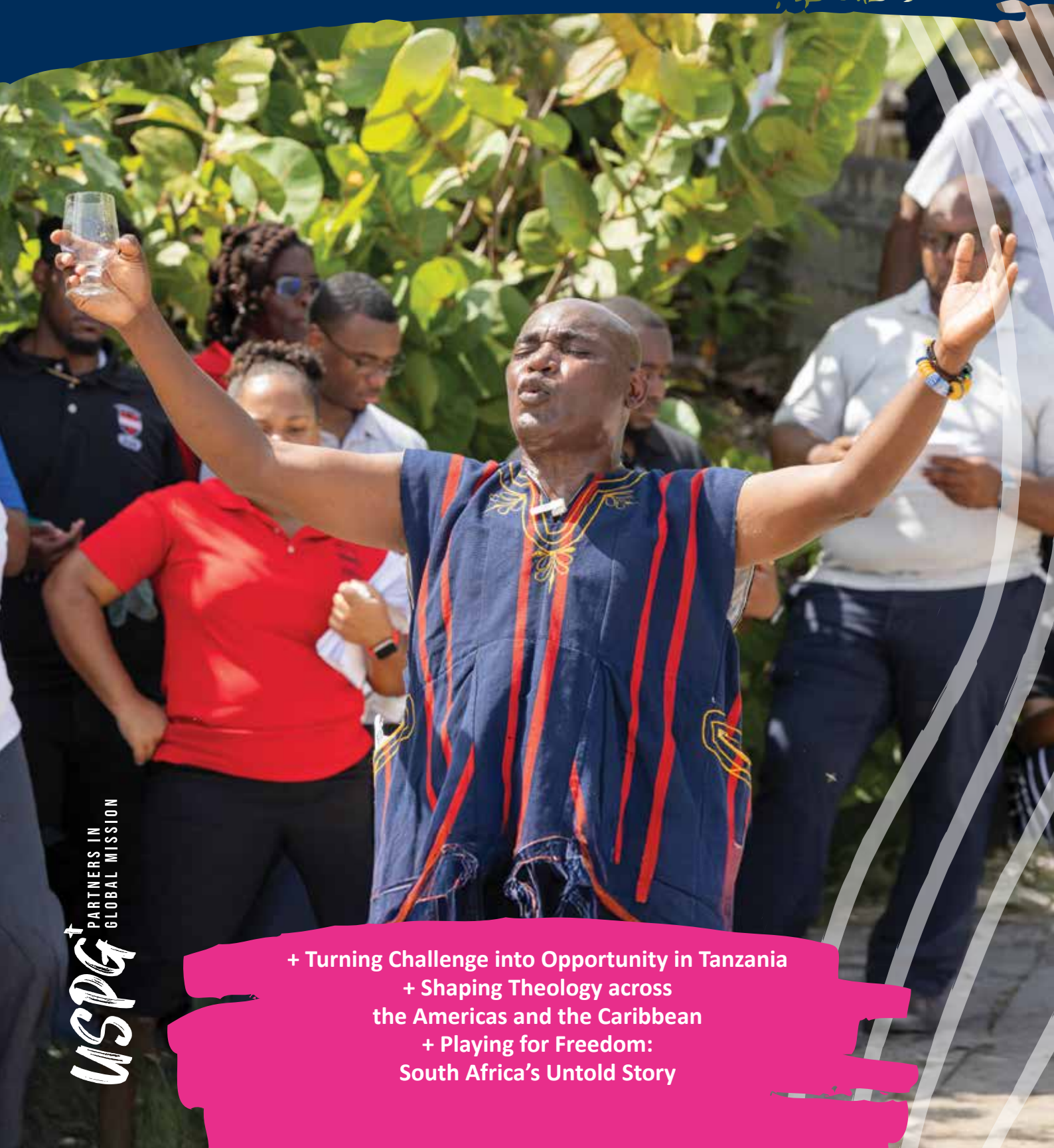


NEWS AND FEATURES FROM USPG — ANGLICAN MISSION AGENCY

Revive

VOLUME 6 | AUTUMN 2025



USPG⁺
PARTNERS IN
GLOBAL MISSION

+ Turning Challenge into Opportunity in Tanzania
+ Shaping Theology across
the Americas and the Caribbean
+ Playing for Freedom:
South Africa's Untold Story

Welcome to the latest edition of REVIVE MAGAZINE

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Dear friends,



I am delighted to share the Autumn 2025 edition of Revive with you. Each of you make up a core part of our amazing USPG community, and it is only because of your support that we and our partners are able to champion justice and transform lives around the world.

This edition we will be looking at what's been going on around the Anglican Communion as USPG connects with our partners in Asia, Oceania, Latin America and beyond (pages 4-5), and how USPG-supported programmes are helping communities in Tanzania overcome economic difficulties and become financially sustainable (pages 6-7).

Together, we will hear from Creuza and her son, who have received support from the Anglican Diocese of Brazil as they navigated challenges of prejudice and isolation (page 11). Learn about our annual conference that took place this July (page 10).

Partnering in mission has never been more important, or more effective, than it is today. As we read these inspiring stories, may it prompt us to give, may it prompt us to act, and may it prompt us to pray for those who face injustice.

Thank you for your prayers, your commitment and your giving. We are truly grateful and look forward to connecting with many of you throughout 2025 and beyond.

Matthew Anns

Editor, Revive
Senior Communications & Engagement Manager,
USPG

“What does it mean to belong?”

That was the question we explored at our 2025 conference, *We Believe, We Belong?*, held at The Hayes in honour of the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed – a moment to reflect on faith, identity, and unity in the Church today.

