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The Mission Society Appoints Three New Board Members

*William O'Brien, Rev. Robert Sturdy and Rev. Robert Kwasi Aboagye-Mensah
Join Diverse Board of Interdenominational Religious and Community Leaders*

NORCROS, Ga. – The Mission Society today announced the appointment of three new members to its board of directors: William O'Brien, co-director of BellMitra Associates, Frisco, Texas; Rev. Robert Sturdy, rector of Trinity Church, Myrtle Beach, S.C.; and Rev. Robert Kwasi Aboagye-Mensah, presiding bishop of the Methodist Church - Ghana, Accra, Ghana.

The Mission Society's Board of Directors is formed by committed Christians who have a heart for mission ministries. The board is composed of 20 members.

"We're honored and blessed to have these three dynamic individuals join our board of directors," said the Rev. Dr. Philip R. Granger, president and chief executive officer of The Mission Society. "Throughout their careers they have exhibited a commitment to missions and a passion for service, and we will greatly benefit from their alliance with our organization."

Bill O'Brien is co-director of BellMitra Associates, teaches each fall at the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Washington, D.C., and serves as adjunct professor at Dallas Baptist University in the field of missions. O'Brien was the founding director of The Global Center at Samford University and formerly a missions professor at Beeson Divinity School. He has served on the board of directors of The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, as a senior associate of the Evangelical Fellowship of Missions Agencies, and is a former president of the American Society of Missiology. He is also a former executive vice-president of the International Mission Board (SBC).

O'Brien co-authored "Choosing a Future for U.S. Missions" and wrote "Challenges Confronting Baptist Missions" in 2003 for The Baptist History and Heritage Society. O'Brien holds a liberal arts degree from Hardin-Simmons University and a master of church music degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. His alma mater honored him with a doctor of divinity degree in 1981.

Rev. Robert C. Sturdy is an Episcopal Priest currently serving as the rector of Trinity Church in Myrtle Beach, S.C. He is the youngest serving rector of the past 50 years in the Diocese of South Carolina. Sturdy received his theological education at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford University, England, and did his undergraduate studies at The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina.

Rev. Robert Kwasi Aboagye-Mensah currently serves as presiding bishop of the Methodist Church - Ghana. An author of several books and editor of the Africa Bible Commentary, Aboagye-Mensah has been nominated for the Millennium Peace Award and was honored in 2005 with Ghana's second highest national award, presented by the president of the Republic of Ghana. Aboagye-Mensah holds advanced degrees from the University of Ghana, University of Nottingham, University of Aberdeen and Virginia Theological Seminary.

Founded in 1984 in the Wesleyan tradition, The Mission Society recruits, trains, and sends Christian missionaries to minister around the world. At present, The Mission Society has more



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than 200 missionaries in 32 countries. The Mission Society develops diverse programs and ministries in accordance with its missionaries' unique callings and gifts, ranging from well drilling and the arts to more traditional ministries such as teaching English and church planting. Its church ministry department provides seminars, workshops, and mentoring for congregations in the United States and overseas, helping equip churches for strategic outreach in their own communities and throughout the world.

For more information, visit www.themissionsociety.org or contact Ty Mays at 770.256.8710 or tmays@inchristcommunications.com.