



A Vision for the
Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity
Monrovia, Liberia
2013

From the Desk of the Dean

Worship is central to the health of congregational life. It should be welcoming, re-assuring, and inspiring in a way that excites people about the Christian journey and strengthens their trust in our Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ. This might require some liturgical diversity, more attention to the musical ministry (in both its choral development and involvement of adolescents); as well as to sermonic depth, articulacy and relevance. The Cathedral should be a focus for liturgical good practice within the diocese.

All Cathedral clergy should be conscious of :

- ✚ Our duty to make our churches lively places of worship (where the Word of God is faithfully preached and the sacraments duly administered); and exemplary families of the Christian way.
- ✚ Our responsibility to retain and access the wisdom of our older generation, and those familiar with the history and ways of our Church.
- ✚ Our responsibility to nurture the younger generation in the Anglican way and cultivate mature discipleship
- ✚ Our responsibility to use creatively the limited resources we have to our maximum profit.
- ✚ Our obligation as those who hold 'convening' authority and moral authority to articulate the concerns of those whose voices are less easily heard.
- ✚ Our obligation to be present and active in the community we serve.
- ✚ Our obligation as the central (not 'mother') Church to other local churches.

From the worshipping life of the Cathedral many things unravel.

1. Prayer and Care

- We aim to explore new ways of ministering to the ill and the older generation.
- Bible studies and weekday services can become moments of contemplation and mature discipling.
- Evening prayers should also supplement our spiritual diet.
- Our prayers and support should extend into prisons and hospital in a less *ad hoc* way.

2. Youth and Family

- Apart from the routine baptismal and confirmation classes, marriage counselling and participation in guilds and fraternities are encouraged.
- It seems good, in passing on the Anglican way to the younger generation, to hold lectures/talks for every change of liturgical season.
- Each event organised to foster cohesion in the Cathedral family should articulate clearly its social, educational, and Biblical/theological bases.
- Our support to families should include bursaries for the education of our youths.

3. Stewardship

- It is incumbent upon us to give account of that with which we have been entrusted. With our properties we should consider building works that might provide spaces for accommodation, offices, etc.
- We should explore international funding for specific community directed projects; and consider also grouping prominent individuals of the diocese (and/or the country) as 'Friends of Trinity'.
- As the Cathedral is entrusted with oversight of an educational institution, we should be able to offer adequate and appropriate guidance to her students and staff; at both operational and policy levels.
- As the central church of the diocese, we should strive to become the hub of information concerning local parishes, the diocese, the province, and the Anglican Communion.

4. Social Justice

- We are obliged to observe and comment on the negative effect of communal policies on the life of our people. In this we can actively work with other churches and the muslim community, if necessary.
- We should identify practically manageable tasks for ourselves in pursuit of a more equitable society (for example, perhaps being a centre to report cases of rape).
- We should consider a schedule of events where social and political issues are raised for our own education as a worshipping community, and possible action.

5. Evangelism

- We should consider adjusting our assets in such a way that makes us both serviceable to the community and accessible to the public. Are our website and souvenir shop tools of evangelism?
- What does it mean to be situated in a densely populated urban area near our brothers and sisters of Soniwein, Slipway, and West Point?
- How does the good news of hope, love, and reconciliation reach those to whom 'church' or 'religion' has never been part of what they feel they really belong to?

6. Staff

The work/ministry of the worshipping community is not something that happens automatically. It is carried out by committed lay persons and clergy who dedicate themselves to this work. With adequate and *appropriate* staff on board; clearly defined objectives, skilled supervision, and a well directed leadership, the Cathedral can become a focus of both *administrative* and *pastoral* good practice within the wider church.