The Creed, written centuries ago at a time of great change and tension, set out what Christians believed about the nature of God. But it also marked the beginning of a long and complicated relationship between faith and power. The Creed is more than a list of beliefs – it has a deep and intimate connection with baptism, and to belonging. It’s part of how we enter the community of those who gather around Jesus Christ – the Body working towards the Kingdom.

We know not just from Christian history in general, but from our own history in USPG/SPG, just how far, we as Christians, can fall short of this inclusive vision. At USPG, we’re committed to wrestling with this history honestly and to serving a Church that welcomes, includes, and learns from all.

This is why spaces for honest reflection and diverse voices matter. In this edition of *Revive*, we explore how that radical vision of unity and belonging is lived out today. Read about a moving refugee memorial at Canterbury Cathedral (see pages 14–15) and how partners across Africa (pages 6–7) and the Solomon Islands (pages 20–21) are leading the way in gender justice and theological education.

Thank you for being part of this ongoing journey. The Nicene Creed may be 1700 years old, but its deeper invitation – to live as a community rooted in love, justice, and belonging – is as urgent as ever.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *Revive*.

The Revd Canon Dr Duncan Dormor

General Secretary and Chief Executive, USPG



WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON?



Volunteers' Week

To celebrate Volunteers' Week, we welcomed some of our amazing mission-minded volunteers to a special Eucharist service and lunch at the USPG office to celebrate their incredible support. To all of our dedicated volunteers: thank you. Your generosity, faith, and passion are at the heart of all we do.

Find out how to get involved on page 23.

Journeying Together for Change in Oceania

In New Zealand, Ella Sibley, Regional Manager for Europe & Oceania, USPG, gathered with members of the Oceania Regional Anglican Alliance Committee (ORAC) at Taranaki Cathedral in New Plymouth. ORAC, coordinated by the Anglican Alliance, brings together representatives from all four provinces to collaborate in mission, including work in safeguarding, gender justice, climate action, and disaster resilience.



Gearing up for COP30

In March, church leaders, faith groups, Indigenous leaders, and climate experts met in Brasília ahead of COP30 – the United Nations Climate Change Conference taking place on their doorstep in Brazil later this year. Reflecting on the road ahead, The Most Revd Marinez Bassotto, Archbishop of Brazil and Bishop of Amazonia, said: "Hope is more than a feeling – it is action."

To find out how to put 'hope into action', explore our Harvest Appeal on page 13.

Earthquake Relief Efforts in Myanmar

After the devastating earthquake in early 2025, the Church of the Province of Myanmar has shown Christ's love through compassionate leadership and swift action. Emergency aid is reaching those in need particularly in the Diocese of Mandalay and the Diocese of Taungoo, thanks to Archdeacon Joseph Yin Oo and dedicated local volunteers. **Read the full story and pray for Myanmar at uspg.org.uk**



FOR NEWS AS IT
HAPPENS, DON'T
FORGET TO FOLLOW
@USPGGLOBAL



YouTube



Thank you to everyone who joined us at The Hayes for our annual conference, **'We Believe, We Belong?'** Special thanks to our keynote speakers – The Rt Revd Dr Vicentia Kgabe (Bishop of Lesotho), The Rt Revd Philip Wright (Bishop of Belize), and Fr Wadie Far (Diocese of Jerusalem) – for compelling reflections on the Nicene Creed, marking its 1700th anniversary. It was a joy to gather, reflect, and connect. We look forward to seeing you next year! **Read more on page 10.**



Beyond Empire: Rethinking Christian Education

At York Synod, USPG hosted 'Beyond Empire: Rethinking Christian Education and Formation', a fringe event exploring racial justice in schools, parishes, and theological education. Panellists Alysia-Lara Ayonrinde and The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, celebrated the richness of global Christianity, and how to incorporate it better into all forms of religious education.

Reclaiming Histories

USPG, in partnership with the Leeds Church Institute and the University of Leeds, hosted a Reclaiming Histories workshop to confront the enduring legacies of slavery, colonialism, and racism within the Church. The event created space for honest reflection, lament, and dialogue with powerful testimonies from churches in Leeds highlighting the urgent need for racial justice, healing, and repair.



Thank you!

Thank you so much for your incredible generosity during our Bring Care in Crisis Lent appeal. Together, we've raised over £100,000 to support vital healthcare at Al Ahli Hospital, run by the Diocese of Jerusalem in Gaza. Your compassion is helping save lives and bring hope amid conflict. We're deeply grateful for your support and solidarity.



TURNING CHALLENGE INTO OPPORTUNITY



By Fran Mate, Senior Regional Manager for Africa, USPG

USPG recognised that training principals and deans of Theological Education Institutions (TEI) in leadership and management skills could significantly enhance theological education across Africa. Spotting this opportunity, USPG – in collaboration with the Post-Botswana Summit Working Group and the Nelson Mandela University – developed an Executive Leadership Programme (TELP).

TELP is a bespoke 16-week executive leadership training course tailored to the needs of the TEI leaders. The purpose of the programme is to empower principals and governors with comprehensive leadership, governance, and management skills that are deeply rooted in values-led, visionary, and strategic principles. A total of 16 candidates participated in the course from 13 countries in 6 provinces across Africa. As part of the course, each participant developed a 'capstone project', which required the participants to identify and address critical challenges within their respective contexts, covering both immediate operational concerns and long-term strategic goals.

St Philip's Theological College, established in 1914, is a provincial institution in Kongwa, Tanzania dedicated to preparing men and women for ministry. It is currently led by The Revd Canon Agripa Ndatila, the 27th Principal.



Let us hear from The Revd Canon Agripa Ndatila about the tremendous work that is ongoing:

"I was appointed Principal of the College in 2015. Unfortunately, I came at a time when the College was facing a critical financial situation. Due to this, I lost hope and nearly quit my job.

