

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

**PROVINCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE AND CELEBRATION OF THE
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDINATION OF WOMEN TO THE
PRIESTHOOD IN ACSA**

27- 29 SEPTEMBER 2017

KOPANONG HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE - BENONI

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2017

PSC delegates registered from 09h30

11h30 Holy Eucharist

PSC delegates joined the Synod of Bishops, and delegates to the Women's 25th Ordination Anniversary Conference, for the Eucharist in celebration of 25 years of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood in ACSA. The preacher was The Revd Courtney Sampson (IEC).

14h30 **FIRST SESSION**

The Archbishop led PSC in song and prayer.

1. Welcome

Delegates were introduced and welcomed.

The PSC Service Committee Report was presented, and approved by PSC. The following members of PSC were proposed and accepted various tasks:

Revd Canon Cynthia Botha as chaplain

The Very Reverend Andrew Hunter as Clerical Secretary

Mrs Freda Chigumadzi as the Lay Secretary

As scrutineers: Bishop Garth Counsell (convenor); Bishop Margaret Vertue;

Revd Canon F. Mbabama, The Very Revd N. Sibisi; Lay Canon R. Lutalo.

As Resolutions Committee: Mr L Fortuin (chair); Adv M Manaka; Mr M Qoto; Ms R Manning; The Revd D. Dlamini.

The Revd Canon Maureen Simons to assist with administration duties.

The Archbishop gave notice of an additional agendum item, 5.2, The election of three Pension Fund Trustees.

2. Acceptance of Reports en bloc

The PEO explained the process to be followed, with questions and resolutions to be submitted, as part of PSC's response to the reports.

The Bishop of Natal proposed, and the Bishop of St Mark the Evangelist seconded, that the Reports be accepted *en bloc*.

PSC concurred.

3. SOB Report

The Dean of the Province delivered the report from the Synod of Bishops, summarised as follows:

- College of the Transfiguration: Bishops discussed and acknowledged the challenges being faced and have committed to support the College.
- Administration: Provincial Trusts Board: It was agreed to restructure the PTB to make it more effective.
- Provincial Pension Fund: The Archbishop, having served on this committee for ten years, had asked to be released from this role. He was thanked for his work, and in his place Bishop Charles May

(Highveld) was elected. Thanks was expressed to Dr T Seoka and Adv R Bracks, who were stepping down.

- Ministry: Human Sexuality: SOB had received the terms of reference of the Archbishop's Commission on Human Sexuality. The Bishops had committed the matter to prayer, aware that this has been in the public domain for a long time. Diocesan Liaison teams are being set up to assist the Commission's work in every diocese.
- Archbishop's Peace with Justice Award: Bishop Geoff Davies would be the next recipient of this award, for the role he is playing in issues of the environment, both locally and globally.
- Liturgical matters: names of persons to be added to the church's commemoration calendar were discussed.
- Women's ordination: The Bishops acknowledged and supported the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood.
- Primates Meeting (Oct 2017) and Lambeth Conference (2020): The Bishops had noted these meetings, and had offered prayers for those who will be attending. Archbishop Thabo is the chair of the Planning Committee for Lambeth 2020.
- The celebration of 500 years of the Reformation was acknowledged. Bishop Ebenezer and Archbishop Thabo were thanked for representing us at the World Council of Churches celebrations in Germany earlier this year.
- Canon 14.2 (compulsory resignation of bishops): The Bishops had dealt with the matter of the Diocese of Umzimvubu under this section of the Canons. Details to be communicated later.
- Diocese of Mthatha: Bishop Nkosinathi Ndwandwe was announced as the Bishop-elect.
- Archbishop Thabo was congratulated on his soon-to-be released book.

The report was received by PSC.

Support for the COTT was further interrogated. Most Bishops have committed to send at least one student per diocese in 2018. This would

add at least 25 students. The Bishops wished to indicate that they mean business in this regard. COTT Council has set up a fund-raising committee. Dioceses with no students at COTT in 2018 were asked to consider giving at least R2,800 per month, to help with the cash flow of the College. Alumni of the former colleges, and of COTT, would be approached for donations. The Archbishop would be setting up a commission to explore matters further.

PSC adjourned for tea at 15h45

PSC reconvened at 16h20

16h30 **SECOND SESSION**

4. Presentation by the Archbishop's Commission on Human Sexuality

Bishop Raphael Hess (Saldanha Bay) gave a power-point presentation.

The Presentation is attached as an addendum to these Minutes.

Summary:

The Archbishop set up the Commission, appointed its members, and established its terms of reference.

This Commission's mandate is not to rescind the Provincial Synod 2016 decision.

It does not assume that ministry to members of the LGBTIQ community is included or excluded.

It notes the legal differences in countries in the various parts of our Province.

It is a further attempt to listen to the voices of the LGBTIQ community, in line with Lambeth Resolution 1.10 of 1998.

Questions and comments were raised by members of PSC:

- Have the countries outside of SA been included in the Commission?

