

ANGLICAN-LUTHERAN SOCIETY CONFERENCE 2016

WORKSHOP THREE

Leader : Canon Dr Alfred uw'Imana Sebahene

Title : The Anglican and Lutheran Churches, Church Institutions, Christian Faith, and Corruption: Illuminating What Is Not Seen

Outline : My ten minutes presentation was about overcoming the barrier of corruption in African nations through Christian churches and their institutions. I invited all who attended to reflect seriously on the role of the Christian Churches (in our case Anglican and Lutheran) and Christian Faith as a new and potential avenue of inquiry in addressing the harsh realities of corruption and injustice in the public domain in Africa and beyond.

The world is currently witnessing an increased consciousness of corruption and injustice and the threats and challenges they pose to humanity. I suggested that corruption has for many decades been understood as a political, economic, legal, or developmental issue but, while there is some truth in that, but there is more to it! I sought to demonstrate that Anglican and Lutheran Churches have a theological and ethical duty to perform, and to perform well, so that corruption no longer “mocks at justice”, but is indeed eradicated so that people in Africa and beyond may testify that their countries are corruption free states, ones in which “peace and justice embrace”.

I proposed some guidelines on how churches can be effective in this endeavour and invited discussion.

Canon Dr Alfred uw'Imana Sebahene is the founding Dean of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, and currently the Director of Extension Education, at St John's University of Tanzania. If you wish to engage in a discussion of this topic you may contact him at arsebahene2@yahoo.co.uk