In 2022, I was appointed to represent Tanzania at the Summit for Theological Education in Botswana, organised by USPG. Following this summit, I was privileged to be among the Heads of Institutions who were appointed to attend the TELP course at Nelson Mandela University in Gqeberha, South Africa. This course was beneficial to me as a principal because, instead of losing hope, I turned the challenges I faced into an opportunity to improve the performance and quality of the theological education offered at my college.

The title of my capstone project was: "Coping with Chronic Financial Stress to Improve Performance and Quality of Theological Education Offered" in which I suggested the following solutions to the financial situation I faced:

- Developing fundraising strategies
- Affiliating with other accredited colleges and universities
- Increasing alumni engagement

As a response to the ongoing financial difficulties, we decided to start some projects designed to generate income, including:

Chickens:

Using our local resources, we set up chicken cages in our workshop for broiler chickens, which we raise for meat. We started with 100 and now have 400, and we also bought 300 layer chickens to produce eggs. We sell any extra meat and eggs at the market and save the rest of the money to improve our future budgets.



Pig Farming:

We secured a grant from an external partner to build a modern pig shelter. The structure is nearly complete, and we've already bought four pigs which are expected to have piglets by the end of September.



Drip Irrigation:

Thanks to funding from the Diocese of Rochester in England and the Episcopal Church of America, we drilled two boreholes and will install a drip irrigation system and some greenhouses. By doing this, we will save water and produce better crops year-round to make ourselves more self-sustainable.

Alumni Engagement:

We've been working on getting our alumni more involved, especially with our new degree programme on the way. We're thrilled that four alumni completed the training and are now fully qualified to teach. It's a big step forward and it's great to see our former students giving back in such a meaningful way.

We thank God, as none of this would have been possible without USPG who helped us understand how to turn challenges into opportunities and how to develop our Theological College.



“ONE IN FAITH,
ONE IN HOPE,
ONE IN LOVE.”

SOUTH ASIA FORUM 2025

By The Revd Davidson Solanki, Senior Regional
Manager for Asia & the Middle East, USPG

The South Asia Forum (SAF) is an informal network of primarily European churches, mission agencies, diocesan links and ecumenical groups in partnership with the United Churches in South Asia. It exists to foster collaboration, cooperation, improved networking, learning and the deepening of partnerships in mission that are interdependent and mutually accountable. The unique feature of SAF is that it has continued to function effectively for over 30 years without any formal structure. Every year it holds an annual gathering where representatives come together for sharing, learning, collaboration and fellowship.

This year, the SAF annual gathering took place at Luther King House in Manchester between 29 April – 2 May 2025. It brought together church leaders from the Church of Bangladesh, the Church of Pakistan, the Church of North India and the Church of South India, along with representatives from mission agencies and organisations such as USPG, CMS, Kirk-in-Actie and others such as the Methodist Church of Great Britain, Church of Scotland, Church in Wales, Ely Ecumenical link and the Diocese of Oxford.

USPG, a key member of the SAF planning group, was represented by myself and Nadia Sanchez from the Global Mission Team. This year's theme, “Nicene Creed: We Believe – One in Faith, One in Hope, One in Love,” marked the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea and the resulting Creed. The theme invited SAF partners to celebrate the shared theological foundation that continues to unite the global church.

The Rt Revd Dr Mathew Porter, Bishop of Bolton, gave an inspiring opening address on the significance of the Nicene Creed and its role in shaping a shared ecumenical identity. Throughout the gathering, Church leaders and mission partners shared both the successes and challenges in applying the Nicene Creed to their local settings. Participants engaged actively with one another on the



opportunities and difficulties of living out 'one faith' in complex environments, particularly where the church is a minority and often faces persecution. The focus of the conference "offered profound insights that encouraged renewed commitment to our Christian faith" reflected The Most Revd Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh.

Themes of faith, hope and love were central throughout the week prompting lively discussion on mission in the 21st century amidst the diverse and challenging context of South Asia. Sessions explored how churches and mission partners can continue to strengthen partnerships and deepen relationships that are mutually accountable and interdependent. "Our mission partners and friends, despite ongoing challenges, remain supportive and encouraging. We are grateful to God for their continued dedication and love." reflected one participant. Presentations by the four United Churches – the Church of Bangladesh, the Church of Pakistan, the Church of North India and the Church of South India, were especially inspiring and insightful, offering glimpses into church growth and vibrant faith in challenging contexts. Church leaders from these churches also led daily sessions of prayer and worship.

The gathering included a field trip to key mission initiatives in the Diocese of Manchester, including the multifaith library and key churches such as St Ann's, Manchester Cathedral and Holy Trinity Platt – each offering a glimpse into local mission. "Encounters with new friends from the local community and the Diocese of Manchester were warm and deeply appreciated. It felt more like a family reunion than a formal gathering." concluded The Most Revd Mankhin.

The Rt Revd Prof David Walker, Bishop of Manchester and Chair of USPG's Trustee Board, presided over the closing Eucharist and shared his reflection on the role of the Holy Spirit in bringing unity to mission. He thanked all

"Themes of faith, hope and love were central throughout the week."

participants for their presence and expressed gratitude for the opportunity given to Manchester Diocese to host the gathering.

The South Asia Forum is a valuable network for USPG to be part of. At one level, it offers a strong platform to collaborate with United churches in South Asia and their European mission partners on transformative mission initiatives. At another, it promotes greater unity, shared learning and deep fellowship.



WE BELIEVE, WE BELONG? USPG CONFERENCE 2025



From 1 to 3 July 2025, USPG welcomed more than 70 delegates and speakers from across the global Anglican Communion to our annual conference. Marking the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, the conference explored how common belief can foster common belonging in a world that has become increasingly polarised.

