

The Church of Scotland  
**General Assembly**  
**2017**



**ASSEMBLY PAPERS**

**TUESDAY 23 MAY**

**Free WiFi is available throughout the Assembly Hall**  
**Network: General Assembly**  
**Password: assembly2017**

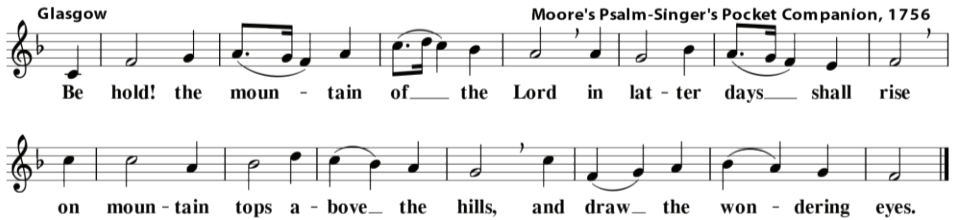
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Scottish Charity Number: SC011353

## SESSION III – Tuesday 23 May – 9.15am

### 1. Constitution of Assembly

(Commissioners are asked to stand for items marked \*)

\*Paraphrase 18 (CH4 715)



1. Behold! the mountain of the Lord  
in latter days shall rise  
on mountain tops above the hills,  
and draw the wondering eyes.
2. The beam that shines from Zion hill  
shall lighten every land;  
the King who reigns in Salem's towers  
shall all the world command.
3. No strife shall rage, nor hostile feuds  
disturb those peaceful years;  
to ploughshares men shall beat their swords,  
to pruning-hooks their spears.
4. No longer hosts, encountering hosts,  
shall crowds of slain deplore:  
they hang the trumpet in the hall,  
and study war no more.
5. Come then, O house of Jacob! come  
to worship at his shrine;  
and, walking in the light of God,  
with holy beauties shine.

*Scottish Paraphrases, 1781*

*Prayer*

*Reading*

John 4: 7-15

Reader: Mrs Sheila Carvel, Edinburgh: Greyfriars Gaelic Congregation

<sup>7</sup>There came a woman of Samar'ia to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samar'ia?" <sup>10</sup>For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>12</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you

get that living water?" <sup>13</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" <sup>14</sup>Jesus said to her, "Every one who drinks of this water will thirst again, <sup>15</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." <sup>16</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

Reflection

Word of Life – Water

\*Prayer

\*Hymn (CH4635)

Engelberg Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)



We know that Christ is raised and dies no more, Em-braced by death, he broke its  
fearful hold, and our des-pair he turned to bla-zing joy. Al - le - lu - ia!

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.  
*Alleluia!*
2. We share by water in his saving death.  
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life  
as living members of a living Christ.  
*Alleluia!*
3. The God of splendour clothes the Son with life.  
The spirit's fission shakes the church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.  
*Alleluia!*
4. A new creation comes to life and grows  
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.  
The universe restored and whole will sing:  
*Alleluia!*

*John Brownlow Geyer (b. 1932)*  
*Words: © John B. Geyer; used by permission*

2. Minutes.
3. Report and Supplementary Report of the Church and Society Council (Reports 12/1 and Order of Proceedings p67).
4. Report of the Church of Scotland Guild (Reports 13/1).
5. Joint Report of the Church of Scotland Guild and the National Youth Assembly (Reports 14/1).
6. Report of the Iona Community Board (Reports 15/1).

## **Catalysing Kingdom Communities**

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY HALL**

**4.00pm or at the close of business**

Following the close of business today, a special session of the General Assembly is being held in the Hall which will reflect on what it means to be faith communities that welcome and include in today's world. This event is open to commissioners and to members of the public.

## MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF

## THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

CONVENED AT EDINBURGH, 20 MAY 2017

*At Edinburgh, and within the Assembly Hall,  
the 20th day of May 2017 years, at 9.30 am,  
Session I.*

After public worship in the Assembly Hall, conducted by the Right Rev George Russell Barr BA BD MTh DMin, Moderator of the General Assembly, the Commissioners elected as members of the General Assembly appointed to be held this day convened, and the General Assembly was duly constituted with prayer.

