Easter came early this year. It is a very important event in a Christian’s life. It is celebrated to mark the day Jesus Christ died on the cross for the sins of humanity so that they can have eternal life.

At ADS-Kenya things were not any different. Apart from observing Easter, we also had a meeting with various stakeholders on capacity building on management of church assets, and thanksgiving service at ADS-Mt. Kenya East. Join us as we take you through some of the activities that made our March memorable.

**Introduction**

Easter came early this year. It is a very important event in a Christian’s life. It is celebrated to mark the day Jesus Christ died on the cross for the sins of humanity so that they can have eternal life.

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**1st John 3:5-6**

And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

**His Grace, The Most Rev. Dr. Eliud Wabukala’s Message for the Easter Holidays.**

**TOPIC:**

**STEWARDSHIP OF PUBLIC RESOURCES.**

“Bible Verse John 15:13” (“Greater love has no one than this than lay down one’s life for his Friends”).

Dear brethren as we celebrate this year’s Easter, I am happy with the peace that is prevailing in most parts of the country. However, as a nation we are still confronted with many challenges namely threatened cohesion at family and nation, weak institutions, corruption and political class not talking to each other. The Church stands to interrogate and guide those in leadership positions to exercise their God given mandate for the benefit of all Kenyans. The Anglican Church of Kenya remains vigilant in promoting human dignity as enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution and ensures governance.
systems are responsive to the needs of the taxpayers, who sustain the government and the society at large. I therefore seek to draw attention to the following national issues that need to be addressed with due urgency.

2.0 Corruption.

Lack of accountability of funds in the National and County Governments is alarming. Accountability is a national value issue. The Auditor-General and EACC reports reveal how public funds are stolen through mega corruption scandals involving collusion of key players. Wastage through failure to properly account for revenue collected, unsupported expenses, weak maintenance of cash books and accounting records and poor management of resources are common occurrences yet offenders are not prosecuted nor is any meaningful action taken. Who will respond to the accountability questions raised by the Auditor General and other accountability institutions? Are we promoting a culture of theft and wastage of national resources? Saying that those entrusted with public funds management are irresponsible is a gross understatement. This vice has permeated all sectors of our economy and society and there is urgent need to tame it by the leadership and the general public. The stolen property must also be recovered and properly utilized for the benefit of all. The institutions involved in the fight must speed up investigations and prosecutions of those involved. We urge the general public to also avoid corrupt practices. Another disturbing form of corruption is the mass examination cheating witnessed in our education system, this is the worst form because it destroys a whole society both now and in future. I note that over 5,000 students missed their examination results due to examination cheating in last year’s KCSE national examinations. This is only for those caught. What about those who were not? The older people involved in selling and buying exam papers for the children are teaching the children that the only way to success is through stealing. No wonder a recent research report revealed that majority of the youths are ready to condone corrupt practices. This outcome is a confirmation of how low as a nation we are in up holding our Christian and National values. I call on all citizens not to give up the struggle for a just and dignified life. We must follow our conscience, refrain from evil and do what is morally right. We must hold on to the hope, confidence and trust for a bright tomorrow and not resign to fate in apathy.

3.0 Strengthening Governance Institutions.

Our constitution has created many good institutions of governance that as a nation we must respect and strengthen for them to deliver their mandate. However, in recent past, the performance of those institutions is found to be wanting and unacceptable. We note that the office of the Chief Justice which is vital in our justice system will soon be vacant. Thus, we call upon the appointing authorities to ensure a proactive and smooth transition so that we can restore public confidence in the judiciary. As we approach the 2017 general elections, I want to urge the politicians to be civil with their competitors and avoid hate speeches that would polarize the nation more particularly along tribal lines. We further urge the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to work extra hard to restore public confidence in the electoral process.

4.0 Multi-Party Politics.

Whereas we have enjoyed the re-introduction of multi-party politics, I am saddened that we seem not to appreciate the role of the government and opposition. I want to urge the government and the opposition to respect the role played by each other and talks to each other as we nurture our democracy.