This year, we were honoured to be joined by two inspiring keynote speakers. The Right Revd Dr Vicentia Kgabe, Bishop of Lesotho, opened the conference by encouraging us that the Church grows stronger when every part is welcomed – inspired by the South African philosophy Ubuntu “I am because we are”.

On day two, we were brilliantly led by The Right Revd Philip Wright, Bishop of Belize, who reminded us that the Church is a global, colourful community of believers. Like a garden full of different flowers, the Church’s beauty comes from its diversity – “As the Church, we belong to something far greater than ourselves.”

“Belonging to the body of Christ has sustained us through the darkest of days.”

We were also privileged to be joined online by Father Wadie Far, Canon Pastor at St George’s Anglican Cathedral in The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, who deepened our understanding on the power of prayer in his morning Bible studies. Despite living in the middle of an active conflict, he emphasised how being part of one unified body gives hope and strength when circumstances feel overwhelming.

In addition, all delegates were able to take part in three workshops across the conference, delving deeply into the topics of reparatory justice, interfaith relations and migration. We were delighted to welcome contributions from our partner churches and networks who helped open our eyes to ‘see the world differently’.

The two-and-a-half days brought together a diverse array of individuals from multiple backgrounds and countries. We celebrated our diversity in our morning and evening worship and our closing Eucharist, led by Mtr Ariadne van den Hof and Revd Cathrine Ngangira, including songs in languages such as Dutch, Zulu, Shona, German, Spanish, Yoruba and Welsh. Members of our Communion-Wide Advisory Group also shared about their context and the joys and challenges facing the Anglican Church in the regions they represent.

The conference offered a space for the USPG family to get together and reflect on the nature and practice of belonging in the Church today, and consider how we can bring the Nicene Creed to life in our churches and local communities (Ephesians 4:15-16).

Would you or your church be interested in digging deeper into these themes? Our six-session study course based on the Nicene Creed ‘We Believe, We Belong?’ is available to order or download at uspg.org.uk.



OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

IMPACT

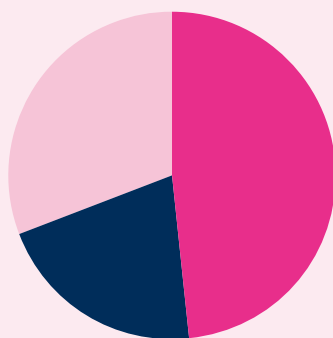
Over the years it has been great to see the amazing work our global church partners across the Anglican Communion are doing and how it is changing and transforming lives. Below you will see a snapshot of the active programmes across our regions in 2024 and the difference your giving continues to make.

Your faithful commitment to USPG has enabled us to go the extra mile to ensure we continue to champion areas of justice, energise and equip the Church and rethink how to actively carry out our Christian mission in an ever-changing world.

NO. OF FUNDED PROJECTS PER REGION



FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS



APPEAL INCOME IN 2024



Each pound you give goes a long way to realising the missional work of our global church partners across our regions. The difference you are making to these communities is very tangible and real, thank you for being a faithful supporter.



Meet Creuza – Success Story

Programme: Casa A+ HIV/AIDS Transformation Programme
Location: Tocantins, Brazil
Partner: Anglican Diocese of Brasilia

“My name is Creuza and I’m 75 years old. My son Sinval lives with HIV and we’ve faced many challenges, especially due to prejudice and isolation, which have deeply affected our family. But everything began to change four years ago when we started going to Casa A+. Since the last Lent campaign by USPG, the care has improved even more. The team at Casa A+ bring more than medical help; they bring hope and comfort. Their support gives us strength.

I want to sincerely thank everyone at Casa A+, especially Revd Magela, who is a light in our lives and our family. The work they do is a blessing. I also want to thank USPG, who has been such an important partner. Seeing the love they have for my son and so many others gives me hope that I carry with me every day.”



WILL YOU PLANT SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE?

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL POWER OF LEGACY GIFTS

At USPG, our mission is to partner with churches across the Anglican Communion to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential, and champion justice. Our mission is sustained not only by the generosity of our current supporters, but also by those who choose to leave a legacy gift – a powerful act of faith and commitment that has an impact beyond their lifetime.

LASTING IMPACT ACROSS THE GLOBE

“Legacy gifts give us the freedom to be bold,” says Emma Jones, Fundraising Stewardship Manager, USPG. “They allow us to invest in long-term change, to be present where we are needed most, and to accompany churches across the Anglican Communion with love, faith, and integrity.”

Recent legacy donations have helped fund scholarships for women training for ordained ministry in the Church of South India, supported resilience-building initiatives in disaster-prone regions of the Philippines, and enabled USPG’s global partners to respond swiftly to the needs of displaced communities in the wake of conflict or climate-related emergencies.

A PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL MISSION

For many, leaving a gift in their will is a deeply personal expression of their faith and values. It is an opportunity to affirm their belief in the global church and to play a vital role in its future.

“Our legacy supporters are visionaries. They are people who believe in the transforming love of Christ and want that love, through His Church, to continue shaping the world after they are gone. It’s incredibly humbling to witness their faith in action.”

JOIN THE LEGACY OF CHANGE

If you are considering leaving a legacy gift to USPG, we would be honoured to speak with you – whether you are looking for practical information, wish to discuss your intentions, or simply want to know more about the difference your gift could make.

To find out more about leaving a gift in your will, please contact Emma Jones, Fundraising Stewardship Manager, at emmaj@uspg.org.uk or call us on 020 7921 2200.

Every legacy, large or small, helps us walk in partnership with churches worldwide – planting hope, nurturing justice, and building a future filled with possibility.