- The aim of the Commission is to help us have a better approach in ministering to LGBTIQ community.
- The biblical response, “go and sin no more”; “let you without sin cast the first stone”, was referred to.
- Is listening to allow only the “other” group to speak? Or is the listening going to be mutual?
- The make-up of the Commission: Shouldn’t we think about finding members who are independent and outside the Anglican Church to look with new lenses at this matter?
- What is built into the methodology of the Commission to ensure that all divergent voices are heard?
- This matter is long overdue. The pace at which we are moving is too slow. The problem is multiplying. The number of those who are gay or lesbian is increasing. Family circles are being affected. We are not looking at the matter directly and engaging with it. It has the potential to split the church. We need a special program to deal directly with gays and lesbians.
- Pastoral care should be expedited.
- Why so much energy and time on human sexuality when there are many other problems such as poverty? What about a Commission on poverty?
- The church is a teaching institution. How do we teach things that we don’t know?
- What does the Bible say about things that are considered to be sin?
- Do we need to revise the Ten Commandments or even the whole Bible?
- The question is not whether you agree or disagree with it. The reality is that in ministry we encounter LGBTI persons in our churches and families. Help us how we should respond pastorally. Provide us with pastoral guidelines, regardless of whether you are for or against the matter.
- Maybe we should define for ourselves, what is a civil union?
- How are those for whom the issue of same-sex unions is not a reality, to be accommodated?

- As pastors, how do we minister to members of our churches who are in same-sex relationships?
- Noting the necessity of providing pastoral care, would dioceses outside of SA, or in those countries which have not legalised same-sex unions, be allowed by the Province to find ways of providing such pastoral care? Doing that would be to go against the laws and against societal norms in such countries. Can this issue not be compulsory to such dioceses?
- Could there be more representation from the rural dioceses in the composition of the Commission?
- We need to go back to the scriptures, as they will be read and understood at grassroots level. This should be an urgent matter for the Commission. Even Pastoral Care Guidelines may have to do with how we read and interpret the scriptures.
- We need to expose the dioceses to the full text of Lambeth 1.10
- What this is meant to do is to help us talk and listen to one another. If we don't talk and listen, we won't know what others think.
- The church should open up and discuss. If the church does not guide, and allow matters to be open and freely discussed...
- We must not quote the Bible out of its context. WWJD?
- In some instances, families have been hiding someone who is an embarrassment to them and to the church. "Because you belong to this sexuality, we declare you not a Christian..." We need to be very careful not to send people away. We need to continue to talk, and move together.
- The mind of Christ is manifested in the body of Christ. This exercise will help us discern the mind of Christ. Discernment is not engaging one another in combat to see who wins. It involves careful listening.
- At a recent diocesan Synod, it was suggested that we need to have a fresh look at our deeply held beliefs.
- Others look to us as ACSA for guidance in this matter. Everywhere we see the mushrooming of new churches. We can make a valuable contribution to our nation in issues of poverty and human dignity. It is hoped that this Commission will help us to talk seriously and honestly and respectfully. This will in turn help others.

- Let us extend the discussion to our parishes, to those who are worshipping, to speak within the community of the church. We shouldn't be talking about "us" and "them". We minister to people when we know how they feel, and give them a hearing.
- Each and everyone of us is affected. Our brothers and sisters who feel unwelcome... we say we must love one another, but we call the LGBTIQ "them" and not part of us. The dioceses need to take more steps to listen and hear and continue to journey with the people, one step at a time...

The Bishop of Saldanha Bay concluded the discussion with the following words: "Conversation precedes creation. God speaks and then creates. We have the capacity to engage in creative and transforming conversation."

17h30

THIRD SESSION

5. Principles of Budget – Provincial Treasurer

The PTB was to be restructured: the chair would be the Archbishop (or his nominee); 4 bishops, i.e. the chair of the PTB management committee; the chair of the Finance Board; and two further bishops; two laity elected by the bishops; two laity and one cleric elected by Provincial Synod (this remains unchanged); the Provincial Registrar or nominee, and the Provincial Treasurer, who would be *ex officio*.

We have been well served on the Provincial Pension Fund and ACSA Retirement Fund by Adv Ronnie Bracks and Dr T Seoka. Both have come to the end of their term and are not available for re-election. Their replacements are to be elected at this PSC, to serve a three-year term. The roles and responsibilities of trustees are stringent.

The Provincial Treasurer spoke to the Principles of the Budget. These are attached as an addendum to these Minutes.

Some questions and concerns were raised: the number of young people in our countries; high rate of unemployment among young people, and the increasing urbanisation of our population.

We do need to look at ACSA broadly. What are some of the practical things we can do?

The zero increase in the Provincial budget, over a number of years, in contrast to the steep rise in diocesan income, was noted.

PSC adjourned at 18h20.

Members of PSC gathered at 18h30 for Evening Prayer.

During the service, PSC received the news of the petrol-bombing of St Mark's Church, District Six (Cape Town), earlier in the day, apparently by students. The context for this was probably the protest action on the CPUT campus, which surrounds the church precincts.

The Archbishop also admitted the following to the Order of Simon of Cyrene:

Mrs Sally Motlana (Diocese of Johannesburg)

Dr Shirley Moulder (Diocese of Johannesburg)

Bishop Anthony Mdletshe was licensed as Vicar-General of the Diocese of Mthatha, pending the installation of Bishop Nkosinathi Ndwandwe as Bishop of Mthatha on Saturday 9th December 2017.

Dinner followed.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

PROVINCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE 2017

THURSDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2017

Members of PSC gathered at 07h00 for the celebration of the Eucharist. The Archbishop was the celebrant; The Revd Winnie Varghese (Trinity Church, Wall Street, USA) was the homilist.

The Metropolitan of the Mar Thomas Church was welcomed, together with the General Secretary of the SACC, Bishop Malusi Mpumlwana.

PSC reconvened at 09h00.