The Roll of Commissioners was laid on the table.

The General Assembly proceeded to the election of a Moderator, when it was unanimously agreed that the Rev Derek Browning MA BD DMin be appointed Moderator.

The appointment was intimated to Dr Browning who was welcomed by the Moderator, and, after the Prayer of Consecration, took the Chair.

Her Majesty's Commission to HRH The Princess Anne, Princess Royal, appointing her to represent Her Royal Person in this Assembly, was then read with all due honour and respect and ordered to be recorded.

Her Majesty's Gracious Letter to the General Assembly was also read with all due honour and respect and ordered to be recorded.

Her Grace, The Lord High Commissioner addressed the General Assembly in a speech from the Throne, and the Moderator made suitable reply.

The Very Rev G Russell Barr BA BD MTh DMin, Retiring Moderator, addressed the General Assembly, and was thanked by the Moderator for his distinguished and valued service during his year of office.

A Committee was appointed to prepare an answer to Her Majesty's Gracious Letter, viz:

Rev Philip J Majcher	(688)
Mrs Norma Rolls	(48)
Mrs Myrtle A Gillies MBE	(655)

Very Rev Dr G Russell Barr, *Convener*

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Standing Committee on Commissions, which was given in by the Principal Clerk who reported as follows:-

That all commissions had been received and were in order.

The Standing Orders of the General Assembly were laid on the table.

The General Assembly appointed a Committee for arranging the Order of Business, viz:

Rev Richard Baxter	(629)
Mr Alan Beattie	(175)
Miss Jennifer Boag	(223)
Rev Sarah A Brown	(239)
Rev Donald Campbell	(128)
Rev David W Clark	(350)
Rev Alistair Cumming	(685)
Rev Jane M Denniston	(242)
Mrs Lorraine E Fraser	(442)
Dr Grace Gibson	(377)
Mrs Ella Gill	(632)
Ms Elspeth Gordon	(693)
Mr Douglas Gow	(529)
Rev Donna M Hays	(507)
Rev Trevor G Hunt	(614)
Rev Bryan Kerr	(198)
Rev Alan Kimmitt	(450)
Rev Robert Kinloch	(361)
Mr David Lloyd	(708)
Mr David MacDougall	(517)
Ms Christine Mackenzie	(623)
Mr Kenmuir Mackie	(205)
Ms Alice MacLeod	(592)
Mr Iain A Macleod	(670)
Rev Louise J E McClements	(264)
Ms Anne S McGregor	(229)
Rev Julia M Meason	(675)
Miss Patricia M Munro DCS	(504)
Mr David Nicholson DCS	(408)
Rev Carol Anne Parker	(417)
Ms Elizabeth Paterson	(498)
Rev Andrea E Price	(690)
Mr Samuel Scobie	(145)
Rev Duncan Shaw	(62)
Rev Dr John B Sterrett	(648)
Rev Martin Thomson	(189)
Rev Mary E Thomson	(610)
Mr Ruud Witte	(711)

Ms Judith Pearson, *Convener*  
Rev Fiona Smith, *Vice-Convener*

The General Assembly agreed that the members of the Business Committee should serve as the Panel of Tellers.

The General Assembly appointed a Committee to prepare a Minute on Deceased Ministers, Missionaries and Deacons, viz:

Very Rev Dr G Russell Barr, *Convener*  
*Principal Clerk*  
*Depute Clerk*

The General Assembly called for a Report anent the Celebration of Holy Communion in the Assembly Hall on Monday 22 May 2017 at 9.15 am.

The General Assembly approved the Report.

The General Assembly suspended their sitting at 10.57 am until 11.24 am.

## **APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL CLERK AND ACTING DEPUTE CLERK**

*Section 11 of the Council of Assembly's proposed Deliverance was moved, seconded and agreed:*

### **The General Assembly:**

11. Appoint the Rev Dr George J Whyte as Principal Clerk to the General Assembly with effect from 29 July 2017 and as Associate Principal Clerk from the commencement of the General Assembly.

The Rev Dr George J Whyte was welcomed by the Moderator on his appointment. Dr Whyte took the oath *de fideli*.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of the Council of Assembly's proposed Deliverance:*

*Add a new Section 12 and renumber:*

Appoint Ms Christine Paterson as Acting Depute Clerk of the General Assembly until the opening day of the General Assembly 2018.

