

FRIDAY 22 MAY 2015

After Morning Prayer at 08h30 and Bible study groups at 09h15, Synod resumed at 11h00 in the St John's Parish Hall.

The Bishop led Synod in prayer, the Nicene Creed and the singing of the Veni Creator.

1. QUORUM

The Registrar declared that this Synod had a quorum present both in the House of Laity and in the House of Clergy.

2. MOTIONS

Debate resumed on the following motion:

AGENDUM 22: CREATING SPACE FOR EVERY EXPRESSION AND STYLE OF WORSHIP WITHIN OUR DIVERSE DIOCESAN FAMILY

Proposed: The Revd Canon David Stansbury

Seconded: The Revd Canon Andrew Watt

That this Synod

1. Recognising that our Diocese is a diverse Christian Community: diverse in language, culture, backgrounds, churchmanship, traditions and styles of worship;
2. Recognising that each and every expression and style of worship, within our diverse Diocesan Family, is valuable and equally important to our corporate expression of worship and therefore that each and every expression and style of worship should be catered for where possible
3. Noting that in our Diocese we have different expressions of worship: Anglo Catholic, Traditional, Evangelical and Charismatic;
4. Noting that services in our local parishes vary vastly in duration (length of time) and in the manner in which the APB Liturgy is used;
5. Acknowledging that this Diocese has already pioneered work in this regard, as seen in the new liturgies being experimented with for Confirmation Services and the 'Institution of Rectors' Services.

Therefore resolves

1. To humbly and respectfully ask the Bishop and this Synod to reconstitute the Diocesan Liturgical Committee to intentionally include men and women, who represent the breadth and depth of our churchmanship and styles and expressions of worship;
2. To humbly and respectfully ask the Bishop and this Synod, to mandate this reconstituted Diocesan Liturgical Committee, to make recommendations to the Bishop and the relevant Diocesan structures, relating to changes that could be made to allow our services to be more inclusive of all our different styles and expressions of worship.

The motion was put and accepted.

The President told Synod that the Province was revising the current Prayer Book. Five people from the Diocese of Port Elizabeth have been appointed to liaise with that Committee. These five persons should work with the Diocesan Liturgical Committee.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Mr Charles Qoto proposed that the Minutes of the Opening Proceedings of Synod on Wednesday 20 May 2015 and Thursday 21 May 2015 be accepted. The Minutes were adopted.

4. NOMINATIONS

(The Acts Chapter III)

The following nominations of persons to the various bodies and committees were made:

Representatives to Provincial Synod (Paragraph 19)

LAY NOMINATIONS:

Daryl NEWTON
Frankie SIMPSON
Roger SCHÄRGES
Charles QOTO
Nomalungelo NTLOKWANA
Myron LEONARD
Nceba MADLAVU
Nomvuyo XHALLIE
Peter HOPPER

CLERGY NOMINATIONS:

Zwelidumile TOM
Claire PHELPS
Sharon NELL
Fumanekile KULA
David STANSBURY
Pumla MTILA
Zola NANANA
Dudley GREENSHIELDS

Representatives for Advisory Committee for Elective Assembly (Paragraph 27)

LAY NOMINATIONS:

Daryl NEWTON
Nomalungelo NTLOKWANA
Nceba MADLAVU
Zukisa JEYI
Rodney WHITE
Myron LEONARD
Charles QOTO
Xhanti MHLONTLO

CLERGY NOMINATIONS:

Eddie DANIELS
Vincent MDIDIMBA
Hazel GOODFELLOW
Mark DERRY
Jogra GALLANT
Nicolette LEONARD
Joshua KOENING
David STANSBURY

Representatives to Provincial Standing Committee (Paragraph 28)

LAY NOMINATIONS:

Roger SCHÄRGES
Charles QOTO
Khalipa SINXOTO
Nomalungelo NTLOKWANA

CLERGY NOMINATIONS:

Sharon NELL
Eddie DANIELS
Jogra GALLANT

Nominated Members of the Diocesan Trusts Board (Paragraph 30)

Daryl NEWTON
Charles QOTO
Nceba MADLAVU
Doug SWANSON
Mazoe NOPECE
Ernie SHARP
Myron LEONARD

Nominated Members of the Board of the Diocesan Benevolent Fund (Paragraph 38)

LAY NOMINATIONS:

Debbie MZINYATI continues in office

Larry POW CHONG
Mazoe NOPECE
Sipokazi GXOYIYA
Jane COWAN

CLERGY NOMINATIONS:

Mark DERRY continues in office

Elliot BANZANA
Claire PHELPS
Samantha EAGLES
Ruby ZAUKA

Appointment of a Qualified Auditor (Paragraph 41)

The Diocesan Secretary moved that PKF (P.E.) Inc. Chartered Accountants (S.A.) be re-appointed.

