

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 declares that homosexuals are "children of God" who deserve acceptance and pastoral care from the church and 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	No

		homosexuals,” and that Bishop Righter did not contradict any “core doctrine” of the Church.	
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 <i>To Mend the Net</i> 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	Primates Meeting reaffirms Resolution I.10	Yes

	extraordinary meeting of Primates in Lambeth Palace	<p>“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).”</p>	
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	<p>“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)</p> <p>“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)</p>	Yes

		<p>Also asked for a moratorium on cross-border incursions by Bishops offering episcopal ministry beyond their provinces.</p> <p>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.</p>	
2005	<p>Primates Meeting</p> <p>Dromantine Northern Ireland</p>	<p>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 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”.</p>	Yes
2005	Church of England	<p>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.</p>	No
2000- 2006	TEC	<p>General Convention passes a series of ambiguous Resolutions, including a moratorium on consecration of gay bishops in 2006.</p>	Yes, but
2005	TEC	<p>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.</p>	No
2005	TEC/ACNA	<p>Anglican Communion Network and Common Cause Partnership hold “Hope and Future” Conference in Pittsburgh, with</p>	Yes

		seven Primates present. Decisive step toward formation of the Anglican Church in North America.	
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	<p>“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.”</p> <p>The Primates request the House of Bishops of The Episcopal Church:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	No

		Robinson nor Bishop Martyn Minns of CANA.	
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	–

		<p>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.</p>	
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	<p>“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.”</p>	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 Meeting 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	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.	Yes, but
		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
2022	Lambeth Conference	Archbishop of Canterbury declares the Communion can walk together with two integrities	No
		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."	
May 2022	Australia	House of Bishops in General Synod defeats a motion that, <i>inter alia</i> , 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>"I'm delighted by David's appointment as Dean of Canterbury."</i>	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