**TIMELINE OF EVENTS LEADING TO FORMATION OF GAFCON AND BEYOND**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Province or Communion "structure"** | **Action** | **Compliance with Lambeth 1998 Resolution 1.10** |
| 1976 | The Episcopal Church (USA)  TEC | [General Convention](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Convention) declares that [homosexuals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homosexuals) are "children of God" who deserve acceptance and [pastoral care](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pastoral_care) from the church and [equal protection](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal_protection) under the law”, distinguishing “orientation” from “practice.” | \_ |
| 1977 | TEC | Ellen Barrett, the first openly gay person ordained as a priest by Bishop Paul Moore of New York. | No |
| 1979 | TEC | While the House of Bishops could not agree to “disapprove’ of Barrett’s ordination, the General Convention resolved: “it is not appropriate for this Church to ordain a practising homosexual or any person engaged in heterosexual relationships outside of marriage.” | Yes, but no discipline |
| 1989 | TEC | Bishop John Spong of Newark ordains Robert Williams a practising homosexual as priest.  Bishop Walter Righter, Spong’s Assistant Bishop in Newark, ordains Barry Lee Stopfel, a practising homosexual, as a deacon.  HOB “censures” Spong, but no discipline. Spong continues to serve on HOB Theology Committee. | No |
| 1996 | TEC | In 1996, ten bishops bring charges against Bishop Righter, who by then had retired, alleging that he violated the doctrine of the Church and his ordination vows.  In May 1996, an ecclesiastical court ruled by 7-1, that The Episcopal Church “has no doctrine prohibiting the ordination of homosexuals,” and that Bishop Righter did not contradict any “core doctrine” of the Church. | No |
| 1991 | TEC | Nonetheless, General Convention affirms that "physical sexual expression" is only appropriate within the monogamous lifelong "union of husband and wife”, yet they refuse to act on Bishop William Frey’s resolution stating that clergy must abide by this rule. | Yes, but |
| 1994 | TEC | 88 Bishops sign Bishop Spong’s “Koinonia Statement,” which declares that homosexuality and heterosexuality are “morally neutral”. Both sexual orientations “can be lived out with beauty, honor, holiness and integrity, and both are capable of being lived out destructively.” It also said gay priests in a committed sexual relationship could be “wholesome examples”.  HOB affirms “traditional teaching” but initiates “Continuing the Dialogue” (similar to the English “Living in Love and Faith.”. | No  Yes, but |
| 1997 | Global South | Kuala Lumpur Statement warns that developments relating to church discipline and moral teaching in some Provinces – specifically the ordination of practising homosexuals and the blessing of same-sex unions – presented a deeper and more critical challenge to the Scriptures’ authority over the Church. | Yes |
| 1998 | Lambeth Conference | Resolution I.10 passed  526 in favour, including Abp Carey  70 against  45 abstentions | Yes |
| 1999 | TEC | Association of Anglican Congregations in America (AACOM) publish report documenting widespread rejection of Lambeth I.10 in TEC.  Archbishop Harry Goodhew (Sydney), Presiding Bishop Maurice Sinclair (Southern Cone) and three bishops from Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania visit the US at the invitation of TEC’s Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold and produce the “Come and See” Report. | \_ |
| January 2000 | Anglican Diocese of Singapore  South East Asia | Archbishop Moses Tay, Primate of SE Asia, Archbishop Emmanuel Kolini, Primate of Rwanda, and four other bishops consecrate Bishops Chuck Murphy and John Rodgers in Singapore Cathedral for Anglican ministry in North America. This was an interim action to provide pastoral assistance and to nurture faithful individuals and congregations leaving TEC. This led to the formation of Anglican Mission in America.  Border crossing is the new sin, according to the Liberal Bishops. | Yes |
| 2001 | Primates Meeting | Archbishops Gomez and Sinclair present *To Mend the Net* proposal for church discipline. Abp Carey relegates it to a “chat” session, thereby killing it. | Yes, but |
| 2002 | Anglican Church of Canada | The Diocese of New Westminster authorises the blessing of same-sex unions and the provincial structures do not discipline the diocese. | No |