5.0 Transition in the Anglican Church of Kenya.

As you will recall, on 25th December 2015, I informed the church and the nation at large that the Anglican Church of Kenya would start the process of identifying my successor. I am happy to inform the church and the nation at large that the nominations of candidates started on 1/3/2016. The closing date for nominations will be 30/3/2016.
The opening of nominations as per the church’s constitution will be on Tuesday 5/04/2016. This is the date when we expect to know the candidates who have been nominated. The electoral college of the Anglican Church of Kenya is scheduled to meet on the 20/5/2016 to elect the 6th Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Kenya here at All Saints’ Cathedral Church. My retirement service is planned for 8/5/2016 while the enthronement of the new Archbishop will be on Sunday, the 3rd of July 2016. We invite you to earnestly pray for this process so that God may give us a leader of his choice. As I prepare to leave office, I wish to thank the Anglican Church of Kenya and the nation at large for partnering with us for the spiritual and social wellbeing of our beloved nation.

I want to wish you God’s peace during this period when we celebrate sacrifices made by our Lord on the cross and remind all of us to seek God’s Kingdom instead of seeking to amass earthly wealth.

6. Conclusion.

I urge you, my fellow citizens, to put God first and neighbor second before yourself, to shun ideologies and practices that may destroy our nation and focus on those things that will unite us and foster peaceful co-existence in the nation.

God bless you.

1. Preamble.

The participants gathered from 2nd to 4th March 2016 at AACC, Nairobi, representing churches and church-related organizations from 10 countries namely Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, DR Congo, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, Uganda, Nigeria, and Ghana. This was to show that they appreciated the importance of exercising proper stewardship over assets entrusted to them. They recognize that today, churches and church-related institutions such as schools, hospitals, seminars, universities and agencies own and manage large amount of assets (real estate, land, forests, water resources, works of art and financial investments) and that it is their God given responsibility to care for proper acquisition, use and disposal of these assets.

They gathered there under the auspices and the support of the All Africa Conference of Churches, Bread for the World and Globethics.net Foundation which is a global network on ethics with three regional programmes in Africa. (East Africa with an office in Nairobi, Kenya, Francophone Africa based in Cotonou, Benin and Southern Africa based in Pretoria, South Africa) and with over 20 National Contacts in the continent. The participants recognized that throughout history, many churches have continued to depend on their own assets rather than external donations that have remained unsustainable. The last three decades of gradual decrease in funding from donors have opened their eyes to new possibilities for becoming self-sustaining through creative use of Assets entrusted to them by God.

Today, they believe that the ethical efficient and effective management of entrusted assets and resources is not only a moral duty, but also an economic imperative to guarantee the long-term sustainability of these services.

2. They were full of hope and brought their confessions.

Participants gave their manifold success stories of their institutions of improved and successful management of assets which led to an in-
They thanked God for all faithful people and their courage as change-makers and good stewards of assets which are God’s property to care for. They also confessed the too often poor governance, leadership and accountability in the management of their assets and resources in religious institutions as common practice, in the continent of Africa. They remained deeply concerned at the growing portfolio in many of our countries. Indeed debt is not life in dignity. The campaign for debt cancelation for two decades does not seem to have yielded any significant benefits to their communities. They were deeply concerned at how senseless wars and conflicts have destroyed the fabric of our society and led to destruction of some of their valuable assets.

They confessed that they had been slow in making decisions concerning acquisition and use of assets and they had not been able to think about time in an ethical and theological manner. They confessed that they had not always exercised effective and efficient stewardship over use of assets entrusted to them. They had been inconsistent with their mission. They confessed having grossly underinsured a number of their major assets against fire, theft and loss. They remained concerned about the fact that many of their institutions still did not have asset registers of their properties to effectively control and monitor their use. They confessed having hung onto assets even where it is clear that they could have been disposed of and proceeds from sale better invested. The process of securing and recording their assets has shortfalls... There are no Fixed Assets Registers maintained.