The Moderator administered the oath *de fidei* to Ms Paterson.

The General Assembly received the following Delegates and Visitors:

*The Presbyterian Church of Wales*

Rev Dr Elwyn Richards, former Moderator, and Rev Gwenda Richards

*The United Reformed Church*

Rev Kevin Watson, Moderator, and Mrs Lynne Watson; Rev Mark Robinson, Chaplain, and Mrs Tessa Henry-Robinson

*The United Reformed Church National Synod of Scotland*

Rev Dr David Pickering, Moderator

*The Church of England*

Canon Dr Jamie Harrison, Chair of the General Synod's House of Laity

*The Methodist Church in Scotland*

Rev Andrew Letby, Superintendent Minister of Edinburgh and Fourth Circuit

*Religious Society of Friends – General Meeting for Scotland*

Pamala McDougall, Representative Friend, and James McDougall

*The Roman Catholic Church Bishops' Conference of Scotland*

Rt Rev Mgr Philip Kerr, Vice-President of the Office of Ecumenism

*The Salvation Army*

Major Steven Turner, Assistant to the Secretary for Scotland

*The Scottish Episcopal Church*

The Rt Rev Kevin Pearson, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, and Dr Elspeth Atkinson

*The United Free Church of Scotland*

Rev Alexander Ritchie, Moderator

*The Congregational Federation in Scotland*  
Rev Janice Andrews, Minister, Musselburgh Congregational Church

*Action of Churches Together in Scotland*

Rev Matthew Ross, General Secretary

*Churches Together in Britain and Ireland*

Rev Sarah Moore, Trustee

*Churches Together in England*

Bishop Dr Joe Aldred, Pentecostal and Multicultural Relations

*Presbyterian Church of East Africa, Kenya*

Rev Francis Ndungu Njoroge, Former Deputy General Secretary; Rev Edwin Kibathi, Minister

*Synod of Blantyre, CCAP, Malawi*  
Rev Alex Benson Maulana, General Secretary

*Igreja Evangelica de Cristo em Mocambique*  
Mr Favorito Eduardo, General Treasurer; Mr Ganizane Daniel, Projects Department Coordinator

*Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa*

Rev Johanna Boitumelo Gaborone, Minister

*The Presbyterian Church of Canada*

Rev Stephen Kendall, Principal Clerk

*Presbyterian Church (USA)*

Mr Kerry Rice, Associate Stated Clerk and Ms Grace Rice Cushman

*Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Church in Latin America and Uruguay*

Rev Dr Dario Barolin, Executive Secretary

*Waldensian Church of the River Plate*

Rev Carola Tron Urban, Moderator

*Church of Bangladesh*

Mr John Bickrom Biswas, Member

*Amity Foundation*

Ms Ying Xie, Senior Executive of International Partnerships

*Church of North India*

Rt Rev Dr Prem Chand Singh, Deputy Moderator

*The Presbyterian Church of Korea*

Rev Dr Yie Shik Kim, Moderator, Seoul Gangnam Presbytery and Mr Bong Sun Jang

*Presbyterian Church of Singapore*

Rev Fion Fei Fong Sin, Senior Minister and Chairperson of the Women's Council; Elder Angelia Bih Shya Wong, Church Treasurer

*The Presbyterian Church in Taiwan*

Mrs Ming-Min Lin Cheng, Chairperson of the Ecumenical Advisory Group; Rev Dr Prof Yang-En Cheng, Professor of Church History, Taiwan Theological College and Seminary and Mrs Yu-Yang Yen

*Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren*

Rev Petr Peňáz, Minister

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland*

Rev Tiina Reinikainen, Minister

*Evangelical Church in Germany*

Pastor Verena Jantzen, Minister of the German speaking congregations in Scotland and North East England