The Archbishop led PSC in song and prayer.

PSC was addressed by the Metropolitan of the Mar Thomas Church. He was thanked by the Dean of the Province.

09h00 **FOURTH SESSION**

1. Questions from the Reports

1.1 Church Unity Commission (CUC) - Bishop Charles May

How can we promote local and regional ecumenical communities?

Stories were told of good local relationships amongst the ordained leadership, competition with some churches for the already churched, mutual support for fundraising efforts, sharing in outreach and support for one another's programs and services (ALPHA, Fresh Expressions, Taize, contemplative services); CUC and SACC relationships, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;

There was lament with reference to: the loss of joint ministry in our communities; our past witness, ministry and the fight against apartheid, oppression and injustices in the country; our failure to address the enemies

and evils in the communities; learning and doing theology together which enriched and fostered respect and unity and Christian witness;

Proposed Way Forward: Convene an ecumenical conference with full representation of bishops, clergy and laity, including youth, to find one another;

Addressing issues of common interest together e.g. fundraising in aid of congregational projects; developmental projects to alleviate poverty, food security, sewing, etc; health related programs i.e. TB, HIV/AIDS, cancer; violence against women and children and intervention when there is violence in our townships and communities;

It was also noted that in adversity the churches have stood together e.g. during war, drought, crime, AIDS, HIV, but when adversity passes, contacts tend to drift apart. A strong steering committee with branches in various areas is required to maintain unity, e.g. RENEW of the '90s;

During Palm Sunday some churches participate in conducting services with other denominations, e.g. Catholic, Methodist and Lutheran, by starting services at one centre, e.g. a sportsfield before proceeding to their respective church venues;

Our priests are members of Kwazulu-Natal Regional Christian Council (SACC structure), IDAMASA body of all churches;

Some Bishops have a standing working relationship with the Bishops of the Catholic and Lutheran churches

Mothers Union branches meet with other women's organisations.

Swaziland gave an accounts of ecumenical work in their context:

Somhlolo festival of praise celebrates the coming of Christianity to

Swaziland. The coming of Umculu, i.e. the Bible

Sibane Sabomake - which consists of the Methodist, Anglican, AME,

Apostolic Faith Mission churches, worship together and fundraise together, eight months of a year.

Opening of Parliament involves different preachers from all denominations

Funerals also draw different preachers to work together.

ECUMENISM IN LESOTHO- ROLE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH **(AGENDUM 21)**

1. Traditionally for more than 25 years, the Heads of Churches in Lesotho including the Anglican Church, Roman Catholic Church , Lesotho Evangelical Church, Methodist Church, African Methodist Episcopal Church and Assemblies of God in Lesotho, have always invited one another to each other's events; for example, the diocese is ordaining priests and deacons on 8th October and the Heads of the Churches will join them on this day.
2. The Parish Councils of these Churches have also begun working together especially on developmental projects. The Anglican Cathedral in Maseru recently launched its strategic plan and invited the Councils of the Roman Catholic and Lesotho Evangelical Church to share their experiences.
3. Our Women's Associations (Guilds), MU and AWF have continued to share fundraising activities with our sister churches.

ECUMENICAL INVOLVEMENT AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

NIASSA

1 Social engagement through

- Serving groups
- Prayers and mutual support

2 Interfaith actions with Muslim communities

Public advocacy

WESTERN CAPE

- *Mutual engagement across multi racial church communities*
- *denominational joint meetings and worship services*
- *pastor to pastor mentoring across denominations*

1.2. Theological education and training - Bishop Dino Gabriel; Dean Andrew Hunter; Deacon Joan Jones.

Questions:

1.2.1 What is the future of Anglican theological education in our dioceses and Province?

1.2.2 Can we do this together with other churches? Almost all other churches are struggling in this area of their life.

1.2.3 What happened to Theological Education Sunday? It appears to have been largely forgotten.

1.2.4 What type of clergy does the church need now and for the future? How can COTT respond to the challenge?

1.2.5 In the report from the Advisory Board on Theological Education and Training for Ministry, the minimum qualification for ordination is given as a diploma which will serve as an entry for a BTh degree. Is it intended that this applies, to those discerned as called to the priesthood and diaconate?

1.2.6 Has consideration been given to a separate qualification for those discerned as called to the distinctive diaconate?

1.2.7 In the report of the College of the Transfiguration, it is stated that there are 44 students at College. Are there any who have been discerned as called to the distinctive diaconate and if so, how many?

Members of PSC were divided into groups to engage with the questions.

PSC adjourned for tea at 10h30

PSC reconvened at 11h00

11h00 **FIFTH SESSION**

Answers on Theological Education Sunday:

- We recognise that it is one of the compulsory collections/observances on a specific Sunday.
- The issue of marketing the Sunday: There needs to be much more intentional advertising the Sunday.
- The intention was somewhat skewed in that the focus on Theological Education Sunday was often blurred with the emphasis rather placed on money and fund-raising.
- There is a need to take stock of what's happening about theological education in our respective dioceses.
- COTT must think "big" and beyond residential training.

- One common syllabus in respect of theological education should be considered.
- We need to help COTT to understand what kind of leaders we are wanting to be prepared for the church and the world.
- We need to help our dioceses to catch a vision for theological education.
- We need to consider what we really want COTT to provide - is it only academics? – and should we as dioceses define more clearly what the role of the diocese should be in the training program?
- We also have to recognise that some persons trained locally have established good credentials
- Theological education is very complex
- How do we re-brand theological education and Theological Education Sunday?