3. As they returned to their churches, they committed themselves to:

Recommend to their churches to consider developing a theological curriculum in their educational institutions that addresses effective stewardship over assets.

Sensitize their communities about the importance of stewardship over resources entrusted to them by God.

Recommend putting in place a robust management and leadership structure that cares for their resources: this includes taking stock of the land bank that they have and seek to work with reliable investors.

Ensure that for leasehold assets they shall try to seek for better returns by making creative use of existing land-operating leases.

Establish the culture of utilizing professionals to assist them manage their assets in a better manner.

Ensure that they verify the reasonableness of returns on investment of their assets by being in touch with likeminded organizations.

Maintain an Assets Register and that is regularly up dated. All assets will be tagged for proper identification.

Put in place a basic insurance cover to assist many churches secure their assets against loss and theft.

4. As for the development partners,

They were asked to stand with them in the process of implementing the commitments and to support them in coordination between them, in expertise and identifying experts, in putting in place mechanisms of asset management. They were also asked to accompany them in the effective acquisition, use and management of assets in keeping with their core mission.
INTRODUCTION.

ADS Mount Kenya East covers the 5 dioceses of Mount Kenya east region namely Kirinyaga, Embu, Mbeere, Meru and Marsabit.

The Board and the Management of ADSMKE 3 years ago, resolved to having an annual event an ADSMKE-Day, which brings together all the dioceses in a colorful service as a way of Thanks giving to God. After the rebranding process, it was such renewal and growth, that ever since accelerated ADSMKE to greater heights.

The annual service of thanksgiving for the Anglican Development Services of Mt. Kenya East and the Induction service for the church committee members 2016-1017 of ACK Diocese of Mbeere took place on 6th March 2016. the theme for the event was PRESSING ON TOWARDS THE GOAL TO WIN THE PRIZE (Philippians 3:12-14).

OBJECTIVE.

1. To tap on opportunity of local resource mobilization strategies.

2. To enhance strong and cordial relationships between the ADSMKE and the Diocese.

3. For unity and fellowship in the region.

To share what ADSMKE is doing in the region.

ACHIEVEMENTS.

ADSMKE has successfully held three (3) annual Thanksgiving Services. In the first year we held one- which raise funds toward the Youth Fund. Thanksgiving Day has been a success to the staff and the communities we serve.

They give contributions in form of cash and in kind, special gifts from farmers include, agriculture produce, cereals grains vegetable fruits and livestock, such as goats, chicken, ducks rabbits and sheep. Here below is the progress and performance of the past 3 years

2014- The event was in Meru Diocese held at St. Peters Mitunguu; a total figure of 1.2 Million was realized. This amount was put in a project to Support the construction of Diocesan offices.

2015- The event was held up in Marsabit Diocese held at ACK Isiolo church and a total fund of 1.4 Million was realized. This was put into the construction of the Diocesan office in Marsabit.

2016- The event was held in Mbeere Diocese at St. Peters Siakago – Cathedral. A total of 3.2 Million Kenya shillings was realized, and this was dedicated to construct Cathedral wall.

CHALLENGES.

The initial agreement was to raise fund and commit it to Social transformation Ministry in the specific dioceses. Maybe this was not very clear when the Diocese were asked to make a choice of the project. Therefore there is need to revise and to make every stakeholder understand the importance of this day and construction is not everything.
The persons undersigned to open the nomination papers verified the nominations Forms for the candidates to fill the position of the 6th Archbishop of Kenya and Bishop of All Saints Cathedral Diocese and the following candidates have been validly nominated for the said election:

2. The Right Rev. James Kenneth Ochiel, Bishop, Diocese of South Nyanza
4. The Right Rev. Lawrence Kavutsu Dena, Bishop, Diocese of Malindi.
5. The Right Rev. Jackson Nasoore Ole Sapit, Bishop, Diocese of Kericho.