| May 2003 | Abp of Canterbury’s Pastoral letter. | “It is through liturgy that we express what we believe, and that there is no theological consensus about same sex unions. Therefore, we as a body cannot support the authorisation of such rites.” | Yes, but |
| July - August 2003 | TEC | Election of Gene Robinson to be Bishop of New Hampshire confirmed by House of Bishops and the General Convention despite his being divorced and now living in a same-sex relationship. | No |
| October 2003 | COU | Church of Uganda declares itself out of communion with those in TEC who have rejected Lambeth I.10. | Yes |
| October 2003 | Abp of Canterbury calls extraordinary meeting of Primates in Lambeth Palace | Primates Meeting reaffirms Resolution I.10  “If [Gene Robinson’s] consecration proceeds, we recognise that we have reached a crucial and critical point in the life of the Anglican Communion and we have had to conclude that the future of the Communion itself will be put in jeopardy. In this case, the ministry of this one bishop will not be recognised by most of the Anglican world, and many provinces are likely to consider themselves to be out of Communion with the Episcopal Church (USA). This will tear the fabric of our Communion at its deepest level, and may lead to further division on this and further issues as provinces have to decide in consequence whether they can remain in communion with provinces that choose not to break communion with the Episcopal Church (USA).” | Yes |
| November 2003 | TEC | Consecration of Gene Robinson by Presiding Bishop Griswold, who had signed onto the Primates’ communiqué in October. | No |
| May 2004 | Anglican Church of Canada | General Synod “affirms the integrity and sanctity of committed adult same sex relationships.” | No |
| 2004 | The Windsor Report (TWR) commissioned by Abp of Canterbury in 2003 | “We cannot avoid the conclusion that all [The Episcopal Church (USA), the Diocese of New Westminster and the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada] have acted in ways incompatible with the Communion principle of interdependence, and our fellowship together has suffered immensely as a result of these developments.” (§ 122)  “Because of the serious repercussions in the Communion, we call for a moratorium on all such public Rites, and recommend that bishops who have authorised such rites in the United States and Canada be invited to express regret that the proper constraints of the bonds of affection were breached by such authorisation.” (§ 144)  Also asked for a moratorium on cross-border incursions by Bishops offering episcopal ministry beyond their provinces.  Yet the Windsor Report did not see a “moral equivalence” between these events, since the cross-boundary interventions arose from a deep concern for the welfare of Anglicans in the face of innovation. | Yes |
| 2005 | Primates Meeting  Dromantine Northern Ireland | Resolution I.10 reaffirmed  TEC and Anglican Church of Canada are asked to withdraw voluntarily from the Anglican Consultative Council, until the next [Lambeth Conference](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lambeth_Conference) in 2008.  Primates recommend that the Archbishop of Canterbury establish a Panel of Reference “to supervise the adequacy of pastoral provisions made by any churches” in order to protect the integrity and legitimate needs of groups in serious theological dispute with their diocesan bishop, or dioceses in dispute with their Provinces”. | Yes |
| 2005 | Church of England | Gay clergy in the Church of England affirm their same-sex relationships as "civil partnerships" and live together in church housing, without discipline. In response, the Church of Nigeria removes “communion with the Archbishop of Canterbury” from its Constitution. | No |
| 2000- 2006 | TEC | General Convention passes a series of ambiguous Resolutions, including a moratorium on consecration of gay bishops in 2006. | Yes, but |
| 2005 | TEC | The Rev. Cameron Partridge, a biological female, who “transitioned” to male while in theological college and was ordained priest in Diocese of Massachusetts in 2005, the first transgender priest to preach at the Washington National Cathedral in 2014. | No |
| 2005 | TEC/ACNA | Anglican Communion Network and Common Cause Partnership hold “Hope and Future” Conference in Pittsburgh, with seven Primates present. Decisive step toward formation of the Anglican Church in North America. | Yes |
