

NEWS FROM THE LI TIM-OI FOUNDATION

Congratulations to our Chair

Our warmest congratulations to Margaret, who was ordained deacon at a beautiful and moving service in York Minster on 30th June 2019. Margaret is undertaking her post-ordination training at St John's Cranmer Hall, Durham and serving her curacy at St Chad's, York. We wish her God's blessings as she ministers in her new role.

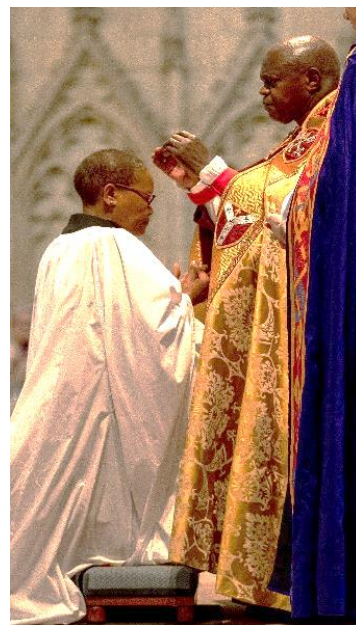


Photo: Charlotte Graham

Christopher receives money from HM the Queen!



More congratulations are due to our very own Canon Christopher Hall, who was one of those to receive the Maundy Money this year. Christopher was chosen for this honour for having served for nearly 25 years as the Honorary Secretary of the Li Tim-Oi Foundation.

Thank You!

A huge Thank You to all of you who held services in honour of the 25th anniversary of women being ordained to the priesthood in the Church of England and who sent collections to the Li Tim-Oi Foundation. These services raised significant funds for the Foundation, which will now be given in grants to women across the Anglican Communion, to enable them to follow their calling to the ordained priesthood and to lay ministries. The virtuous cycle continues!

Message from the Chair, The Revd Margaret Sentamu

Dear Friend,

Greetings and a very warm welcome to our 2019 Autumn Newsletter. Since we last wrote to you at the beginning of the year, there have been many exciting changes for us. Thanks to our new website, we have seen a large increase in applications for grants, which we are now able to receive electronically, even when sent from mobile phones. This greatly helps women who have very limited access to the internet.

The Foundation's purpose is to enable Christian women to be the agents of change in their own communities. This year we have so far awarded grants to 30 women for a wide variety of courses, including training for the ordained ministry, theology, mission, nursing, nutrition, teaching, child development, community health, HIV/AIDS counselling and business administration. Most of these courses are for three years and we are committed to supporting them throughout their education, releasing their energies for their studies, instead of being concerned with raising fees for their education.

The difference this training makes in the lives of these women is incalculable and in this Newsletter we include some of the messages we have received from these 'Daughters of Li Tim-Oi'. In the 25 years that the Foundation has existed we have given grants to nearly 500 women, thanks to your support and generosity. We know what a great difference this training makes to the women and in the lives of their churches, dioceses and communities.

Of course, we are only too aware that there are many more women who have still not been able to fulfil their calling because of lack of funds. This is why we have decided to have a presence in the Resource Centre of next year's Lambeth Conference. We believe there could be no better way to spread the word about the Foundation than to meet the bishops and their spouses from all over the Anglican Communion, those from places where women need support for their education and training and also those from areas where they may be able to contribute funds for women's training. We pray that by being at Lambeth 2020 we will become known in many more provinces and so be able to support women who at present do not know we exist.

We will be asking for volunteers to help out on our stand during Lambeth 2020, so if you can come and give us a few hours of your time, that would be marvellous. Please email Stephanie Lewis-Grey, our Executive Secretary, and let her know. She will be delighted to hear from you!

I would like to end with a message of hope: we have seen and heard of many lives changed through the women who have received grants for training. I remain amazed by their courage and perseverance and faith in the vision of what Christ is able to do for them and the people they serve. I hope you will enjoy reading some of their stories and hearing more about our plans for the future.

With many thanks for your prayers and support,



Margaret Sentamu (The Revd)

Daughters write:

"I would like to extend my gratitude for helping me pursue my dreams of becoming a theologian and a minister of God. I thank God for your continual support. I am learning a lot, from urban theology to missions. I can't really express how much this has helped me grow in my ministry of children and the youth. May God bless you so much."

Esther Mwangolo, Carlile College, Malindi Diocese, Kenya

"I wish to thank you for all that you did for me. Without you, I would sincerely not have made it. Please convey my heartfelt thanks to the members of the Li Tim-Oi family."

Harriet Masika, South Rwenzori Diocese, Uganda



"I graduated in Cross Cultural Mission in 2017. I understand the Bible more than I used to and it has helped me in interpreting the Gospel in relation to culture and behaviour of the people I am now meeting. I have visited many remote places by foot to carry out evangelism activities where even vehicles cannot pass. In August we visited another remote place that was accessible by boat. I am now able to counsel students and share the same knowledge with fellow Christians at church. Currently, I am Chairperson of the Church Army in the Anglican Diocese of Northern Malawi.

Liness Machezo Masoo, Carlile College, Malawi

“Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I completed a diploma in Cross Cultural Ministry at Carlile College. We have been moving within the Northern Anglican Diocese in Malawi, reaching out to different parishes conducting crusades and revivals. We teach people the Word of God and they have been committing their lives to Christ. We have also been going around to different places planting churches. The Diocese has benefited a lot in this ministry since there is growth not only in numbers but in having Christians who know the Word. I would like to thank God and you for every provision you have given me from where I started as a student up to who I am now. May God bless you abundantly.”

