

September 30 2014

Dear Friends,

I would like to bring to your attention the front page headline in the June issues of Anglican Journal: "Welby: 'we are never just a local church'"

In the accompanying interview the Archbishop of Canterbury goes on to say "...as a church, we never speak only in our local situation. Our voice carries around the world... We need to learn to live as a global church in a local context and never to imagine that we're just a local church. There is no such thing."

I would urge the Marriage Commission to follow his good counsel; "I hope that the church, in its deliberations, is drawing on the wealth of its contribution to the Anglican Communion and the worldwide church, to recognize...the way it works and how it thinks, to recognize the importance of its links. And that, in its deliberations, it is consciously listening to the whole range of issues that are of concern in this issue."

Up until now it appears that the at the Anglican Church of Canada has acted as if it were 'just a local church' on the issue of same sex blessings. I would urge the Anglican Church of Canada to act as a Global Church on the issue of same sex marriage. A decision to proceed will have a serious impact on our sisters and brothers in Christ in the Anglican Communion and a negative impact on our relationship with the Communion. May we relearn to live as a global church in a local context by respecting the traditional understanding of marriage.

Sincerely,

Bruce McKenna