| August 2006 | Anglican Church of Nigeria | Bishop Martyn Minns consecrated in Abuja, Nigeria to become missionary bishop for Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA), a missionary body of Church of Nigeria, installed in May 2007. Other clergy and congregations in North America came under the care of Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, or Southern Cone of South America. | ­­\_ |
| 2007 | Primates Meeting  Dar es Salaam | “The interventions by some of our number and by bishops of some Provinces, against the explicit recommendations of the Windsor Report, however well intentioned, have exacerbated this situation. Furthermore, those Primates who have undertaken interventions do not feel that it is right to end those interventions until it becomes clear that sufficient provision has been made for the life of those persons.”  The Primates request the House of Bishops of The Episcopal Church: 1. to make an unequivocal common covenant that the bishops will not authorise any Rite of Blessing for same-sex unions in their dioceses or through General Convention (cf TWR, §143, 144); and  2. to confirm that the passing of Resolution B033 of the 75th General Convention means that a candidate for episcopal orders living in a same-sex union shall not receive the necessary consent (cf TWR, §134); unless some new consensus on these matters emerges across the Communion (cf TWR, §134);  3. to cease all litigation to expel clergy and congregations from their buildings. | Yes |
| 2007 | Abp of Canterbury | Archbishop Williams Invites TEC and Canada to Lambeth 2008 against the unanimous agreement of the Primates NOT to invite them. Williams does not invite Bishop Gene Robinson nor Bishop Martyn Minns of CANA. | No |
| 2008 | Convened by Archbishop Peter Akinola Primate of All Nigeria | Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON) held in Jerusalem with 1150 bishops, clergy and lay people, including 8 Primates.  Jerusalem Statement including the Jerusalem Declaration unanimously adopted. | Yes |
| 2008 | Lambeth Conference | First Lambeth Conference without resolutions. Hence no resolution of the crisis. More than 200 bishops do not attend. | ­­\_ |
| 2008-2009 | Gafcon | Gafcon Primates approve formation of the ACNA and invite Abp Bob Duncan (defrocked by TEC) to join Primates Council. In June 2009, the ACNA is formally constituted. | Yes |
| February  2009 | Primates Meeting | “While we are aware of the depth of conscientious conviction involved, the position of the Communion defined by the Lambeth 1998 Resolution 1.10 in its entirety remains, and gracious restraint on all three fronts is urgently needed to open the way for transforming conversation.” Several Primates do not attend. | Yes, but |
| July 2009 | TEC | House of Bishops affirm that ordination is open to gay men and lesbians – end of the moratorium! | No |
| December 2009 | ACC | Anglican Consultative Council’s Standing Committee releases final version of the proposed Anglican Covenant. Abp. Williams unilaterally weakens disciplinary section.  The Covenant operates to express the common commitments and mutual accountability, which hold each Church in the relationship of communion one with another. Recognition of, and fidelity to, this Covenant, enables mutual recognition and communion. Participation in the Covenant implies a recognition by each Church of those elements which must be maintained in its own life and for which it is accountable to the Churches with which it is in Communion in order to sustain the relationship expressed in this Covenant. (4.2.1) Yet fails to gain approval from majority of Provinces. | \_ |
| 2011 | Primates Meeting in Dublin | 23 of 38 Primates in attendance, with seven refusing to attend due to presence of liberal Primates. | \_ |
| October 2013 | GAFCON II  Nairobi Communiqué and Commitment | “Our willingness to submit to the written Word of God and our unwillingness to be in Christian fellowship with those who will not, is clearly expressed in The Jerusalem Statement and Declaration. This means that the divisions in the Anglican Communion will not be healed without a change of heart from those promoting the false gospel, and to that end we pray.” | Yes |
| June 2015 | TEC | Five days after the US Supreme Court’s judgment that same-sex marriage was a right under the US Constitution, the TEC General Convention changes the definition of marriage to include two persons. | No |
| 2015 | Episcopal Church of Brazil | General Synod supports TEC's decision and says they are in the process of changing the marriage service in their prayer book to accommodate "gender neutrality." | No |
