

CHURCH OF IRELAND – GENERAL SYNOD 2009

MOTIONS

Motions received by the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod not less than one month before the day appointed for the opening of the session of the General Synod at which the motion is to be moved (Standing Order 31).

1. TIMETABLE

HONORARY SECRETARIES

A motion or motions to allocate the time available between the items listed on the agenda paper (Standing Order 56). (See Timetable Motion on separate sheet).

2. DEVELOPMENT OF MISSION/PIONEER LEADERS

MR HRJ TOTTEN
CAPT C TAYLOR

This General Synod recognises the need for training and developing leaders equipped to serve in a variety of pioneer contexts, both lay and ordained in Ireland. This General Synod directs the Commission on Ministry and Council for Mission jointly to develop proposals for how such leaders might be trained and deployed, duly consulting with all appropriate and relevant bodies.

3. CHURCH OF IRELAND COUNCIL FOR MISSION

CAPT C TAYLOR
MISS M GIBBONS

- (i) The Synod recognises the importance of the Council for Mission's work to explore forms of church appropriate for a new mission environment and requests the Council, in partnerships with the Commission on Ministry,
 - a) to continue to explore the area of pioneer ministry and in particular how such ministry, lay and ordained, can be developed, resourced and facilitated; and
 - b) to bring forward specific recommendations, taking into account the Bishops' Mission Order legislation of the Church of England, to enable such pioneer ministry to be deployed in the Church of Ireland.
- (ii) The Synod affirms the Council for Mission in its efforts to encourage every parish in Ireland to develop a mission strategy, and recommends to parishes the use of the series of leaflets being made available by the Council, as an opportunity to review their approach to mission and to set up mission support groups or appoint parish mission links persons.

4. CHURCH OF IRELAND YOUTH DEPARTMENT

**RT REV AF ABERNETHY
REV RS MILLER**

That the Church of Ireland Youth Department establish a working group to study the role of Confirmation in the faith development of young people across the Church of Ireland and report its preliminary findings to General Synod in 2010.

5. CHURCH OF IRELAND MARRIAGE COUNCIL

**REV BJ HARPER
REV FJ MCDOWELL**

That the General Synod takes seriously the impact of ministry on clergy marriages and family life and encourages the Marriage Council to develop methods of support.

6. COMMISSION FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY AND DIALOGUE

**MOST REV RL CLARKE
REV CANON P COMERFORD**

That the General Synod is of the view that the time is right for the different Christian traditions in Ireland to explore afresh together a common theology of baptism and to share insights concerning their baptismal discipline and practice. The Synod accordingly instructs the Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue to make this issue a priority on its agenda.

7. COVENANT COUNCIL

**VERY REV NK DUNNE
MOST REV RL CLARKE**

- (i) The General Synod receive the Report of the Covenant Council.
- (ii) The General Synod recommends that there be co-opted one Methodist member and one Church of Ireland member from the Covenant Council to any relevant committees concerned with the establishment of ecumenical canons for the Church of Ireland.
- (iii) The General Synod continues to encourage congregations to celebrate the Covenant relationship with neighbouring Methodist congregations on or around September 26 each year.
- (iv) The General Synod agrees to the reduction of the membership of the Covenant Council to eight members from each tradition and appoints its representatives to the Covenant Council for the coming year as follows:

Most Rev Dr Richard Clarke, Bishop of Meath and Kildare (Co-Chair)
Ms Elva Byrne
Very Rev Nigel Dunne (Secretary)
Rev Dr Maurice Elliott
Rev Barry Forde

Rev Virginia Kennerley
Mr Cyril McElhinney
Rev Peter Thompson

- (v) The Synod also agrees to allow the Covenant Council to temporarily co-opt members of either tradition with special expertise relevant to the Council's work from time to time.

8. ISRAEL / PALESTINE

MR J COUCHMAN
MR A GILBERT

This Synod urges the international community to intensify its efforts to facilitate dialogue between elected representatives of Israel and Palestine in order to secure the internationally recognized territorial integrities of Israel and Palestine and to ensure peace with justice for all the people of the region and the permanent cessation of all hostilities.

9. STANDING COMMITTEE

REV CANON JE MCCULLAGH
MR PJ HAMILL

That the proposal, *Restructuring Proposal: Social Theology in Action*, be implemented and the Interim Board referred to in the proposal be established and tasked with progressing the work contained therein, with the approval of the General Synod.

10. CODE OF DUTY AND CONDUCT

REV MP JANSSON
RT REV TR WILLIAMS

That Standing Committee report to General Synod, in 2010, on progress towards a Code of Duty and Conduct for ministering in the Church of Ireland.

11. LITURGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BISHOP OF CASHEL AND OSSORY
VEN RB ROUNTREE

That this Synod welcomes the Green Paper on the use of Liturgical Space, commends it for study at a diocesan level and requests the Liturgical Advisory Committee to bring a resolution to the General Synod of 2010 by which issues of good practice in this matter may be codified and published with the authority of the General Synod.

12. JOURNAL 2009

HONORARY SECRETARIES

That the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod be instructed to publish with as little delay as possible, the Journal of the Proceedings of the General Synod during this session, with such appendices as they think expedient.