*Evangelical Church of Greece*

Rev Dimitrios Boukis, General Secretary

*Reformed Church in Hungary*

Ms Diána Erdélyi, Ecumenical Secretary

*Union of Methodist and Waldensian Churches*

Pastor Giuseppina Bagnato, Minister

*Igreja Evangelica Presbiteriana de Portugal*

Mrs Silvina Queiroz, President

*Spanish Evangelical Church*

Rev Dr Israel Flores Olmos, Minister and Member of the Permanent Commission of the Spanish Evangelical Church and Rev Eva Dominguez

*Reformed Church in Carpatho-Ukraine*

Rev Géza Kacsó, Minister and Mrs Dora Kacsó

*Synod of the Nile, The Evangelical Church of Egypt*

Mrs Rozet Refki Younan

*Diocese of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East*

Rev Fares Elias Naoum, Rector and Mrs Pascal Mattar Naoum

*Middle East Council of Churches, Department of Services to Palestinian Refugees*

Mrs Sylvia Haddad, Executive Director

*Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand*

Rev Dr Cleveland Buchanan Yates, Minister Emeritus

*Mission Partners on Leave:**St Andrew's Galilee*

Rev Kate McDonald

*United Church of Zambia*

Mrs Ida Waddell; Mr Keith Waddell

The reception of the Delegates and Visitors being completed, the Moderator welcomed them on behalf of the General Assembly.

Rev Dr Elwyn Richards and Mrs Ming-Min Lin Cheng addressed the General Assembly in the name of the Delegates and Visitors and were thanked by the Moderator.

## ASSEMBLY ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Assembly Arrangements Committee which was given in by Ms Judith Pearson, Convener.

*It was moved and seconded-*

### The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the Order of Business for the first two days.
3. Appoint Mr Roy Pinkerton to index the verbatim record.
4. Invite commissioners to submit to the first meeting of the Business Committee nominees for consideration to serve on the Selection Committee.
5. Appoint Mr Craig Marshall as Assembly Officer from June 2017.
6. Remind commissioners of the deadline of noon on Monday 22 May for submitting nominations for the Committee to Nominate the Moderator.



**SCOTTISH BIBLE SOCIETY**

7. Urge the Scottish Bible Society to pursue its ongoing efforts to address the challenge of global Bible translation.
8. Support the Society in its desire to work in partnership with congregations to improve people's experience of the Bible and its impact on their life.
9. Encourage congregations to consider using Bibleworld Books as a way to improve literacy levels amongst children in their communities.
10. Endorse the Society in its efforts to encourage confidence in the gospel and in providing Scripture resources for mission purposes.
11. Commend the Society's global outreach to the generosity of congregations and members.

The Moderator welcomed Ms Elaine Duncan, Executive Director, Scottish Bible Society, who addressed the General Assembly.

On behalf of the Directors of the Society, Ms Duncan presented a Bible to the Moderator, who gave thanks for the gift and the work of the Society, wishing it well for the future.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of the Deliverance:-*

*Add a new Section 9 and renumber:*

Thank the Scottish Bible Society warmly for the ministry of the Bibleworld mobile classroom, and commend to God the faithful work it carried out during the course of its service.

*The Deliverance as amended was then agreed.*

**DELEGATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Delegation of Assembly which was given in by the Principal Clerk, Chairman.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed-*

**The General Assembly:**

1. Receive the Report of the Delegation of the General Assembly and thank it for its work.
2. Continue the appointment of the Delegation with the same powers as hitherto – the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly to be Chairman, the Depute Clerk of the General Assembly to be Vice-Chairman and the Solicitor of the Church to act as Secretary.
3. Pass an Act amending the Congregational Constitutions Act (Act XIX 1964) as set out in Appendix A.

**APPEALS COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION OF ASSEMBLY**

The General Assembly called for the Minutes of the Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly which were laid on the table.

**COMMITTEE ON OVERTURES AND CASES**

This Committee had not met and there was no Report.

**MINISTRIES APPEAL PANEL**

The General Assembly called for the Minutes of the Ministries Appeal Panel which were laid on the table.

## RETURNS TO OVERTURES

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Committee on Classifying Returns to Overtures which was given in by the Principal Clerk, Convener.