Answers on questions concerning the College of the Transfiguration:

1. COTT should not be closed down.
2. Introduce distance learning models
3. Diversify courses at COTT that will have more people interested for various ministries of the church
4. Have the right people at COTT to produce quality clergy – is assessment of trainers in place?
5. Explore how to consolidate the formation part of the training program.
6. Every diocese to introduce training at diocesan level
7. Put COTT at the centre of theological training
8. The need for a seminary for our Portuguese speaking dioceses was raised
9. Emergency fundraising to solve current crisis was urgently required

Answer on the Permanent Diaconate:

The three-fold order of Bishops, Priests and Deacons is part of our foundational statement as the church. The focus on the transitional diaconate has led to a neglect of the distinctive diaconate as an intrinsic part of the sacramental orders, to the detriment of our Anglican Church's Missio Dei. Without this threefold order, the burden to not only serve as

leaders of the church, but also to lead the church to serve the wider community, falls on the priest alone.

While it is said that “once a deacon, always a deacon”, the ministry of priest and deacon does differ. Attempts to meet the demands of both, may lead to neither being fully met. The recognition of this by the wider Church led to attempts to re-establish the distinctive diaconate - even within our own Anglican Province in the 1980s. In fact, there has been a world-wide movement since the 1980s to re-establish the ministry of deacons in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Roman Catholic Church. The need of the church to re-engage with those on the fringes of society, in combination with a growing shortage of priests, has led to a growth of persons ordained to the distinctive diaconate in our own denomination in other parts of the world, and in other denominations.

Despite the fact that the social issues e.g. xenophobia, racism, sexism, drug addiction, HIV etc in Southern Africa continue to grow, and despite the fact that these are social problems which our Church needs to address, not all our dioceses have seen the distinctive diaconate as an intrinsic part of the sacramental orders. By contrast the Methodist Church of Southern Africa has a vibrant and growing diaconate.

We need to remind ourselves that the ministry of the deacon brings great power to the ministry of the Church. In fact the English deacons suggest that the diaconate is once again becoming necessary for such a time as this! A time in which we are dealing with refugees, illegal aliens, terrorists, drug addicts, inequality, corruption, poverty, teenage moms and dads, and of course HIV-AIDS.

We also need to decide prayerfully how we are going to speak out against gender violence, racism and exclusion of homosexual people in our communities, and many other social issues.

If the church is to do the work Jesus has called us to, we need to be equipped for it. The three fold order of the Anglican Church is uniquely positioned to do just that, i.e. if we are to adhere to the basic tenets of this threefold order.

Answers on the future of Anglican Theological Education in the Dioceses and within the Province:

That there is a future was emphasised!

If there were no theological training institutions, would there be leaders in the Church?

Examples of such institutions were given, of which most of our church leaders are products.

Differences were cited between the TEEC and the residential theological training colleges.

More spiritual formation at the residential colleges as against the more academic nature of the other training institutions, was noted.

If there is a future for the church, there is a future for COTT

If we want to produce clerics who are meeting the requirements and expectations of the Anglican Church we need COTT

There is a need to monitor & evaluate what happens in the dioceses and what happens at COTT in relation to the holistic preparedness of the ministers/clergy produced; i.e. whether they are spiritually ready to minister to the members at the expected level

Issues raised:

Although we all agree on the need for COTT, it may not be necessary for all students to attend COTT. It can be through other tertiary training institutions, e. g. UNISA.

Financial implications:

Sustainability

Other approaches to be integrated into the COTT programme

COTT to introduce modern and current approaches to training e. g.

Use of technology; in-service trainings; distance learning and contact sessions.

A review of the Mission Statement of ACSA relating to COTT, its relevance in addressing current issues.

Investigate or try to identify the relevance of COTT and the reason for dioceses not sending their candidates to our only college.

Recommendations:

The ALUMNI to be encouraged to assist in making the institution viable.

Dioceses to make a commitment to monthly contributions.

Strategies to be put in place to ensure the physical structures are maintained given the high cost of repairing dilapidated structures.

1.3. The environment:

Questions:

1. What has been the role of the church in creating awareness of both the church and communities as well as other institutions in relation to our Missio Dei?
2. How many dioceses are celebrating the “Season of Creation”?
3. Are there any barriers to embracing the “Season of Creation” we need to overcome?
4. What are we to do to ensure that clergy and bishop play a more pivotal role in spreading the environmental gospel?

12h00 Angelus & Prayer for Africa

Answers on the environment:

The Lay Canon on environmental affairs to represent ACSA with local government

Recycling, clean-up around churches, food gardens etc. should be encouraged.

Committees on environmental issues at archdeaconry and parish level, can be considered.

Preaching on environmental issues as reflected in scripture should happen. There is a need to be intentional about reducing our carbon footprint, i.e. do it, not just speak about it; reduce, recycle, reuse.

MU initiative to do away with the use of polystyrene in 2015; do away with paper 2017; use electronic distribution of orders of service, bulletins, etc

Once-off campaign or teaching is not enough. This must be sustained.

A culture of appreciation of the environment must be encouraged - children to spend time in environment, to protect and appreciate it; children are growing up in “concrete jungle”.

This should start with the example set by the Bishop and family.

What am I handing to my children and the next generation?