Updates on the transition of the Archbishop.

The Right Rev. Jackson Nasoore Ole Sapit, Bishop, Diocese of Kericho.

The Right Rev. Julius N. Wanyoike, Bishop, Diocese of Thika.

The Right Rev. Lawrence Kavutsu Dena, Bishop, Diocese of Malindi.

The Right Rev. James Kenneth Ochiel, Bishop, Diocese of South Nyanza.


The Right Rev. Joel Waweru, Bishop, Diocese of Nairobi.
Global Fund Kenya Programmes and KCM governance updates overview

The meeting was held on 15th to 17th March 2016 at Sagana Resort to discuss health matters. 16 grants from 2003 to 2014 worth USD 896 million and Kenya is the 7th largest beneficiary of Global Fund in the world. USD 600 million has been distributed between 2005 and 2014. The current grant is USD 404 million. Between 2003 and 2014, Global Fund has signed 16 grants with Kenya worth USD 896 million. In the past, Kenya would always fail to get the funds despite the expertise it has. Kenya has been cited as one of the best performing countries and even countries such as Mozambique have been sent by GF to learn from Kenya.

Days when HIV started, they didn’t mind what you had to do to get the funding. You could train Community Health Workers. Now they have indicators because Congress is saying that money is less. Initially it was seen as emergency but now they are becoming a lot more restrictive and things are slowly shifting. They are now going after Adolescents (whom they believe are carrying a lot of burden) and children. 98 per cent of HIV/AIDS initiatives are funded by US government. If they were to pull out, there would be a huge crisis in Kenya. They shifted to counties. Many counties are out of priority with priority now only shifting to high prevalence counties and also facilities with numbers.

They have small funds that they manage every year and it’s handled by the Mission in Kenya. (Kenya PEPFAR office)

International Agencies have Business Development Units which have very talented proposal writers.

Number of issues raised is to deal with governments. We should be asking ourselves, what can we do differently to get these counties working?

We also have to focus on strict accountability systems as Faith Based Organizations (FBO).

Discussions on challenges with Health workers

What is making our professional colleagues unreliable?

There's a lot more to do with people, their values and reminding them of their professional ethics. Kenya is a free labor market. Some of the seconded workers go back to the counties and complain. They also agreed that they also need to work on documentation such as an MOU to guide how the seconded will take place.

Health workers migration is everybody’s problem, we are always been asked what are you doing about it.

On staff migration especially after spending large amounts of resources to train them, they agreed to look at the MOU and see how to engage Council of Governors. FBO have become like an incubator; the staff are trained and then poached. Is it that their model of service provision is not sustainable? Is it more social than business oriented? Do big hospitals face similar challenges? Maybe exit interviews can also be carried out to find out why those who are leaving are doing so. There are push factors that cause workers to leave; some may be real, some of these factors may be imaginary.

Maybe other staff going to the counties have a feeling of more freedom, can do their own business and they are not followed as much.

As FBOs, they may need to mentor them on values for service. Previously, the government used to make sure they employ and bond them until they complete the loans. In their systems, they don’t have job securities. They have been talking of dialogue with the counties and this is the right time to have it. This is the right time because they will listen to them because they will be seeking re-election next year. They are promising much now but they don’t need promises, they need policies implemented.

USAID funding requires technical writers. Is it possible to have a team to be constituted on need basis to ensure the facilities benefit?

The participants posing for a group photo during the Global Fund meeting. The meeting informs future engagement of the faith community with Kenya Coordination Mechanism. It was held in Sagana Gateway Resort, Muranga County, 15th – 17th March, 2016

It would be difficult for those running facilities to think of what is in the paper for ‘call for proposals’. If this training is granted to FBOs, it would give better opportunities and confidence to apply for them.