*It was moved and seconded-*

### The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Convert into a Standing Law of the Church the Registration of Ministries Overture, as printed in Appendix B.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of Section 2:*

*Add at the end:*

‘with the following additional amendment to Schedule 4 (Amendments and Repeals) of the Overture under the heading **Act VIII 2010 (Deacons)**:

*Add the following sentence at the end of section 8(d):*

‘A Deacon who does not occupy such a parish appointment, or other qualifying post, but who is registered on the Register of Ministry in Category **R**, shall be entitled to apply for membership of Presbytery on the same basis as a Minister of Word and Sacrament holding Category **R** registration, being in terms of section 14 of Act III 2000.’

*The Deliverance as amended was then agreed.*

The General Assembly suspended their sitting at 12.33 pm until 2 pm.

## LEGAL QUESTIONS COMMITTEE

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Legal Questions Committee which was given in by the Rev George Cowie, Convener.

*It was moved and seconded-*

### The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Amend Standing Order 95(i) as detailed in Section 1 and Appendix A of the Report.
3. Approve the principles outlined in Section 2.7 of the Report and instruct the Committee to bring a draft Discipline Overture, written in accordance with these principles, to the Assembly of 2018.
4. Instruct the Committee, jointly with the Ministries Council, to consider whether there is scope to reformulate the Code of Professional Practice and Good Conduct for the Ministries of the Church of Scotland as a set of rules which might allow breach of the Code, or of a version of it, to be defined as a disciplinary offence, and to report to the General Assembly of 2019.
5. Note that the Unitary Constitution has been amended (a) to include reference to the requirement to hold a Stated Annual Meeting and (b) to correct a reference to an appeal process, and agree to amend the Model Deed to similar effect, all as outlined in Appendix C.
6. Pass an Act amending the Model Deeds of Constitution Act (Act II 1994) as set out in Appendix C.
7. Agree that the process known as ‘Arbitration’, which has been used to make decisions between buildings in certain readjustment cases, should cease to be available from 1 January 2018.

8. Instruct Presbyteries to review any agreed Bases of Union or Linking which have yet to be implemented and, where any such Basis includes a clause indicating that the Panel of Arbiters should be asked to choose a building, instruct the Presbytery to amend its Plan by categorising the buildings in the proposed Union or Linking in terms of section 5(2) of Act VII 2003.
9. Instruct the General Trustees, in consultation with the Central Properties Department, to compile a guidance document for Presbyteries, outlining good practice which can be employed when choosing between buildings in the appraisal process.
10. Instruct the Committee, in consultation with the Ministries Council, to revise and consolidate the provisions of the Ministries Act, as outlined in the Report, and to report to the Assembly of 2018.
11. Pass an Act amending the Ministry Act (Act II 2000) as set out in Appendix D.
12. Instruct the Committee to undertake a consultation exercise in relation to membership of Church Courts and to report to the Assembly of 2018.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of Section 9:*

*After 'Instruct the General Trustees, in consultation with' add 'the Committee on Church Art and Architecture and'.*

*The Deliverance as amended was then agreed.*

## **COUNCIL OF ASSEMBLY**

The General Assembly called for the Report and Supplementary Report of the Council of Assembly which were given in by Dr Sally Bonnar, Convener.

*It was moved and seconded-*

## **The General Assembly:**

1. Receive the Report and Supplementary Report.
2. Issue a call to the Church of Scotland to pray that God will do a fresh work amongst us as God's people and instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to consider how best to respond to this call.
3. Instruct the Council, working together with other appropriate Councils, to prepare as soon as possible, resources to support individuals, congregations and Presbyteries in prayer for the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan.
4. Affirm the work undertaken to this point on the creation of a Strategic Plan for the Church and note the Council's intention to bring a full report indicating strategic priorities for the next phase of the Church's life and work to the General Assembly in 2018.
5. Welcome the report of the Council's review of the work of the Ecumenical Relations Committee and instruct that Committee to continue its own review of the Church's Ecumenical Policy in consultation with the Council of Assembly, reporting to the General Assembly in 2018.
6. Approve the revised Remit of the Ecumenical Relations Committee as set out in Appendix 3.
7. Affirm the planned changes to the way in which the Ecumenical Relations Committee intends to relate to Councils and the Theological Forum and instruct those bodies to engage appropriately.
8. Encourage Presbyteries and congregational office bearers to ensure local compliance with the Data Protection Act and instruct the Council to present to the General Assembly in 2018 measures to ensure ongoing compliance throughout the Church

with the new General Data Protection Regulation being introduced across the European Union.