HOW CAN WE PLAY A MORE PIVOTAL ROLE TO SPREAD THE ENVIRONMENTAL GOSPEL

Response

- Parishes should conduct a special service on the World Environmental Day
- Set a date aside annually to educate on the environment, using a dedicated person with knowledge of the subject.
- Prayer for the environment, perhaps copying the “prayer for Africa” approach.
- Include this as part of training at Sunday School, Confirmation and Parish minister training levels.
- Engage in environmental advocacy
- Include the awareness events into the calendar of the dioceses, even in the lectionary and prayer diaries
- Confirmants to plant trees after confirmation services
- Access to clean water in rural communities is still a challenge
- Using alternative planting method to create vegetable gardens
- Include the environmental gospel as a focus in all training

THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN RELATION TO MISSION

Psalm 24:1

The message of creation should be celebrated in the month of September and should be compulsory. It can be incorporated in our lectionary from 2019, including alternative readings

Engage other bodies outside the church that are involved in issues of the environment.

Educate / discourage people to use items that destroy the environment eg plastic flowers on the graves.

There has to be ongoing programs all the time, and Guilds should incorporate it in their programs ie tree planting, recycling.

We need strong leaders who will take this up. We are those leaders.

1.4. Youth - Abigail Hopley

Following last year's Provincial Synod and the report we have just heard from the Provincial Treasurer, what commitment is the Province giving to support the formation and development of the young people?

Answers:

Ministry at parish level should be at the heart of our response.

Licensed youth leaders in every parish, equipped and trained, should be prioritised.

Volunteer and intern programs, e.g. living and working and ministering together for a year or two, can be implemented.

Diocesan Youth Development Co-ordinators, with the job to train leaders in youth and children's ministry, should be considered.

Draw young persons into the structures of the diocese

Have a Canon for youth ministry as a member of Chapter

Diocesan Council representation must include young people from archdeaconries

Archdeaconry youth committees

Youth indabas, synods can be held (e.g. Diocese of False Bay).

PCC to include two young people (under the age of 30)

The Provincial youth budget has been reduced. Feedback has been that provincial efforts don't really reach the parishes. The hope was that dioceses would support youth work at diocesan level.

1.5. 500th anniversary of the Reformation - Bishop Ebenezer Ntlali

What is the importance for ACSA to be part of the world-wide ecumenical movement? What are the benefits of being part of the World Council of Churches?

The prayer of Jesus, that we may be one (Jn 17) was used as the theme. Irrespective of our denomination, we are united in the gospel, to have a prophetic voice, at world, national and local level.

To express our unity in diversity

To learn from one another in issues of faith and order, and to teach those who are part of the mushrooming of new churches.

To assist one another in knowledge of doctrine and in interpretation thereof.

To act together in issues of common concern

WCC conference on mission, 8th - 13th March 2018, in Arusha, Tanzania

PSC adjourned for lunch at 13h00

The Archbishop met with the Provincial Chancellor and Deputy Registrar to discuss roles and functions.

PSC reconvened at 14h30 and was led in songs of worship by Bishop Martin of St Mark the Evangelist.

SEVENTH SESSION

2. Provincial Liturgical Committee – Report and Way Forward

The Revd Keith Griffiths spoke to the report (Agendum 27), highlighting the need for continuity in the membership of the working committee; having the breadth of the church represented on the working committee; the need for a secretariat; the need to train younger clergy in liturgical matters; the need to develop a Prayer Book in many languages; the need for liturgy to be written in the various languages of our Province and not simply translated from English; the need for options and choices in the liturgy.

3. Report on Education - Questions

As part of fundraising, can a fund be considered to be financed by contributions from international partners towards capital for schools that still need expansion and growth to improve enrolment and facilities?

ANGLICAN SCHOOLS

Given the challenges of our times and the need for the church to make a lasting contribution to the moral regeneration of society, what is the Province doing in terms of the following:

- Ensuring that religious education is mandatory in all Anglican schools?
- Promoting the recruitment of Christian-Anglican teachers in our schools?
- Coming up with a Christian syllabus that has an international accreditation?

The Archbishop proposed that these questions be given to the Anglican Board of Education. Bishop Taaso (Lesotho) was the Liaison Bishop for Education.

4. Growing the Church

Bishop Martin reported, and spoke to the following questions:

1. How can dioceses get training for intentional discipleship and disciple making through the lead project?
2. How can dioceses benefit from MyAnglican and participate in it?
3. Why is MyAnglican situated under GtC when it is more about church management and communication?
4. How are plans proceeding for Anglicans Ablaze 2018?

MyAnglican: a diocese and/or parish can subscribe to this and use it for communication, for a diocesan database, income and expenditure, membership roll, service attendance.

Anglicans Ablaze 2018: 3rd - 6th October, in Durban. Preparations underway, speakers of high calibre being sort.

5. Anglican Students Federation (ASF) - questions

1. How can we integrate ASF into the parishes where tertiary institutions exist?
2. How can we bridge the gap between what the church has to offer and what the students need?

3. How can we ensure we have enough chaplains to these institutions? Consider too using lay chaplains (adequately trained) if need be.

Answers: Parishes are encouraged to reach out to the students, and not ignore them.

It was agreed that the matter be referred to the Chaplains' Conference for further thought. The outcome to be reported back to PSC.

6. Mission to Seafarers (Agendum 13) - Bishop Brian (George)

6.1 What is the ministry of the MTS?

6.2 How can we support the ministry of MTS as ACSA?

Answer: To provide a home away from home for seafarers; to give support to them when on shore; we can support through observing Sea Sunday in our lectionary; and through offering hospitality, ship visits; seafarers' families where local.

