

The History of Ministering Communities in Mission

Bishop Brian Farran





Roland Allen

**Missionary Methods: St Paul s or
Ours? (1912)**

**The Spontaneous Expansion of the
Church and the Causes which
Hinder it (1927)**





Alaska



A Christian community which has come into being as the result of the preaching of the Gospel should have „handed over to it the Bible, creed, ministry and sacraments.



A Christian community is responsible, with the bishop, for recognizing the spiritual gifts and needs in its membership and for calling into service priests to preside at the Eucharist and to be responsible for the word and for pastoral care.



A Christian community is also required to share the message and the life with its neighbouring communities not yet evangelized.



The Holy Spirit working on the human endowment of the community's leaders [are] sufficient for its life. Don't train them too much. Don't import from the outside.



A Christian community that cannot do these things is not yet a CHURCH; it is a mission field.



The bishop and his staff are crucial resources of the vision.





Ministering Communities...

...not Communities
gathered around a Minister



Every member of the
Church is gifted for
ministry



Seminary Trained Clergy
will be Trainers and
Enablers of Others



The Diocese will provide
effective support to
congregations



“every community of faith, no matters its size, no matter where it is situated or how little money is available, must be entitled to have a complete life and thus be empowered for comprehensive mission”





“all members are called to discover, with the help of the community, the gifts they have received and to use them for the building up of the Church and for the service of the world to which the Church is sent”

Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry, Lima 1982



Lambeth Conference 1968

All Christians share in the priesthood of their Lord. This is the primary order of ministry in the Church to which *all* Christians are consecrated by baptism, and which in union with Christ they fulfil by offering the diversity of their lives, abilities, and work to God.



Lambeth Conference 1978

The Christian ministry is committed to the whole people of God; and not, as is often believed, to the ordained ministry alone.



Lambeth Conference 1988

If you are a baptized Christian, you are already a minister. Whether you are ordained or not is immaterial. No matter how you react, the statement remains true. You may be surprised, alarmed, pleased, antagonized, suspicious, acquiescent, scornful or enraged. Nevertheless, you are a minister of Christ....This gift of new life received at our baptism carries with it the implied gift of authority for ministry.





*The Anglican
Diocese of
Newcastle*