9. Affirm the work undertaken by the Council in benchmarking senior staff salaries.
10. Approve the revised Job Description for the post of Principal Clerk as set out in Appendix 4.
11. *Consideration of Section 11 was dealt with earlier in this Session.*
12. Instruct the Council, in cooperation with the Assembly Arrangements Committee and the Legal Questions Committee, to review the terms and processes relating to the future appointment of a Principal Clerk and report to the General Assembly in 2019.
13. Note the Council's report on the future of interfaith relations and affirm the ongoing development of this work.
14. Approve the total to be contributed by congregations in 2018 of £46,055,000 based on the projection of congregational income for 2018 and its disposition among local congregational expenditure, the Parish Ministries Fund and the Mission and Renewal Fund. *(Section 1 and Appendix I)*
15. Note the indicative budget for 2018.
16. Receive the 2016 Report and Accounts of the Unincorporated Councils and Committees of the General Assembly.
17. *Consideration of Section 17 was deferred until Session II.*

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of the Deliverance:*

*Add a new Section 8 and renumber:*

Welcome the establishing of the Gaelic Working Group and encourage the Group to press forward timeously with the development of the Gaelic language plan for the Church, and with other activities aimed at encouraging the use and enlivening of Gaelic in the Church.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of the Deliverance:*

*Add a new Section 8 and renumber:*

Instruct the Council, in consultation with the Nomination Committee, to investigate the opportunities, costs and financing of making video-conferencing more widely available for meetings of the Councils and Committees of the Church and report to the General Assembly in 2018.

*The Deliverance as amended was then agreed.*

### **JOINT REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF ASSEMBLY, MINISTRIES COUNCIL, MISSION AND DISCIPLESHIP COUNCIL, PANEL ON REVIEW AND REFORM AND LEGAL QUESTIONS COMMITTEE**

*It was moved, seconded and agreed-*

#### **The General Assembly:**

1. Receive the Report.
2. Instruct the Council of Assembly, working jointly with the Mission and Discipleship Council, the Ministries Council, the Panel on Review and Reform and the Legal Questions Committee to complete its work on resourcing the implementation of Local Church Review as outlined in section 5(c) of the Deliverance of the Council of Assembly's Report to the General Assembly in 2016, and report to the General Assembly in 2018.

The General Assembly adjourned at 3.23 pm to meet again in this Hall on Monday 22 May at 9.15 am for Holy Communion, and thereafter for business, whereof public intimation having been made, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

ASSEMBLY HALL  
EDINBURGH, 20 May 2017, 3.23 pm

## AMENDMENTS TO ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

### COMMISSIONERS

*Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley*

*Delete* Rev Dr Charles M Cameron (211)

*Presbytery of Glasgow*

*Add* Mr John Boyle, Glasgow: Broomhill (276)

*Presbytery of Angus*

*Add* Rev Dr Ian A McLean, Depute Clerk, Presbytery of Angus (523)

*Presbytery of Orkney*

*Add* Mrs Elizabeth McVicar, Westray (679)

### DELEGATES

*The Methodist Church in Scotland*

*Add* Rev Andrew Letby (720)

*Presbyterian Church of Ghana*

*Delete* Rt Rev Prof Cephas Narh Omenyo (732)

*Synod of the Nile of the Evangelical Church of Egypt*

*Add* Mrs Rozet Refki Younan (738)

### APOLOGIES RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING CHURCH

Presbyterian Church of Ghana

## NOTICES OF MOTION

**Mr David Lloyd (708)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Church and Society Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of Section 11 of the Deliverance:

*After 'resident in Scotland' add 'and UK citizens resident in EU member states'.*

**The Rev Alexander Currie (141)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Church and Society Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of Section 21 of the Deliverance:

*After "develop resources to support pilgrimage in Scotland" add ", and to explore and develop ways of assisting congregations on pilgrim routes to fulfil the missionary purposes of the Church."*

**The Rev Peter Johnston (539)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Church and Society Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 23 and renumber:*

Instruct the Council to consider the effectiveness of microcredit schemes in lifting people out of poverty and report to a future General Assembly as part of the Council's focus on an economy driven by equality.