HARVEST APPEAL 2025

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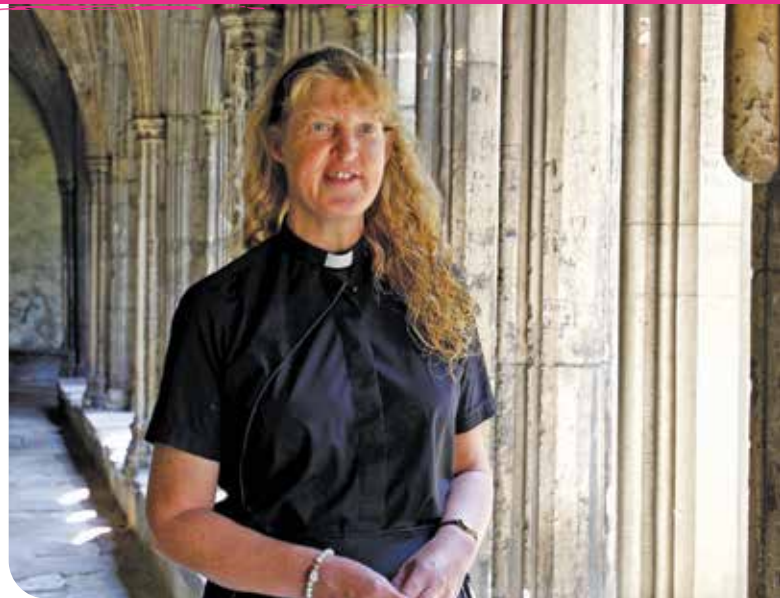
MORE THAN THE HEADLINES

By Rachel Weller – Communications Officer, USPG

Rola Al Mayali was a little girl aged 7. Originally from Iraqi Kurdistan, she tragically died in a canal a few kilometres away from the Channel. Usually at Muslim funerals, bringing flowers is not a common tradition. But Rola loved flowers. One by one, people from different organisations and grass-root groups lay flowers on her grave. A young life now honoured with beautiful flowers.

As the Anglican Refugee Support Lead, Bradon Muilenburg is committed to not let the death of children like Rola be normalised. Her story is not uncommon. But it's still as tragic as the first. In 2024 alone, 73 people died trying to cross the English Channel, that's more than in the previous six years combined. Since 1999, the number exceeds 500. "Calling these deaths accidents is inappropriate", reflects Bradon. "Only two weeks later, another girl called Sara died. We owe it to them not to forget, and to do everything we can so that no more children die on the border."

Bradon is sat in the Eastern Crypt of Canterbury Cathedral. It's a quiet and contemplative space. Surrounding him are wooden boards engraved with the names of lives lost at sea. This simple yet deeply moving memorial creates space for reflection and lament. Visitors are encouraged to read out the names and remember them before God: Joumoua, Omar, Yohanes.



"My hope is that when people enter this memorial area. they will encounter not names. but people. Not numbers. but fellow human beings."

Reflecting on the significance of the memorial, The Revd Dr Emma Pennington, Canon Missioner at Canterbury Cathedral, said, "When I first saw the boards in Calais, I immediately thought, 'We've got to bring them to Canterbury.' They simply had to come because we are the cathedral on the borders." she continued, referencing the Huguenots and other persecuted groups who have sought refuge in Canterbury over the centuries. "We are the cathedral of the Mother Church, of the Anglican Communion," Revd Emma continued, "so we must blaze the trail and welcome the people of the world. We cannot allow people to be treated in this manner."

Back at the Grande-Synthe cemetery in northern France, Rola's parents came and laid flowers too. Her father stood up, and, with the help of a translator, spoke to the crowd of mourners: "I'm a stranger here." he said, "but today I have the impression that I have family here. People who care about me and my family". This is Bradon's hope for the Church too. That we may reflect God's heart and be a people who care: "We are meant to be family, to be brother and sister, to those who are excluded and pushed down."

