

Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki

Synod 2021

Motion No. 2: Adoption of WDTB General Purpose Financial Statements 2020

*Mover: Mrs Elizabeth Bang
Secunder: The Venerable Joyce Marcon*

“That this Synod approves the audited General Purpose Financial Statements of the Waikato Diocesan Trust Board, for the year ended 31 December 2020.”

Motion No. 3: Adoption of TATB General Purpose Financial Statements 2020

*Mover: Mr John Eagles
Secunder: Mrs Elizabeth Bang*

“That this Synod approves the audited General Purpose Financial Statements of the Taranaki Anglican Trust Board, for the year ended 31 December 2020.”

Motion No. 4: Adoption of Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki General Purpose Financial Statements for 2020

Mover: The Most Reverend Philip Richardson

“That this Synod approves the audited General Purpose Financial Statements of the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki, for the year ended 31 December 2020.”

Motion No. 5: Funding Standing Committee Operations – Approval of 2022 Budget

Mover: The Most Reverend Philip Richardson

“That for the year 2022 this Synod agrees to a Diocesan Budget for Standing Committee operations of \$705,061.00 allocated in accordance with details contained in the budget, with \$610,661.00 of this sum to be provided by assessments.”

Motion No.6: Assessments 2021 – Approval of Schedule

*Mover: Canon Robin Brockie
Secunder: The Most Reverend Philip Richardson*

“That Parish Diocesan Assessments for the year 2022 be set according to the schedule of percentages for 2021, as detailed in the Synod papers.”

Motion No.7: Funding the 2022 Ministry Support Fund

Mover: Canon Robin Brockie

Secunder: The Venerable Joel Rowse

“That this Synod requests Standing Committee to fund the Ministry Support Fund, to be calculated at the equivalent of the basic Vicar’s stipend and contributed to by all parishes, Parish Districts and Mission Districts per annum using the same formula as used for Assessments.”

Motion No.8: Mission Target 2022

*Mover: The Rev’d Peter Bargh
Secunder: The Rev’d Pau Weeding*

“That for the year 2022 the target for Overseas Missions remain at \$210,000.00.”

Motion No.9: Receive the Reports to Synod

Mover: The President of Synod

That this Synod receives the following reports:

1. BAF
2. Report to the Churches Supporting Waikato Hospital Chaplaincy 2020 - 07
3. Report to the Churches Supporting Taranaki Hospital Chaplaincy 2020
4. Report of the Waikato Diocesan Trust Board

Motion No. 10: The Prohibition of Conversion Practises

*Moved: Ms Karen Morrison-Hume
Secundered: The Rev’d Dan Lander*

“That noting this Synod’s decision in 2018 (Motion 3) to call on the New Zealand parliament to pass legislation banning the harmful practice of gay conversion therapy,”

“And noting that the New Zealand Government now seeks to pass the Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Act 2021,”

“And noting that the New Zealand Government’s objectives in prohibiting conversion practices are to:

- (a) affirm the dignity of all people and that no sexual orientation or gender identity is broken and in need of fixing.
- (b) prevent the harm conversion practices cause in New Zealand and provide an avenue for redress.
- (c) uphold the human rights of all New Zealanders, including of rainbow New Zealanders, to live free from discrimination and harm,”

“We move that this Synod:

- 1 Endorse the Government’s objectives in prohibiting conversion practices;

- 2 Recognise that all human beings of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions are a precious part of God's creation and are part of the natural order;
- 3 Denounce all practices that seek to change or suppress a person's sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;
- 4 Provide ministry units with the resources necessary to create safe and inclusive church and community spaces for rainbow New Zealanders."

Motion No.11: The Raising of the Voting Age

Mover: The Rev'd Peter Sampson

Seconder: Ms Karen Morrison-Hume

That this synod urges the government to prioritise the lowering of the voting age to 16.