**The Very Rev Dr Alan McDonald (637)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Church and Society Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 29:*

Call on the UK Government to ensure that ship to ship transfers of crude oil are not permitted in the Inner Moray Firth.

**The Very Rev Andrew McLellan (435)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Church and Society Council** he will move the following amendment of the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 29:*

Welcome the development of Visitor Centres in Scottish Prisons, welcome the engagement of the Church in this development, and encourage the Council to continue to pay attention to this and other matters relating to imprisonment and penal reform.

**The Rev Howard Hudson (255)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 20 and renumber:*

Instruct the Council, in consultation with the Legal Questions Committee, to reconsider whether all previous Interim Moderators in a vacancy should be barred from applying for that vacancy in the light of so many long-term vacancies and current practice and report to the General Assembly of 2018.

**The Convener** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of Section 23 of the Deliverance:

*Add at the end:*

‘with the following amendments to Appendix 8 (Ministry and Deaf Congregations Act):

- i. *In lines one and two of section 1, delete ‘in ministry with’ and substitute ‘as a minister for’;*
- ii. *In line two of section 2, delete ‘in ministry with’ and substitute ‘as a minister for’.*

**The Convener (249)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of Section 24 of the Deliverance:

*Add at the end:*

‘with the following amendment to Appendix 9 (Congregations of Deaf People Regulations):

*Add at the end of the first sentence of section 4: ‘of the minister in terms of the Ministry and Deaf Congregations Act (Act XX 2017)’.*

**The Convener (249)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of Section 26 of the Deliverance:

*Delete ‘to liaise with the Legal Questions Committee on issues that have arisen in relation to’ and substitute ‘jointly with the Legal Questions Committee to consider issues that have arisen when implementing’.*

**The Rev Peter Johnston (539)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of Section 26 of the Deliverance:

*Delete ‘as to whether amending legislation is required’ and substitute ‘with proposed amendments to the legislation which may be considered appropriate’.*

**The Rev Alec Shuttleworth (437)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 27:*

Instruct the Council, when preparing lists of personnel for inclusion in the Church of Scotland Year Book, to remove the titles “Mrs” “Ms” and “Miss” so as to ensure that male and female persons are listed on the same basis.

**The Rev Lezley Stewart (25)** has given notice that on the **Supplementary Report of the Ministries Council** she will move the following AMENDMENT of Section 5 of the Deliverance:

*Add at the end ‘with an explanation of how such calculations are made’.*

**The Rev Hugh O’Brien (585)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Mission and Discipleship** he will move the following AMENDMENT of the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 13 and renumber:*

Acknowledge and congratulate Scripture Union on its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, giving thanks to God for the work of Scripture Union Scotland with our nation’s young people.

**The Rev Hugh Stewart (668)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Mission and Discipleship Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT of the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 26:*

Recognise with sincere appreciation the outstanding contribution made by Rev Dr Roddy MacLeod as Editor of ‘*Na Duilleagan*’, the excellent, Gaelic *Life & Work* insert during the past 37 years and commend the Council for its innovative provision of a digital version of ‘*Na Duilleagan*’ alongside its paper version of this excellent resource.

**The Rev Alan Hamilton (351)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Theological Forum** he will move the following AMENDMENT of Sections 3 and 4 of the Deliverance:

*Add a preface consisting of the following wording to Section 3 of the Deliverance and renumber Section 3 as sub-section a) and Section 4 as sub-section b):*

Recognising and affirming the Church’s existing doctrine and practice in matters of human sexuality, as in particular contained in (i) the deliverance in 2011 of the General Assembly on the Report of the Special Commission on Same-Sex Relationships and the Ministry in which the Church stated both that “homophobia is sinful” and that the Church does “not include in the concept of homophobia both the bona fide belief that homosexual practice is contrary to God’s will and the responsible statement of that belief in preaching or writing”; (ii) the Report of the Working Group on Human Sexuality: Believing in Marriage received by the General Assembly in 2012; and (iii) the terms of the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships and Same Sex Marriages Act (Act I 2015):