Modesta Memory Milanzi Kalinga, Carlile College, Malawi



“Words alone cannot express the joy in my heart. I am overwhelmed by your generosity and the commitment towards support of my ministry. I am challenged by all this. I promise to do my best in serving God. May God bless you all. Amen!”

Rebecca Barasa, St Paul's University, Kenya



*Volunteers wanted for
Lambeth 2020!*

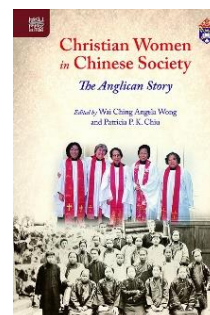
As Margaret mentions in her Letter from the Chair, the Li Tim-Oi Foundation will be having a stand in the Resource Centre at Lambeth 2020. The Lambeth Conference will be held at the University of Kent in Canterbury from 23rd July – 3rd August 2020. If you would like to help us out on the stand, please email Stephanie on admin@ltof.org.uk

Li Tim-Oi - permanent saint of TEC

Florence Li Tim-Oi has been ensured a permanent entry in the Episcopal Church's calendar of saints. She has been included in the Episcopal Church's calendar of saints on 24th January since 2009 but after a decision taken last year, she will now be featured permanently. Usually, people are not added to the church's Lesser Feasts and Fasts calendar until at least two generations have passed but the ruling body of the Episcopal Church agreed to bypass this convention for Li Tim-Oi and two other 20th century figures, Thurgood Marshall and Pauli Murray. Thurgood Marshall was the first African-American to serve on the Supreme Court and Pauli Murray was a civil rights activist and the first African-American woman ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church.

A good read

One of the pleasures of the evenings drawing in is to be able to curl up with a cup of tea and a good book. If you are interested in the history of Anglican women in China, you may wish to treat yourself to a major new publication called **Christian Women in Chinese Society: The Anglican Story** edited by **Wai Ching Angela Wong** and **Patricia P.K. Chiu**, published by Hong Kong University Press. The book includes essays about how Anglican women missionaries brought the Gospel to China and the different ways they integrated into Chinese society. It includes the story of Li Tim-Oi and her ordination by Bishop R.O. Hall in 1944. The Church Times Bookshop is selling the book at £40.50.



Working in Partnership with Friends of the Church in China



In collaboration with Friends of the Church in China, an ecumenical group that seeks to build relationships between churches, theological colleges and other Christian organisations in Britain and China, the Li Tim-Oi Foundation assisted Christina Du Nana, a PhD student from China, with buying books and contributing to her living expenses while she attended a conference this past summer held in Oxford, hosted by the Society for Old Testament Studies.

Christina wrote a report of her time at the conference, saying how enriched she feels by what she learned and experienced. She was able to ask questions of leading scholars about her thesis on Isaiah and hear papers that “will help my studies and teaching in how we modern Christians can apply the message in the Old Testament, especially the Prophets, to the contemporary situation.” We look forward to hearing more from Christina after she completes her studies.

New trustees!

We are delighted to welcome three new trustees to the Foundation - the Revd Dr Stephen Spencer, the Revd Erica Wooff and Anna Drew.

The Revd Dr Stephen Spencer

Stephen is Director for Theological Education at the Anglican Communion Office in London, working to build links between theological colleges and courses across the Anglican Communion. He previously served as vice principal of St. Hild College at Mirfield, West Yorkshire, as well as link officer for the Diocese of Leeds and the Anglican Church of Tanzania. He has lived in Zimbabwe where he served as a chaplain and parish priest. In his current position he writes and commissions study materials on under-resourced areas of the theological curriculum. Stephen is currently co-editing three books in preparation for the Lambeth Conference next year.



The Revd Erica Wooff

Erica is Vicar of Stockwell Parish in Southwark Diocese and brings a wealth of experience, including as a British Diplomat, serving in China and in Eastern Europe, and as an NGO manager, specialising in project development. She has worked in financial management and in building strategic partnerships with the government, local authorities and community agencies. Erica has served on the governing bodies of a number of charities, primarily focusing on education, children and alleviating poverty. She is on the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education, a trustee of Together Southwark and is Chair of Governors of St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls.



Anna Drew

Anna Drew is Director of Communications for the Diocese of Canterbury. A member of the Chartered Institute for Public Relations, she has worked in church communications for nearly 15 years, specialising in crisis management, multi-agency campaigns and resource development. Passionate about communications and theology, she has studied both at postgraduate level and she is a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's Daily Service and Prayer for the Day. She is a Trustee of the Sandford St Martin Trust, which celebrates excellence in religious broadcasting and occasionally writes freelance for national publications. She lives in Kent with her husband and young son.



Make a lasting difference - leave a legacy

If you are planning on updating your will, please consider leaving a legacy to the Li Tim-Oi Foundation. It takes about £3,000 to train a woman in the developing world, so much less than the cost of a degree in the UK. Any amount you give will be greatly appreciated.

Website: <https://www.LTOF.org.uk>

The Li Tim Oi Foundation

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