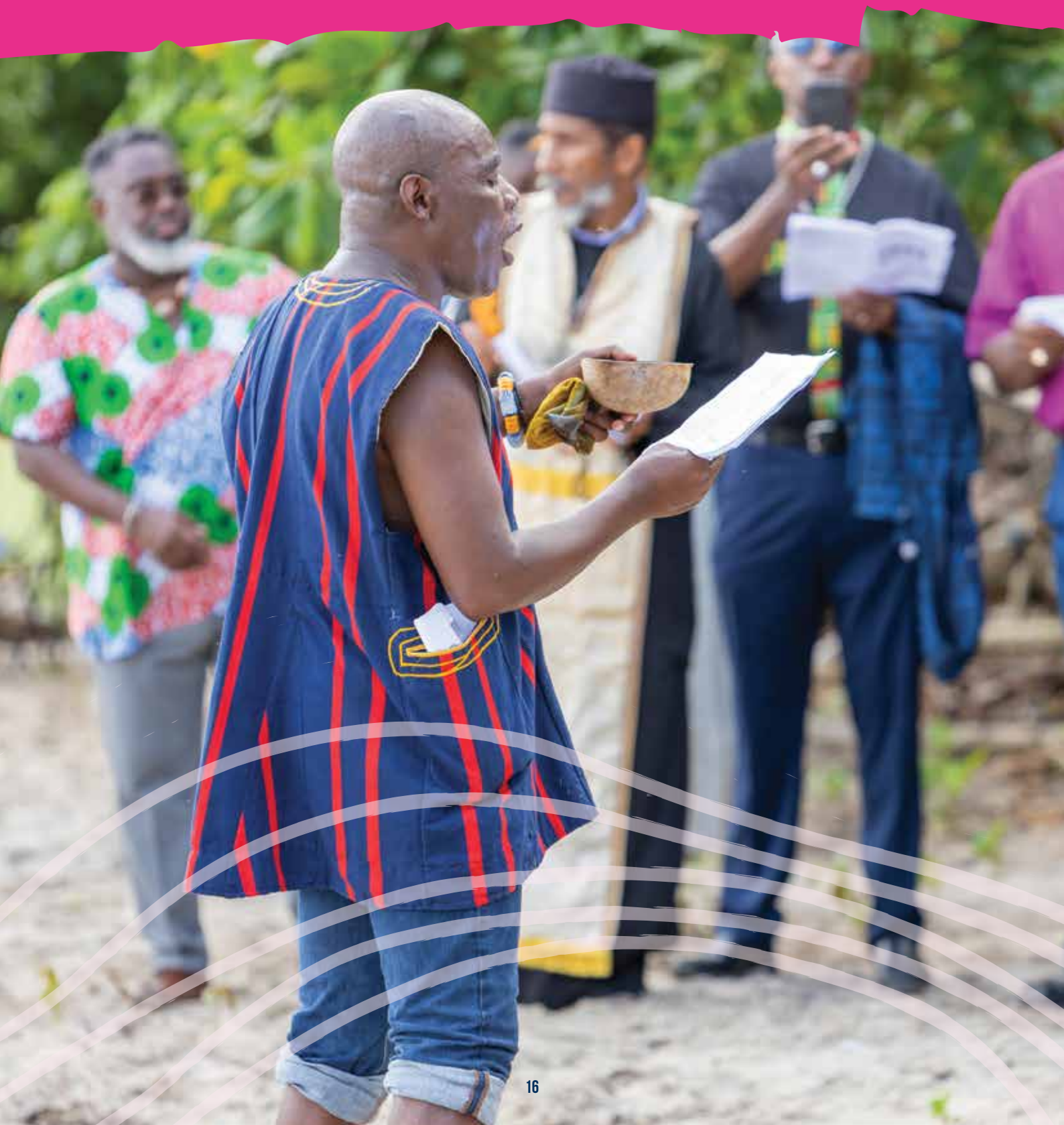
And so, let's pray and be people who welcome. As Revd Emma Pennington concludes, "this is more than the headlines, this is about opening our arms to the people who need us the most".

Victims of the Border was a temporary memorial in Canterbury Cathedral for Refugee Week – 16-22 June 2025. To engage further with the topic of migration, order a free copy of the 'United Beyond Borders' study course at uspg.org.uk and join the conversation.



OUR HEALING, OUR BELIEVING, OUR

Reimagining Anglican Identity through



BELONGING, AND OUR LITURGY:

Ritual and Memory

By Revd Dr Daniel Justice Eshun – Dean of Chapel,
Whitelands College, University of Roehampton

As an Anglican from an early age, born in Ghana and now based in the United Kingdom, The Revd Dr Daniel Justice Eshun's spiritual and academic journey has always been shaped by the enduring power of liturgy. From early encounters with Anglo-Catholic rituals at St Mark's Anglican Primary School in Sekondi-Takoradi, established many years ago by USPG, he came to understand liturgical expressions not merely as traditions, but as a profound way to encounter God. This experience has led to his current research, which explores how Anglican sacramental and liturgical practices – in their diverse forms across the United Kingdom, Africa, and the Caribbean – can be reimagined as instruments of healing, belonging, and post-traumatic growth.

The Anglican Communion today is marked by fragmentations and trauma, often euphemistically described as “impaired communion.” This brokenness, however, is not solely the result of contemporary theological differences and politics. They are rooted in a longer, more painful history; a history in which Anglicanism was complicit in the violence of colonialism and the transatlantic slave trade. Healing these legacies requires more than institutional reforms; it demands liturgical reckoning with the past, and their implications for the present and the future.

The lives of Revd Philip Quaque, the first African ordained in the Church of England, and Sir Christopher Codrington, a Caribbean slave plantation owner and (U)SPG benefactor, exemplify the paradoxes within our tradition. Though separated by race, class, and geography, both were shaped by the Book of Common Prayer. While not explicitly endorsing slavery, the Book of Common Prayer was often used to reinforce social hierarchies. The shared recitations of prayers such as the Prayer of Purity, “Almighty God, to you all hearts are open...”, invites reflection on how liturgy can both obscure and illuminate historical injustice.

Similarly, African traditional religious rituals were not innocent in the history of enslavement. Some chiefs and spiritual leaders participated in the trade, using ritual incantations (chants or spells) to suppress the spiritual consequences of betrayal of their fellow human beings. The “Last Bath” at Assin Manso, in Ghana for instance, was symbolically meant to erase the memories and



identities of the enslaved. “Last bath” in Akan language metaphorically means death. Yet, in 1675, enslaved Ghanaians in Barbados drew on these same Indigenous rituals in an act of resistance.

Their story reveals that rituals, though sometimes misused, can equally be reclaimed for liberation and healing.

Liturgy, then, is not static. It is a living, versatile act that gives form to memory and hope. It confronts trauma, silence, and selective amnesia, offering a space where communities can name their wounds and imagine new futures. The Second Collect for Peace in the BCP speaks of “perfect freedom” found in service to God. This freedom becomes real only when worshippers are willing to confront not only their own pain but also the pain of others – both past and present – with the goal of healing and growing beyond trauma.

When considering liturgy's ability to be a site of shared memory and transformation, we are invited to believe anew, to belong more deeply, and to heal more honestly. This is the challenge and the promise of Anglican liturgical life today.