Recognising that:

1. the greatest issue facing humanity today is the climate crisis
2. young people have inherited the climate crisis
3. the climate crisis is the result of decisions made, and actions taken, by prior generations who have themselves benefited at the expense of those who follow
4. current leadership has been unwilling or unable to address the effects of the climate crisis
5. young people around the world are already leading responses to the climate crisis

Motion No.12: The Living Wage

Moved: The Rev'd Blythe Cody

Seconded: The Rev'd Peter Sampson

That this synod strengthens its position as a Diocese committed to providing a living wage by gaining accreditation as a living wage employer with the Living Wage Movement Aotearoa New Zealand.

Background

In April 2013 an incorporated society was formed called Living Wage Movement Aotearoa NZ with a governance body and membership comprising the three streams of civil society: faith based religious groups, unions and community/secular groups.

The Living Wage Movement is not aligned to any political party but seeks to influence those who have the power to change the lives of workers and their families. The focus of attention is where incomes are funded through public money, and on large employers who can afford to pay a Living Wage. Many small and ethical employers choose to pay a Living Wage and have become accredited.

Living Wage Movement Aotearoa New Zealand upholds four key principles which state that the Living Wage Movement is:

1. Non-party political
2. Built locally through local relationships and local issues
3. Independent of government in terms of funding and association
4. Comprised of three streams of the membership: secular/community, union, faith-based groups.

There is an accreditation system for employers who meet the criteria to become a Living Wage Employer. Accreditation is a trademark and cannot be used unless a license has been

signed which commits the business to paying no less than the Living Wage to directly employed and contracted workers who deliver services on a regular and ongoing basis.

Accreditation fees are up to \$500/yr. for charity/community employers with 100 or more employees.

Similar faith-based organisations who are accredited include:

The Anglican Centre (Anglican Diocese of Wellington)

Auckland City Mission

Christian World Service

Methodist City Action

Methodist Mission Northern

New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services

Accreditation holds us accountable for our own stance on paying the living wage (Motion No.5, Synod 2013), and supports and helps resource us to advocate for the just treatment of employees.

Motion No. 13: Use of Reserved Sacrament

Mover: Christine Bryant, LLM, St John's, Te Awamutu

Seconder: The Rev'd Stephanie Owen, St John's, Te Awamutu

That this Synod approves the use of reserved sacrament by Licensed Lay Ministers at Sunday services in church.

Rationale:

The use of reserved sacrament used to be available to be used by LLMs for Sunday church services a number of years ago. It is certain that rural parishes will not always have a priest presiding at Sunday services, so it would seem appropriate to re-instate this practice. Every week LLMs are permitted to use reserved sacrament in Rest Homes or for a Home Communion, so there is an analogous situation existing already.

Motion No.14: Licensing of Licenced Lay Ministers

Mover: Christine Bryant, LLM, St John's, Te Awamutu

Seconder: The Rev'd Julie Guest, St John's, Te Awamutu

That this Synod approves the licensing of Licensed Lay Ministers to an Archdeaconry or Diocese to enable LLMs to be more flexible in the way they serve the Diocese.

Rationale:

A model already exists for this. A priest can be granted a P.T.O. (Permission To Officiate). This means s/he is licensed to the Bishop and can preside at Eucharist in any parish which requests them, in any part of the diocese. In effect, a priest with this licence can "free-lance" and be a flexible resource to any parish. If LLMs were able to serve following this model, this would be useful to rural parishes where a priest cannot always be present.

Motion No.15: NZ Housing Crisis

Mover: Christine Bryant, LLM, St John's, Te Awamutu

Seconder: The Rev'd Julie Guest, St John's, Te Awamutu

That this Synod investigates how the Diocese of Waikato-Taranaki might participate in alleviating the housing crisis.

Rationale:

In 2017 or 2018 there was a presentation to Synod about the construction of 3 houses in New Plymouth, using church land. Simon Cayley spoke about the work of liaising with the city council, the local community and developers to provide "rent to buy" homes at an affordable cost. This Synod approved of the fact that the church was playing a role in providing social housing.

Since then, the housing situation, both to buy and to rent, has become a full-blown crisis. There is almost no affordable housing and the availability of social housing falls way short of what is needed.