This appointment was unanimously agreed upon.

5. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

1. SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE

Proposed: Revd Sipambo G. Ludidi

Seconded: Mzwandile A. Mvumbi

This Synod,

- (a) observing how vital sanctity of marriage is in maintaining "the life-long Union and partnership as ordained by God in the creation narrative (Gen.1-2)..."
- (b) the fact that the education system of our country seems to work against this by introducing children as young as ten years of age to using condoms that are to be supplied by schools.
- (c) this would introduce children to multiple concurrent liaison partners instead of waiting till one is ready to indulge in sexual activities in full responsibility of his/ her action.
- (d) that the HIV/AIDS is never controlled by using condoms but abstinence is the Christian principle for our young ones.

Therefore this Synod

- (i) Respectfully request the Bishop to address this issue with other church leaders in the Eastern Cape and even beyond.
- (ii) Condemns any more attempts that would lead to jeopardizing the Sanctity of Marriage.
- (iii) calls upon the Christians to prayerfully engage with local schools and other stakeholders to avoid this.

It was agreed that debate would continue when Synod resumed.

Synod adjourned for lunch at 13h10 after the President said Grace.

Indaba groups met at 14h00.

Synod resumed at 14h50

6. THE SECOND READING OF MEASURES

The Chancellor, Adv. Darryl Newton, read Measures 1 - 5 as amended by the Committee of Synod.

7. QUESTIONS

Myron Leonard brought the following question:

The last Synod adopted the motion on inclusive language which included inter alia:

1. The use of inclusive gender Bibles and Psalters
2. Sharing resources, inclusive-language liturgies and hymnals/songs, within the Diocesan family.
3. The monitoring of implementation was to be carried out by Archdeacons and reports supplied to the Diocesan Council.

Question: What progress has been made in relation to the implementation of this motion?

8. VOTING

The President explained the voting process. Voting for the various bodies took place in houses.

9. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE CONTINUED

Debate continued on the motion for

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After debate the President requested that the proposer redraft the motion with Revd Nicolette Leonard and Xhanti Mhlontlo.

2. SEEKING AND TRAINING OF PERSONNEL FOR ‘HEARINGS FOR HEALING - ENABLING PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT’

Proposed: Frankie Simpson

Seconded: Archdeacon Zweli Tom

That this Synod

Noting:

1. Because of the hurts felt by the people of our country caused by bad governance, bad service delivery, xenophobia, and much more, the Church Unity Commission (CUC) has begun inaugurating “Hearings for Healing – enabling peace and development” – Chapters are already functioning in KwaZulu Natal and in Gauteng;
2. That the CUC approached the Nelson Mandela Bay Consultation of Christian Churches (NMBCCC) to set up similar platforms for such hearings within the areas of their jurisdiction;
3. That to do so the parishes within those areas will need to come on board by encouraging clergy and members to be trained to be used as counsellors, trainers and in other positions that may be necessary;

Therefore resolves

- a) That this Synod affirms the CUC initiative on “Hearings for Healing – enabling peace and development”;
- b) Respectfully asks the Bishop and clergy to seek out members of their congregations who can be trained as counsellors and facilitators;
- c) That the names of these people be forwarded to the NMBCCC through Archdeacon Zweli Tom by the end of August so that training can begin in time for the first hearings;
- d) That Diocesan Council together with the Archdeacons monitor that this is being done.

The President said that he was in meetings with The Revd Paul Verryn, the former Methodist Bishop of Johannesburg, with regards to the subject of this motion.

The motion was put and accepted.

The President announced that Morning Prayer would start at 8h30 on Saturday 23 May 2015, led by the Dean, The Very Revd Dudley Greenshields.

Synod adjourned at 16h25. Delegates went to Evening Prayer, led by Archdeacon David Grobbelaar.