7. Alcohol and drug abuse - Agendum 4

7.1 Christians are not immune to this challenge. How can we as ACSA respond to this challenge?

7.2 It is never painful until it happens in our homes. Is it wise to wait for the rude awakening or to act now?

7.3 How about the Province declaring a day/week/month or a year as an awareness period of the problem? (1 Cor 6:19 - our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit; Jesus cleansed the temple...)

7.4 With Jabula being a feature after Conferences, Synods etc, what point are we driving towards around substance abuse? Many people see the free flow of alcohol and some easily submit to it. How do you buy a fast car for your child and expect them not to get speeding tickets?

7.5 How can the church increase involvement in rehabilitation programs?

7.6 How can we as parishes support parents who are affected?

It was noted that this issue has to be considered in the wider context of alcohol and drug abuse in communities.

Discussion took place in groups.

PSC adjourned for tea at 16h30

PSC reconvened at 17h00

EIGHTH SESSION

8. Budget – Provincial Treasurer

The nominations of members of the Provincial Pension Fund were discussed and approved by PSC.

It was queried whether it was correct to table and discuss the budget before the previous year's financial statements had been approved. It was noted that this was required by Canon 45.

The Provincial Treasurer then presented the draft Budget for 2018.

The Budget was presented section by section.

PSC adjourned at 18h50 for Evening Prayer and supper.

PSC reconvened at 20h30

The Archbishop proposed that in line with Canon 45, the annual financial statement would be tabled on Friday, followed by the final approval of the budget. PSC concurred.

Discussion ensued on the budget item for PYC, ASF and the Chaplains' Conference.

PSC approved the budget items under discussion.

PSC adjourned at 20h45

The Resolutions Committee met at 20h50

Signed: _____

Date: _____

PROVINCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE 2017

FRIDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2017

FEAST OF ST MICHAEL & ALL THE ANGELS

Members of PSC gathered for the Eucharist at 07h00. The Celebrant was Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya (Swaziland); the Homilist was Bishop Margaret Vertue (False Bay).

PSC reconvened at 09h00.

09h00 **TENTH SESSION**

1. Questions arising from Reports

Question from Isuzulu and Siswati Language Committee (agendum 2.6) - Bishop Ellinah:

1.1 What is the problem leading to re-translation into Isiswati?

Answer: It was agreed that all material be translated into all the languages of ACSA, with the help of the Bishop of Mpumalanga.

1.2 There is an isiZulu Bible which has been in use for decades. What is the problem with it being re-translated?

Answer: there is a 1959 translation, and an incomplete 1985 translation. Language is evolving. Many young people cannot understand the older translation. Every translation seeks to improve on the previous translation. The latest isiZulu translation is nearly complete. The Old Testament has been done; the New Testament is about to be completed.

The Deutero-Canonical books (Apocrypha) have been translated and corrected; those are now with the Bible Society. It was hoped that the publication of these books could be facilitated.

1.3 Question: how do we assist families impacted by alcohol and drug abuse?

Answer: 1st Group: our approach needs to be compassionate, non-judgmental; recognise the need for pastoral care by church; acknowledge that the church does not always grasp the depth of the problem; speak about it openly; raise awareness; make facilities available; create safe spaces; use preventative measures; conscientising from an early age w.r.t. harmful effects, damage to body, destruction of relationships.

Partner with existing NGOs etc in community and experts in the parish; identify groups such as Al-anon, Fam-anon; Twelve steps, Teen-anon; work with ecumenical partners; consider adopting a rehab centre where possible and offer pastoral support; Unicef; parenting programs; rehabilitation - demonstrate love.

Facilitator training: advocacy, engage, produce awareness, plan campaigns to highlight the issue; use recoverees - they know and can share best.

Question: How about the Province declaring a day/ week/month of sobriety?

Answer: The group decided that a week was preferable, so that they can raise awareness gradually. Possibly aim at implementing it during the week of Advent, being the first season of the Church year, and including the four preceding Sundays in preparation for Christmas. It has to be separated from the government's drug and trafficking awareness campaign in June. Through prayers, mindsets might change and some people might open up and seek help. This message can spread through notices in church, local community radio stations, and different guild meetings during the week.

1.4 Question: How can the church be involved in rehabilitation?

Must include other areas of addiction that need consideration e.g. gambling
All addictions impact on families, e.g. Anglicare and Siyalalela provide the service of caring and listening, journeying with families towards attaining solutions.

Pro-active approach: focusing vigorously on parenting and revisiting parenting skills initiatives; similarly education and awareness initiatives focusing on the youth

Re-integration initiatives: to be sensitive in these initiatives such that we don't estrange people affected.

The Church: continual education to address issues such as stigma, and the church becoming a safe space wherein interaction takes place without anyone being prejudiced

If the church is going to fulfil her vocation, that's where she must be - being intentional about discipleship thus leading those dealing and struggling with addictions to our Lord. It is a tough task, yet fulfilling.

Partnerships are pivotal - partnering with NGOs and/or organisations such as AA. Such groups welcome church involvement. Subsequently this can lead to re-integration.

Root causes/determinants: these factors (not excluding others) together or individually, may lead to being caught up in such activities that results in addiction: social issues; peer pressure and bullying amongst the youth; low self-esteem; parenting, including absent parents, single parents having to work long hours thus taking them away from home and subsequently giving less attention on children, may all contribute to the core problem; the church can become a critical role player stepping in to help young people in this regard; freedom vis a vis authority; broken homes.