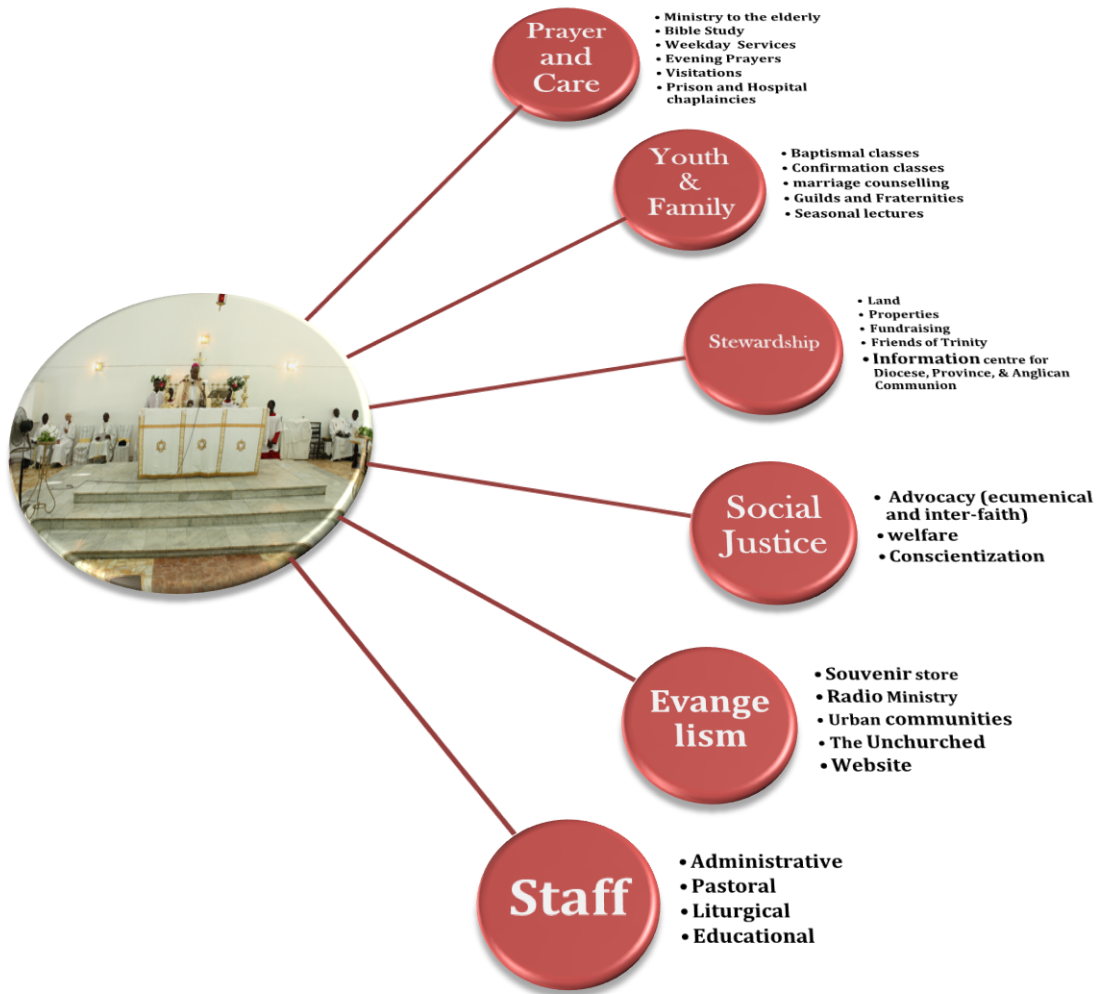
The Cathedral's work presently requires, amongst other things:

An Educator: Organizes lectures series – Advent, Lent, Easter; Produces brochures on cathedral ministries; Conducts confirmation classes and bible studies; Organizes seminars/workshops; Liaises with sunday school endeavours; Oversees website.

A Pastor: Conducts visits to the ill, bereaved, prison, and hospital; prepares godparents; wedding counselling; staff grievences, and develop urban outreach.

A Liturgist: prepares all liturgical (weekdays and Sundays) events and services; coordinates music ministry; supervises activity of all church guilds; keeps pre and post registry of services; organizes monthly church assemblies for BWH School.

A Steward: liaises with the Cathedral Treasurer; Supervises projects; monitors and arranges disposal of properties; proposes profitable use of assets; maintains Deanery, buildings and grounds; regulates petty cash, and manages scholarship fund;



This Church, founded circa 1855, and chartered as a Cathedral in 1960 is administered by the Dean, the Clergy and Chapter of the Cathedral, under the direction of the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Liberia, the Rt Revd Jonathan B.B. Hart, DD.