

A Proposal for Vision36

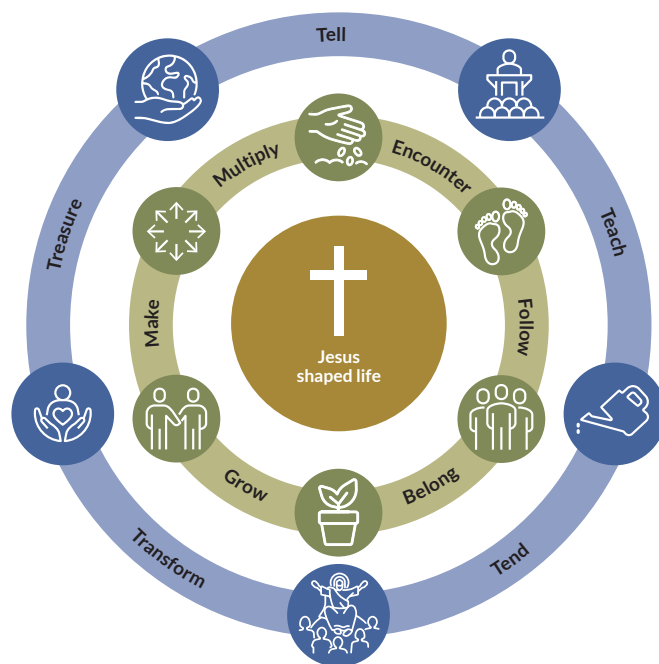
For the growth of
discipleship with
church planting
across the Anglican
Communion

This is a proposal for a Communion-wide vision of living Jesus-shaped lives, in a Jesus-shaped church, for a Jesus-shaped world to the glory of God in the power of the Holy Spirit.

It is a multiplication vision for every disciple and every church in the Anglican Communion. It is one in which everyone grows, and prayerfully helps someone else to grow, as wholehearted disciples of Jesus based on scripture, and in which every church has planted one or more new congregations, or has itself been revived, over ten years. As a sign of hope among many challenges around the world, including war, climate change and the rise of secularism, it is a vision of planting or renewing **one million** deeply rooted, spiritually healthy and fruitful congregations worldwide.

This is for the coming of the Kingdom of God and the transformation of the world according to the Five Marks of Mission (represented by the outer blue circle in the diagram above). It will follow the Season of Intentional Discipleship which began in 2016 (at the Anglican Consultative Council in 2016) and which finishes in 2026.

The vision is for a new decade, from **2026 to 2036**, in which making disciples will be supplemented with planting healthy churches (represented by the inner green circle in the diagram). At the centre of all this will be Anglicans and others living Jesus shaped lives prayerfully guided by scripture and worship including the sacraments within their different contexts across the globe.



The Decade will incorporate JC2033, an ecumenical movement of Christians around the world who are celebrating the 2000th anniversary of the resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter 2033.

These celebrations will provide a key staging post in the decade, to praise the risen Christ for the church planting and revitalisation that has already taken place and to commit to continuing the initiative until 2036.

They will also provide an opportunity to offer more widely our wisdom and conviction for the renewal of the Church in the mission of God in the world, with intentional commitment to making the normal culture of our church one of missionary discipleship and the multiplication of churches.

The Big Idea: by 2036



Everyone in our churches has grown and helped someone else to grow as a wholehearted disciple of Jesus based on scripture within their own context;



Every church has grown new deeply rooted congregations of wholehearted disciples grounded in Safe Church principles of commitment to safety, respect, accountability and healthy relationships within all aspects of church life;



Every disciple and every congregation has played their part in transforming their local communities through the sacrificial love of Jesus in ecumenical partnership with other churches;



Every Province, diocese and church has played its part in planting a million new congregations involved in safely transforming their local communities.

Why?

In Matthew 28.16-20 Jesus calls on his followers to make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In Acts 1.8 he promises that they will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon them and they will be witnesses in Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth. But in what manner will this disciple-making take place?

In his parables Jesus gives us a clue in the images of organic growth, of seeds, plants and trees (Mark 4, Matthew 13). Sometimes the growth has tiny beginnings (as with a mustard seed) and sometimes it happens secretly (Mark 4.26-9). But as roots go down deep, the branches stretch up and out and birds of the air can come and find shelter. So with the coming of the kingdom of God in the hearts and lives of the company of disciples as they respond to Jesus' call. Trust is needed, mixed with expectant hope and generous love, then a Communion-wide vision of God's children living Jesus-shaped lives, in a Jesus-shaped church, for a Jesus-shaped world, to the glory of God in the power of the Holy Spirit, will be realised.