1.5 Question: Do we have jabula at such gatherings, or not?

Answer: Mixed opinions were expressed; e.g. Anglican teaching, it is said, says that alcohol consumption in moderation is "ok" - it is acceptable.

In trying to control alcohol consumption, we are met with resistance by adults, students, young adults - we cannot control the actions and mind of individuals. Nonetheless, at ASF conferences, there is no jabula at all, thereby setting an example.

There's a conflict: Not having jabula will not curb excessive drinking - one can still go elsewhere or be at home and (excessively) consume alcohol. There's a perception by outsiders that the church does not drink. Yet, at jabula we will be consuming alcohol in the public. The church should be setting an example. Not having jabula does not solve alcohol abuse.

Instead we will be setting an example. Some in the group suggested that jabula and the spirit of jabula (fellowship) continue. However, the Province should not pay for any drinks other than soft drinks, juice and water.

Anything stronger would be for one's own account!

Christians are not immune to this problem. How can we as ACSA respond? How will it be if we were to serve no alcohol at all church events, be it Provincial, Diocesan or local church events. Often these events are attended by youth as well and if we insist on "No alcohol" we will be setting the tone. Children and young people mimic our behaviours as adults. Let us then be exemplary. We need to teach self-control by emphasising a culture of self-discipline in our parishes.

COTT is also facing the same problem and so are other institutions of learning. How do we produce and send out clergy to the parishes and expect them to counsel members, if we have identified that they themselves seem to have a problem? How do we visually stimulate the children as a preventative measure? There is also the added problem of children sent to buy alcohol for adults!

1.6 Questions: Mothers Union (MU)

How can the Provincial MU be enabled to register as an NPO?

In what ways can the diocesan bishops help ensure that good governance is maintained by the diocesan Mothers Union?

Answer:

The MU needs assistance from the bishops to register as an NPO so that they can raise funds more effectively.

They have simplified their constitution and handbook. The diocesan presidents will give their bishops a copy of these so that they can understand how the organisation operates.

2. Motions/Resolutions from the Conference celebrating 25 years of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood in ACSA

Revd Dalcy Dlamini (Swaziland) read the statement from the Conference to celebrate 25 years of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood in ACSA:

Commemorate, Celebrate, Commit to Change Conference Statement

Preamble

Women Priests of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, from the 25 – 27 of September 2017, came together at this 25th anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood to:

- Commemorate the years of struggle leading up to the first ordinations of women to the priesthood in 1992
- Celebrate this 25th anniversary as a victory over exclusion, inequality, and injustice in the church
- Cry with lamentation for the exclusion, inequality, and injustice that remains in the leadership, structures and practices of the church
- Critically consider the nature of these practices of exclusion, inequality, and injustice and how they continue to marginalise women
- Commit to work collaboratively for the transformation of church structures and practices to truly become an inclusive and life-giving church

The voices of laywomen and those in the process of ordination were also welcomed into this safe and collaborative space.

This gathering was rooted in daily prayer and worship, contextual bible studies, the sharing of stories, reflections and group discussions. The conference was intentional at reflecting on the past, critically evaluating the present and committing to the call for changes that would enhance the role of women priests in the church, so that our church will become an inclusive welcoming church, where men and women are equally able to serve to their fullest potential, thereby enabling the church to be a prophetic voice in the world.

Through the sharing of stories, we have heard the cry from many, of their journey's which included, rejection, ridicule, disillusionment, harassment, disempowerment, loneliness and desperation. We have heard the cries and lament of women, who through their desperation, were certain of the grace

of God and through Christ, the hope of glory...if not for them, but for generations thereafter.

We listened to stories of how the policies and structures of our church have created tensions within communities, Parishes and Dioceses and have caused vocations to be destroyed.

Challenges confronting the Church

Through prayer, critical reflection and dialogue the following challenges were identified:

1. As a church, in all our organisations, policies, structures, and hierarchy, we continue to normalise, regularise and perpetuate exclusion.
2. In the continuous striving for equality, we do not deliberately put in place processes to achieve equity.
3. Within the province there are no universally set minimum basic standards and criteria for levels of education and skills required for deacons, priests and bishops.
4. Academically appropriate theological education as well as ministerial formation must be given greater priority.
5. All theological education and ministerial formation should be ongoing and structured mentoring programmes be developed for deacons, priests and bishops in our church.
6. The use of language, when teaching about God and human beings, including our worship, must be critically assessed as to how it continues to marginalise and exclude women.

We hereby commit to the following resolutions, which will be tabled at the Provincial Standing Committee meeting from the 27-29 September 2017 for adoption immediately.

- A) We respectfully request the metropolitan to enforce previous Provincial Synod Resolutions related to the adequate representation of women at all decision-making bodies of the church and at all Parish, Diocesan and Provincial structures.

- B) We respectfully appeal for a transformation of representation within our church that will reflect a 50/50 representation of men and women in leadership and decision making in ACSA.
- C) We respectfully request a campaign within ACSA, that advocates for the election and appointment of women as Bishops in all new elective processes, including the appointments made by the Synod of Bishops.
- D) We respectfully propose that theological education becomes a priority in ACSA, and that an ACSA universally accepted basic minimum standards of education and vocational training is set for all priests and bishops.
- E) We urge all Bishops to send at least 2 ordinands to the College of The Transfiguration annually.
- F) We call for the immediate use of liturgy that does not perpetuate patriarchal leadership and authority but instead uses inclusive, affirming and life-giving language for all of God's creation.
- G) We call on ACSA to allocate adequate resources for the leadership, development and mentorship of women more especially young women in ACSA.