| 2015 | Church of England | Archbishop of Canterbury consecrates Nicholas Chamberlain as Suffragan Bishop of Grantham, who later reveals he is a gay man living in a same-sex relationship. | No |
| 2016 | Primates Meting in Canterbury | Primates request the suspension of TEC from participating in Anglican Communion structures for three years in which "decision making on any issues pertaining to doctrine or polity" are involved. | Yes |
| 2016 | Anglican Consultative Council (AAC) | TEC attends the meeting of ACC fully participating and voting…against the wishes of the Primates. | No |
| 2016 | Anglican Church in Southern Africa | Considers a resolution to permit the blessing of same-sex relationships and ordination of non-celibate gay clergy. | No |
| 2017 | Scottish Episcopal Church | Canons changed to allow solemnisation of same-sex marriage. | No |
| 2017 | Primates Meeting in Canterbury | 2016 sanction of TEC applied to the Scottish Episcopal Church. | Yes |
| June 2018 | GAFCON III  Jerusalem | Letter to the Churches urges Canterbury to invite ACNA and Anglican Church of Brazil to Lambeth 2020 and to disinvite Provinces that have violated Resolution I.10. | Yes |
| 2018 | Church of England Bishops | Encourage clergy to "adapt" the baptism liturgy for transgendered people who change their gender and name. | No |
| 2018 | Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia | General Synod allows Dioceses to offer blessings of same-sex marriage, referred to as "local option." | No |
| 2018 | Archbishop of Canterbury | Recommends that the Presiding Bishop of TEC (Michael Curry) preach at the royal wedding (against the spirit of the 2016 Primates resolution) | No |
| 2018 | Episcopal Church of Brazil | General Synod approves the solemnisation of same-sex couples. | No |
| 2018 | Anglican Church of Canada | General Synod approves the blessing of same-sex couples. | No |
| May 2019 | New Zealand | Church of Confessing Anglicans Aotearoa/New Zealand launched and Jay Behan consecrated bishop in October 2019. | Yes |
| 2019 | Anglican Church of Canada | Clergy and Lay Houses of General Synod vote to allow same-sex marriage to be solemnised, but narrowly defeated in House of Bishops, but 19 of the 30 diocese announce they will proceed without General Synod’s approval. | Yes  and  No |
| 2019 | Global South | Global South Fellowship of Anglican Churches launch a new covenantal structure. Updated in 2021. | Yes |
| 2021 | Church of Wales | Canons changed to allow blessings of same-sex couples, with unanimous vote of the House of Bishops. | No |
| 2022 | Archbishop of Canterbury | Invitations sent to all bishops and their spouses, except ACNA and Provinces established by Gafcon Primates, yet includes gay and lesbian Bishops, but not their spouses. | No |
| 2022  2022 | Lambeth Conference  Lambeth Conference | Archbishop of Canterbury affirms Resolution I.10 as the doctrine of the Anglican Communion but declines to discipline Provinces who cannot accept Resolution I.10.  Global South Primates gather 125 episcopal signatories to reaffirm Resolution I.10, after a failed attempt to have the resolution reaffirmed in a proposed Call relating to Human Dignity. | Yes, but   Yes |
| Archbishop of Canterbury declares the Communion can walk together with two integrities  Liberal bishops publish 175 signatories to a statement endorsing an acceptance of LGBT people in all aspects of the church’s life - “The way of love.” | No |
| May 2022 | Australia | House of Bishops in General Synod defeats a motion that, *inter alia*, i) upholds marriage as exclusively between a man and a woman; and ii) declares the blessing of same-sex couples not in accordance with the teaching of Christ. | No |
| August 2022 | Australia | Diocese of the Southern Cross launched at Gafcon Australia Conference, with first congregation meeting in Queensland on 14 August 2022, growing to 5 congregations by March 2023. | Yes |
| October 2022 | Archbishop of Canterbury | Dean David Monteith of Leicester, in a same-sex partnership, appointed Dean of Canterbury, with Archbishop of Canterbury’s concurrence: “I’m delighted by David’s appointment as Dean of Canterbury.” | No |
| February 2023 | England | General Synod approves, by 250 votes to 181, the blessing of same-sex couples, on the recommendation of the House of Bishops, led by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, with 85% of the House of Bishops voting in favour. | No |
| April 2023 | GAFCON IV | Here we are on the brink of a re-ordered Anglican Communion. | Yes |

Bishop Glenn N Davies

Kigali, Rwanda

April 2023