How will we get there?

As a Commission:

1. ACCED will mobilise/catalyse a global prayer movement which includes religious and monastic communities to support and deepen this vision
2. It will consult widely: IASCUFO (theology), CTEAC (training), Safe Church Commission (health), ACC (authorisation), Primates (leadership)
3. It will signpost resources and develop Bible-based resources when asked to do so
4. Members of the commission will individually champion Vision36 in their own provinces and regions
5. It will encourage regional training, consultations and webinars
6. It will meet three times per year online, and every two years in person, to stimulate, develop and encourage the vision into action

As a Communion:

- **To Envision:** Whenever Anglicans gather in various contexts, they will be encouraged to envision, celebrate, model and empower Vision36;
- **To Equip:** ACC will be invited to encourage and inspire provinces to mobilise and equip dioceses to realise the outcomes of Vision36;
- **To Enable:** ACC will be asked to invite dioceses to set a budget, appoint a team and create a plan to implement Vision36; report to their province on the impact; and give results on progress, so that the Communion can celebrate, support and pray for it;
- **To Empower:** Provincial and diocesan teams will be invited to encourage their parishes and congregations to grow in evangelism, discipleship, and church planting, supported by prayer teams and monastic communities, according to Safe Church Guidelines, to realise the goals of Vision36.

The Ask:

ACCED is inviting ACC-19
to affirm Vision36.

ACCED has consulted extensively, introduced the vision in the Lambeth Call webinars and made initial connections with IASCUFO, CTEAC and the Safe Church Commission.

The vision is already alive in many places. It now needs affirmation and endorsement of the Anglican Communion's senior leadership to see it take root and reach its fulfilment and goals.

The Process

To enable this vision to be fulfilled, there are three steps within an organic process:

1. Planting seeds (the vision) in Provinces & dioceses

ACCED will work with willing bishops, clergy and laity to build momentum, to highlight stories of good practice in their dioceses. It will work with IASCUFO to uncover robust Anglican theology and ecclesiology to support the vision and practice. Different Provinces in different contexts will require different approaches. Storytelling will be vital for building momentum.

2. Cultivating growth

ACCED will support contextual learning and training where the focus will be on training trainers, so that disciple-making and church planting practices are embedded in reproducible ways. It will work with CTEAC to source and disseminate excellent training materials for disciple-making and church planting, holding resources on webpages linked to the anglicancommunion.org website.

3. Working for the harvest

ACCED will encourage every disciple to help another disciple to grow; and we will encourage every church to plant another congregation or be revitalised itself - across tribal, language, generational and other boundaries where possible - with local budgets and sustainable models. We will encourage dioceses to capture their progress to share with others, especially during a designated season of the year, and to celebrate all that God is doing. We will also promote participation in the JC2033 celebrations to encourage this growth and multiplication.



Timetable

- **March 2026**
Proposed resolution submitted for ACC-19
- **June 28th to July 5th 2026**
ACC19 in Belfast, UK, with ACCED reps to advocate for Vision36
- **Oct 2026**
ACCED biennial in-person gathering in Kenya to include the launch of Vision36 and its rollout
- **2027-2035**
Regional training events in partnership with participating provinces, as funding permits
- **2028**
ACCED biennial gatherings for Vision36 review and development

ACC-19

The Anglican Consultative Council – 2026

Resolution for ACC-19

In light of the imperative of the Great Commission, to 'Go and make disciples of all nations', the ACC affirms the need for every province, diocese and parish in the Anglican Communion to adopt a clear focus and 'walk an extra mile' in the next decade, from 2026 to 2036, as per Vision36, to grow wholehearted discipleship among their people and to plant ONE million new churches/ communities/ congregations, in order to share in the calling and sanctification of the body of Christ.

Find out more about Vision36

Link up with others through ACCED:
email acced@anglicancommunion.org

Can you make a financial contribution to promoting
Vision36 across the Anglican Communion?

Please contact

stephen.spencer@anglicancommunion.org
for information on how to do this.



Find out more about the work of the Anglican
Communion Office, the official Secretariat to the
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