SHAPING THEOLOGY ACROSS THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN

By Dr Paulo Ueti – Theological Advisor / Regional Manager for the Americas and the Caribbean

From the Andes to the Canadian prairies, from Mexico City to Indigenous communities across the Amazon, voices of wisdom and courage are shaping the life of the Church today.

Earlier this year, about 35 Anglican leaders from the Americas and the Caribbean met in Brasília for the Consultation for Theological Education, hosted by Centro de Estudos Anglicanos, the Anglican Communion, and USPG, to discuss decolonising theological education and fostering locally rooted theology.

The Rt Revd Dr Lynne McNaughton, Bishop of Kootenay, Anglican Church of Canada, echoed that joy in the power of presence after years of online meetings. “Since Lambeth in 2022 I’ve been a member of CTEAC*. All of our meetings have been on Zoom, so to be in person is a joy and a privilege. Thinking through these topics gave me lots to reflect on. Both my heart and my head are full going home.”

For the Very Revd Belina Carranza from the Anglican Church of Mexico, the gathering was both practical and deeply personal. She reflected on how the conversations offered

fresh perspectives on theology and church life: “It’s very useful and refreshing for us to reflect on a new way of doing theology and a new way of experiencing church life. It’s been a very fruitful meeting and, above all, an exchange of hearts. We have learnt that the most important thing is to see one another.”

But what does it actually mean to “decolonise”

theological education? Keynote speaker Dr. Kwok Pui Lan, a global leader in postcolonial theology, offered a memorable way to think about it through four guiding principles:

- **Disperse** – extend teaching beyond those preparing for ordination to reach the whole people of God.
- **Disrupt** – move away from imposed curricula and develop teaching that is responsive to current realities.
- **Develop** – foster contextual theology rooted in the experiences and voices of each community.
- **Deepen** – connect theological learning to spiritual formation, nurturing prayer, discernment, and faithful practice alongside knowledge.

For many participants, these principles sparked both reflection and renewed commitment. The Rt Revd Walter Toro Martínez, Bishop of Bolivia, spoke candidly about the practical challenges of putting them into practice: “The topics we have discussed are interesting, but it’s a challenge to get started. It will be tricky to leave behind some of the old way of doing things in our dioceses and provinces. But I accept the challenge.”

With sessions held in Portuguese, Spanish, and English to ensure everyone could participate fully, the summit highlighted the power of shared presence. Together, this gathering reminds us that discipleship and theological renewal are not just abstract ideas, but lived experiences – sometimes as simple as the joy of seeing one another face to face.



PLAYING FOR FREEDOM: SOUTH AFRICA'S UNTOLD STORY



Dr Thandi Gamedze is a poet, theologian, and Senior Researcher at the Desmond Tutu Centre for Religion and Social Justice at the University of the Western Cape. While deeply committed to academia, Thandi is equally passionate about accessibility. "Often you write a PhD and maybe two people read it... So central to my work is the question: what impact does this actually have in the real world?"

In a recent FeAST webinar marking the 40th anniversary of the Kairos Document, Thandi introduced *Freedom Theologies: South Africa* – a brand-new game seeking to bridge the gap between the classroom and everyday life.

HOW DID 'FREEDOM THEOLOGIES' COME ABOUT?

"*Freedom Theologies* really came out of my growing awareness, and frustration, of how often the Church's role in South Africa's history has been silenced or forgotten. I grew up in the Church, but I only came across the Kairos Document maybe a decade ago. Written by Black South Africans amid the turmoil of the 1985 State of Emergency, the Kairos document is a manifesto that boldly confronted the church's complicity with the apartheid regime.

As I started reading more and discovering these incredible stories of resistance, many of which I'd never heard of, I began collecting them – hoping to turn them into something people could actually engage with. The idea of turning it into a game came from something my brother and a friend had done – using a

bingo-style game to explore broader African histories. I loved the way it made learning participatory and fun, so I adapted that format. Quickly it became a really powerful way of getting people to engage deeply, but accessibly, with these hidden stories."

From 'The Black Christ' painting to the Peace March of 1989, players swap stories, map the moments on a timeline, and discuss how the dots connect to today.

She continued: "In South Africa you're constantly confronted with deep inequality and injustice. Cape Town is a prime example of the wealth divide. For a long time, I've asked various questions of the Church. The fact that so many of these stories are so unknown, I think says a lot about where we are as the church today. Surely, we should be doing something more than we currently are?"

WHAT IMPACT DO YOU HOPE THIS GAME WILL HAVE?

"These stories of everyday prophetic theologies and actions are really important because all of us have different roles to play in this work of 'world making'. Whether that happens through art, or a march, or even something as simple as a weekly meal. That's what the Cape Director of the Christian Institute did. The CI Agape meal was more than food. It was a lively space where people connected, prayed, and planned together, fuelling the fight against apartheid with shared spirit and action. We could do with more of that."



FeAST (the Fellowship of Anglican Scholars of Theology) is a creative, critical, and courageous hub for fresh theological thinking. Find out more at uspg.org.uk/feast



PARENTING WITH PURPOSE:

*Sandra Rollands Champions
Change in Guadalcanal*

By Ella Sibley – Former Regional Manager for Europe & Oceania, USPG

"Parenting is one job that has no qualifications," says Sheeran Harper, former Worldwide President of the Mothers' Union. This reminder that no one steps into parenthood fully prepared, but with the right support and shared wisdom, families can build strength and stability together is at the heart of the Positive Parenting Programme. It's a message Sandra Rollands, the Provincial MU President, is passionate about sharing.

The Positive Parenting Programme was introduced to the Anglican Church of Melanesia in 2011 and now receives support from USPG. Mrs Rollands, Provincial Mothers Union President, has played a key role in bringing this transformative programme to communities across the Solomon Islands for many years. Speaking at a recent training course held at Good Shepherd, North Guadalcanal, she highlighted the roots and purpose of the initiative.