There’s a new effort to reopen that discussion. They have approached CoG-health chair. They have also asked Governor Jack Ranguma to give us space to present partnership issues in his meetings. This could be one of the challenges we raise—health workers. Hospitals are losing but it helps when you get higher cadre staff. They are agreeable to give you a doctor when they have excess.

In their facilities they have limited resources. Facilities now depend on user fee- 98 per cent. Staff retention is therefore not easy.

Frustration of staff moving- How do they deal with immediate gap that is left? The workers left behind go through so much strain. How are they taking care of the care givers? There is work overload and stress of people left behind. They can do something to acknowledge their work and efforts?

In terms of mentorship, facilities should identify mentors who are appreciated and motivated to mentor new employees for the organization. For negotiating with counties, they get their senior bishops within the county, go there, talk to the governor, be persistent and somehow, maybe they will listen to them. It’s a big challenge. They can also consider employing staff on contract as opposed to permanent and pensionable basis.
Meru Diocese contribution during the Thanksgiving service

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “come O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me I was in prison and you came to me” Matthew 25 : 34 - 36

Board Members contributing

A plague marking the annual ADSMKE thanksgiving service. On it are the names of the various people who graced the occasion. The event was held on 6th March 2016 in Mbeere Diocese at St. Peters Siakago –Cathedral.
INTRODUCTION.

The event which was held on Tuesday 8th March 2016 at Blue Post Hotel, Thika, brought together various development organizations and stakeholders. Five talents enable the rural poor to set up and grow sustainable small businesses. The program provides innovative savings schemes, small loans and business training for the enterprising poor. It's microfinance for the marginalized.

Five talents has supported nearly 80,000 clients via their network of local partners in East Africa. Their clients have dignity, determination, and know that they genuinely care. By the end of 2020, the program aims to reach 250,000 clients and through the impact on their lives, their dependents and their local communities, bring benefit to over 1.2 million individuals. To reach this figure, it will need to accelerate our current rate of growth.

The month saw the launch of Five Talents Kenya, an umbrella organization that will allow for continued growth of savings and financial inclusion programs in Kenya, and demonstrates a commitment to local leadership and sustainable development.

“I was really impressed by the birth of FT Kenya and the presence of many local witnesses who were able to give warmth to our international partners. To all of you who have made us who we are and who continue to reach out to other needy groups in our three continents in the spirit of the Great Commission we say thank you very much”. - Ret. Bishop Gideon

The new organization will allow for greater streamlining, oversight, and growth. Five Talents Kenya will also facilitate development of strategic partnerships with a wider group of development NGOs.

Microfinance is perhaps one of the most successful and sustainable modes of transformational development in practice today. Within the Anglican Province of Kenya, microfinance implementation is fronted by Five Talents-Kenya, through community savings-led programs. Presently, the program is being implemented in the dioceses of Thika, Embu, Nakuru and just starting in Kericho.

The program has been able to steadily develop a dominant niche as a rural financier, serving over 12000 people, Project Activities

The program primarily engages in capacity building activities at the grass roots. This approach ensures in-built ownership and sustainability. Training in group dynamics and mentorship is important for building well-disciplined, cohesive and loyal clientele with a common purpose as well as promoting ‘trust’ among peers. ‘Trust’ is necessary for the enforcement of group rules, regulations, and building a healthy portfolio. To realize financial inclusion, a multi-dimensional pro-client concept approach is while building a savings portfolio of Ksh0.25million; a demonstration that rural finance is both a viable business and can be socially transformational. The financial services network is strategically dispersed throughout the underserved rural areas.

FT International Chair Grant Mason and the FT Kenya chair Ret. Bishop Gideon Githiga during the Five Talents Kenya launch.
This includes; 1) increasing access, 2) availing better products and 3) delivery of quality services. The result is better informed and equipped clientele, and effective use of products and services.

