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## *A Consultation on Human Sexuality in South Africa*

**An article from the *Cathedral Times*  
by the Very Reverend Samuel G. Candler,  
Dean of the Cathedral of St. Philip**

Dear Friends,

It has been my sincere honor to have been invited to participate in a very special consultation this week, a consultation assembled to strengthen relationships and bonds of affection across the Anglican Communion. The conference is using the subject of human sexuality as its theme, the very subject which, in many circles, is so controversial in the church. Here is the description of the event officially released:

*"In mid-October, the Chicago Consultation and the Ujamaa Centre of the University of KwaZulu-Natal will convene a gathering in South Africa to strengthen mission and advocacy connections among Anglicans who are interested in the theology of human sexuality and justice. We believe that deeper connections with each other will make it easier for us to work together in mission and to communicate productively when challenging Communion-wide issues arise. The co-conveners of the consultation are Professor Gerald West, director of the Ujamaa Centre, and Professor Esther Mombo of St. Paul's University in Limuru, Kenya.*

*The consultation, which will involve about 55 people and last for three days, will be grounded in the Indaba process, prayer and Bible study and will explore theological perspectives on human sexuality and justice. Participants will include theologians, bishops, church leaders, grassroots advocates for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and other people willing to engage in intensive conversations across cultural boundaries.*

*The participants in the consultation will share their experiences with the wider church through stories and video reflections and through the report of a listening team led by the Rev. Janet Trisk, a representative to the Anglican Consultative Council from the Church of Southern Africa."*

I am in South Africa now, as I write this weekly newsletter; and I have already met good people, new friends""from South Africa, Uganda, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Kenya. It is a lovely, an absolutely lovely, experience. This Sunday, October 16, I hope to present a summary of the consultation at the Dean's Forum""if I have survived jet lag. Join me!

Sam Candler signature



The Very Reverend Sam Candler