the Life of the World. This is a lif- long journey of transformation and formation that BEGINS with welcome and hospitality



ACC

Year	Total Anglicans Canada	Baptisms
1961	1,320,649	44,416
1971	1,109,221	28,722
1991	801,983	20,953
2001	641,845	13,304

Consider

- The following...
- The red **X** are people born into the church, may or may not have grown up in a church going family (even casually)
- The black **X** is people not born into the church, for any reason – other faith, no faith, secular etc.

1955

Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

X x x x
x x x x
x x x
x

The Church

Outside the Church

2017

X x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x

X x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

The Church

Outside the Church

2032

X x x x x
x x x



The Church

X x
x
x
x
x
x
x
x
x
x x x x x x



Outside the Church

2050

[illegible]

The Church

Outside the Church

Who are the People of God 2032?




Growing Churches

- Sociologist Reginald Bibby: People consistently return to the denomination they were formed in. (There are of course exceptions)
- Church growth, is usually attracting people from other churches in same denomination.
- Newcomers that stay, are usually returning to their denomination. They usually grew up in the church in some way.

SO?

- We are arriving at the age where the **MAJORITY** of people in our culture have **NO** experience of Church and are either ambivalent or hostile towards Christianity.
- This means, we can no longer rely on attracting people who are “coming back” to the Church. There is nothing for them to come back to, they were never here.
- Our language and “points of contact” are rapidly becoming completely un-accessible
- We **MUST** find ways to attract and retain, but most of all we need to have a journey of Christian formation.
- Key Principle.....



**CHRISTIANS
ARE MADE
NOT BORN**

Christians are *made* ...

- In stages marked by public rites, supported by the liturgical assembly;
- Involving worship, scriptures, prayer and justice-doing;
- Climaxing in Baptism into the dying and rising of Jesus
- Formation of all Baptized members is ongoing and intentional, individually and as a congregation

HOSPITALITY AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE CENTRAL.

- We are intentional about hospitality and relationship building.
- We always keep the stranger in mind.
- By welcoming all, meeting people wherever they are at, we engage seekers and develop a sense of belonging.
- “HE WAS KNOWN TO THEM IN THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD” – Luke 24:31

Table Fellowship

- Gathering around food and drink is part of our Judeo-Christian history.
- The primary medium of relationship building and welcome
- “Hospitality means primarily the creation of free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines.” - Henri Nouen

Wasteful Hospitality

- Wasteful hospitality is God's hospitality.
- Creation of a culture of self-giving and warm receptivity
- Life long relationship building, with strangers, through to long term friendships, every stage we are fed by God and one another at the table
- The Glue that binds community together. Radical Hospitality is sticky and infectious.
- The Eucharist is Table hospitality that we emulate

THE PRINCIPLES



- We are the Church
- Worship and Mission are One
- Christian Formation is Vital
- Hospitality and Relationships are Central

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION



The Truth Will Set You Free