**Program Implementation**

Five Talents in corroboration with the diocesan Community Development Trusts identifies deficiencies that contribute to poor program management and inhibits growth in programs. Amongst these deficiencies are in:

1. **Information Asymmetry:**

   Markets provide platforms for the mechanisms of exchange, and therefore timely availability of information is necessary for making informed decisions. Lack or inadequate information contributes to slow enforcement of group rules and regulations, insufficient client database, lack of clarity in clients’ needs, and maintenance of good accounts records. This can expose the groups to diverse reputation risks and reduce the confidence of savers.

2. **Building Capacity.**

   (i) **Harmonized Training Curriculum & Content**

   When a training content is not tested and of the recommended standards within the microfinance industry, it gives rise to un-related outcomes in group members’ behaviour. This contributes to difficulties in peer to peer relationships with weak group rules & regulations enforcement.

   (ii) **Lack of coherent Governance and Group policies**

   Savings Groups should ideally operate through boards that are in charge of policy and guidance. Boards’ functions are mainly on the development of Policies, Internal Control Mechanisms, and Human Resource.

   (iii) **Exposure and use of Enterprise/Business skills**

   In order to manage a healthy portfolio, which is mainly contributed by loan default and late repayments, adequate entrepreneurial and business skills training is necessary. This limits choice of unsustainable business ventures by members. Lack of awareness and information also inhibits the community from accessing and exploiting emerging business opportunities.

3. **The S.T.I.R Model**

   Based on the portfolio status the Trust Groups (savings groups) have attained; and the wide appreciation of the program by the community, it is evident that this is a valuable complement to formal and other informal financial services, that have given people opportunities to save, borrow, build assets and receive social supports, even social services. It is also clear that the Five Talents supported groups are progressively building a network of savings-led groups that are 1) Sustainable, 2) Transformational, 3) Inspirational, 4) Replicable – S.T.I.R. The technical model and methods adopted have emerged to support the Savings Groups scaling up, becoming clearer as the groups move on to maturity.
The experiences and lessons learnt are used to further explore issues of agent models, clustering/networking, bank linkages, branchless banking and the use of Savings Groups as a platform for other interventions such as value chains, safety net, energy projects, and risk management preparation. It is envisaged that each program can capture a double-bottom line financial and social performance.

### Upcoming events.

1. Updates on the candidates nominated for the election of the 6th Archbishop of Kenya and Bishop of All Saints Cathedral Diocese.
2. The Educational symposium organized for all Principals of Anglican sponsored schools.
3. Updates on the election process on the 20th May concerning the 6th Archbishop at All Saints Cathedral.
4. Updates on the retirement service on the 8th of May 2016 at All Saints Cathedral.
5. Profile of the 5th Archbishop and Bishop of All Saints Cathedral.
6. Meeting with the act forum.

### What We Do:

The following six focus areas contribute to ADS Kenya’s vision and mission.

**Through Community Development**, ADS Kenya supports the regions in direct implementation of most of the programs focusing on the following:

- Water and sanitation.
- Health and HIV.
- Food security.
- Livelihood and Micro-Finance.
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaption (CCA).

**Advocacy**, backed by research on emerging social challenges, ADS carries out advocacy at the national level in Kenya and also facilitate the ADS regions to engage in county advocacy. ADS Kenya engages in policy formulation, mining and extractives, peace building and citizen participation in governance.

**Climate Change Adaptation**, through sustainable use of biodiversity enhanced. ADS Kenya works with the ADS regions to spearhead efforts aimed at building community.
**Sustainability and availability of development resources**, through structured capacity building programs. ADS Kenya takes the lead in concept development, proposal writing, and joint resource mobilization for ADS regions.

**Institutional strengthening and capacity development**, ADS Kenya makes an effort to ensure the church and her institutions are effective and efficient in delivering her mandate. It also refocuses her efforts in strengthening any institutional gaps that may arise.

**Knowledge management that will include Research, Communication and Documentation**, ADS Kenya takes the lead in this area and work closely with the nine ADS Region by developing a framework for research and documentation, bearing in mind the level and depth needed for various platforms.

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