

THE DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE
2019 DIOCESAN CONVENTION
Resolution #2019-03

To authorize the Bishop, Clergy and People of East Tennessee to enter into a formal companion relationship with the Missionary Diocese of Kondo, Tanzania, East Africa

PROPOSED BY: Rev. J.W. (Cal) Calhoun

REPRESENTATIVE AT CONVENTION: The Rev. J.W. (Cal) Calhoun, Rector, Good Samaritan, Knoxville

RESOLVED, That the 34th Convention of the Diocese of East Tennessee authorizes and encourages Bishop Cole, the clergy and the people of this diocese to take all steps necessary to enter into a formal Companion Relationship with the Missionary Diocese of Kondo, Tanzania, East Africa.

RATIONALE:

The Rt. Reverend Dr. Given Gaula and his wife the Reverend Lillian Gaula have been called by God through Christ to serve as missionaries to the peoples of Kondo, an impoverished area in Central Tanzania, East Africa that is historically and predominantly unfamiliar with the Good News of Christ.

Bishop Gaula and Rev. Lillian Gaula have labored with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to such good effect that the Anglican Church in Kondo has grown from 9000 members in 2012 to 15,000 members in 2017.

During the past four years Bishop Gaula and Rev. Lillian Gaula have visited the Diocese of East Tennessee and preached the Good News of Christ at St Paul's, Chattanooga; The Church of the Ascension, Knoxville; The Church of the Good Samaritan, Knoxville; St James, Knoxville; The Church of the Good Shepherd, Knoxville and the Episcopal School of Knoxville and have also visited and met with leaders of All Saints, Morristown, All Saints Episcopal School Morristown, the Episcopal School of Knoxville and the Episcopal Church Women.

Beginning in 2014 and continuing to the present time, members of Grace Church, Chattanooga; St Paul's, Chattanooga; St Stephen's, Oak Ridge; Ascension, Good Samaritan, Good Shepherd, and St John's Cathedral, all in Knoxville, St Clare's, LaFollette; and All Saints, Morristown, have journeyed to Kondo to worship with the Anglican peoples of Kondo and they have returned spiritually refreshed and invigorated by the warmth and enthusiasm of our faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Kondo, Tanzania, East Africa.

Before he retired, Bishop George. D. Young III met with Bishop Given Gaula on two occasions and determined that the Christian friendships that had begun to grow between our Diocese and the Missionary Diocese of Kondoa were Spirit filled and worthy of support and recognition by the Diocese of East Tennessee.

In 2018, Bishop Brian L. Cole led a group of ten clergy and members of the diocese to the Missionary Diocese of Kondoa to participate in the ordination of the first female deacons in Kondoa. Another group of clergy and members will return to Kondoa in June 2019 to participate in the ordination of these deacons as the first female priests in Kondoa.

This resolution has no financial impact on the diocese or its congregations.