As Sandra Rollands explains, the programme teaches skills in relationship-building, communication, and authority, and tackles issues such as domestic violence, child abuse, substance abuse, and broken families. With over two-thirds of women and girls in the Pacific experiencing gender-based violence, this training equips facilitators to help break these cycles and build safer, stronger families.

So far, the training course has already been rolled out in dioceses including Central Melanesia, Ysabel, Central Solomons, and Temotu. However, reaching some of the more isolated and remote islands within Temotu – such as Anuta and Tikopia, which are accessible only by boat – remains a significant challenge for trainers hoping to expand the programme's reach.

Despite the challenges, for Mrs Rollands, the goal remains clear: to build stronger, safer, more nurturing families by equipping local leaders – both women and men – with the skills to support parents in their own communities. This is not just about parenting children, but also tackling the social issues that are rooted in families and promoting "stable, faith-filled, and nurturing family environments".

Through storytelling, discussion, and participatory learning, the group from local parishes in the Diocese of Temotu explored themes such as family cycles, behaviour change, communication, child development, and protection. One



activity, the Trust Walk, had participants blindfolded and guided across the room by a partner. "The game enabled us to understand that parents and children must have trust between them," reflected one participant. To do this, another added, "we need strength from one another."

The impact of the training extends well beyond the classroom. Rooted in the Anglican Church of Melanesia's mission of "demonstrating God's love in responding to human needs in loving service," the Positive Parenting Programme is both practical and deeply spiritual. It shares and reflects God's love for families and children through action, understanding, and care. USPG is proud to champion community leaders such as Sandra, as we partner together in pursuit of gender justice.

As the training came to a close, Mrs Rollands looked to the future with hope and determination. With facilitators now equipped to bring these lessons back to their parishes, she is confident that the seeds sown during the week will flourish into stronger families and more resilient communities. As she reminds us, "Happy families form a happy community and consequently, a happy nation."

"Parenting is one job that has no qualifications."



Ella Sibley, Former Regional Manager for Europe & Oceania USPG (centre), pictured with members of the Mother's Union including Sandra Rollands, fourth from left.

MEET THE NEW TRUSTEES

We are delighted to welcome three new trustees to USPG – each bringing a unique blend of ministry, professional expertise, and a shared passion for justice and global mission.



The Revd Cathrine Ngangira, born and raised in Zimbabwe, now ministers across three rural parishes in the Diocese of Canterbury. Cathrine's journey with USPG began in 2019 and has included involvement with the FeAST advisory board and our annual conference and carol service.

"USPG gives me contact with the global Anglican Communion and hearing voices from across the world," Cathrine explains. "It's not just about supporting one place or one type of project. USPG is giving back to different parts of the Communion, and that's amazing!" What excites her most is the commitment to collaboration and partnership. For Cathrine, mission is not about one-directional giving, but about "modelling mutual partnership", a key part of our vision.



The Revd Kenson Li, originally from Hong Kong, is Assistant Curate at Manchester Cathedral. A musician, linguist, and former General Synod member, he trained for ministry in a West Yorkshire monastery. Kenson recalls, "Having read what being a trustee of USPG entails, "It reminded me what a diverse church I belong to... I'm called to serve people very different from me, in cultures I've never really understood before. It's enriched my own Christian faith."

A strong advocate for theological education, the Revd Kenson believes: "It's really important to train up a new generation of theologians who will use their scholarly work to speak of Christ's love."



The Revd David Chislett brings over 25 years' experience in senior finance roles alongside ordained ministry. Recently licensed as Vicar of Wargrave with Knowl Hill, he also joins the Finance & Audit Committee. When asked about his motivations for joining USPG, Revd David responded: "It was The Codrington Project that really resonated with me... having spent time in Barbados, I was inspired by how the work of reparative justice is more than archiving or providing housing. It's about honouring memory and restoring dignity."

A former Tearfund consultant, David reflects on a visit to community projects in Honduras.

"I saw first-hand how vital it is to listen, not lead. The people living and working in these contexts often hold the deepest insight into what's needed and that's something I really value about USPG's approach too."

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER:

Fundraise with USPG



Are you inspired by the work of our global Church partners, but unsure how to share that passion with others? Our brand-new DIY Fundraising Pack is here to help.

Designed with churches and individuals like you in mind, the pack includes everything you need to plan a creative, effective – and possibly even delicious – fundraising event. Whether it's a coffee morning, quiz night, bake sale or something unique for your community, this resource will help you turn your ideas into meaningful action.

Explore a range of practical tools, tips, and inspiration to help you raise funds and awareness for USPG's global mission.

Start planning today – download or order your free pack at: www.uspg.org.uk/fundraise-for-us



SPREAD THE WORD

Looking for ways to get your church more involved in global mission? Our Church Engagement Team work hard to provide a range of creative resources to help churches pray, take action, and give in solidarity with our partners across the Anglican Communion.

To learn more or request resources that suit your needs, please contact:
carolm@uspg.org.uk and kennedyj@uspg.org.uk.

SAVE THE DATE

— DATES FOR YOUR DIARY —

CARDIFF HALF MARATHON

Sunday 5 October

Come down and show your support for Team USPG runners at one of Europe's most popular half marathons.

USPG CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Monday 1 December, 6pm, St John's Waterloo, Waterloo Rd, London SE1 8TY

In support of World AIDS day and the Anglican Church of Tanzania's Prevention of Transmission of HIV programme. Featuring the incredible Soul Sanctuary Gospel Choir.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026

1-4 June 2026

High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire

We can't wait to see you there! Follow @USPGglobal to stay updated and secure your tickets.

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