Celebrating 25 years since the ordination of women to the priesthood Pledge

We the women, meeting to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood, give thanks to God that we can celebrate this historic event.

Humbled by the wisdom shared as we commemorated the struggle for ordination, while acknowledging that we still have many challenges to overcome.

Commit ourselves to continue to allow women's voices to be heard in cry and lamentation so that we can continuously seek ways to overcome the limitations that women priests face today.

Humbled that our younger generation of women can draw from the well springs of wisdom of previous generations through whom we can be mentored, moulded and strengthened.

Hereby make the following pledge:

We will promote, normalise and regularise inclusive practices across our organisations, policies, structures, and hierarchy.

We will continue to strive for both gender equality and gender equity in ACSA.

We will work toward universally set minimum basic standards and criteria for levels of education and skills required for deacons, priests and bishops.

We will prioritise theological education and ministerial formation.

We commit to continuous education, training, development within the church.

We commit to ensure that Deacons, priests and bishops are intentionally mentored in their roles of leadership.

We commit to the use of affirming and inclusive language when teaching about God and about human beings and in our liturgy and worship.

PSC adjourned for tea at 10h25

PSC reconvened at 10h55

ELEVENTH SESSION

3. The Metropolitan advised the PSC that the minutes of 27 September 2017 have been typed and checked by the scrutineers, and requested PSC's approval that he could sign them.

Proposer: Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya (Swaziland)

Seconder: Dean Luke Pretorius (Diocese of St Mark the Evangelist)

4. The Provincial Audited Financial Statements were distributed and members given time to peruse them.

5. Provincial Budget

Amendments to the draft Budget were tabled and approved by PSC. The amended Budget was approved by PSC. A copy of the amended budget is attached to these minutes.

Annual Assessments to the dioceses for 2018 were tabled.

Concern was raised about the lack of consultation with dioceses compared to the practice of dioceses with the parishes.

Bishop Martin thanked Rob Rogerson and Terry Robinson for the work well done, adding that, in addition, Rob does a lot of work on the Provincial Pension Fund.

Bishop Martin outlined the proposed budget process going forward:

- 5.1 Synod of Bishops- sets the principles /bigger picture
- 5.2 Diocesan Administrators look at the budget in more detail
- 5.3 Provincial Finance Board comes up with the proposed budget
- 5.4 The Proposed Budget is included in the pack for PSC
- 5.5 Provincial Standing Committee/Synod - Approval

The proposed assessments were formally approved.

The Archbishop also thanked Rob Rogerson on behalf of PSC.

12h00 Angelus

6. Legislative Matters including Resolutions

6.1 Theological Education

The Dean of Grahamstown proposed and the Bishop of Natal seconded

This PSC

Noting:

1. The report from the Advisory Committee on Theological Education
2. The qualifications for ordination as contained in Act VI of Provincial Synod in the Constitution and Canons of Southern Africa
3. The diversity of our Province

Agrees

1. That the minimum requirement for ordination to the transitional diaconate and the priesthood be a Diploma of Theology from an accredited institution, or a Bachelor of Theology degree from a recognised university;
2. That the minimum requirement for ordination to the Permanent (distinctive) diaconate be the Higher Certificate (NQF5) or a Diploma of Theology from an accredited institution;
3. These requirements be in addition to any diocesan programs or requirements;

Requests

1. That dioceses not adhering to this Provincial standard explain at future sessions of PSC and Provincial Synod, in line with the King Commission's "comply or explain" principle;
2. Requests that the Advisory Board, within three months of this meeting of PSC, provide details of all theological education and formation programs being run at local diocesan level, with numbers of ordination, and academic/theological qualifications of those ordained
3. That the College of Transfiguration be used as the preferred provider of theological education for members of the transitional diaconate.
4. That reports on these matters be tabled at the next session of PSC, and Provincial Synod, for further discussion and action on the part of our Provincial governance structures.

The motion as amended during debate was passed by PSC.

6.2 Financial support for the College of the Transfiguration

This PSC noting:

That theological Education and Formation is a necessity to those who minister in the Church of Christ; and that the College of Transfiguration (CoTT) is the only Theological Seminary of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa (ACSA) to provide such a need;

And whereas the College is in good condition as a result of the loan made from the Provincial Trusts' Board for the purpose of accreditation and a space for sound learning:

This PSC resolves

- 1) To encourage all diocesan Bishops to send at least one ordinand each year, with effect from January 2018;
- 2) To encourage dioceses that have not sent an ordinand to commit to pay by stop-order, a minimum of R 2 800.00 per month from October 1st 2017 to September 2019 to assist with the cash flow problem of +/- R 800 000 short fall a year;
- 3) To explore alternative funding models from the world wide Anglican Communion towards Theological Education in view of such a future implementation by the College Council;
- 4) To encourage the Province to support the CoTT Council's Fund raising Committee in its efforts to fundraise for the development of the College and to promote Theological Education Sunday Collection from the Dioceses.
- 5) To request the College Council and the Bishops to explore means of collaboration between COTT and Diocesan training schemes.

The motion as amended during debate was passed by PSC.

6.3 ACSA Liturgical Committee

The Bishop of Saldanha Bay proposed and the Bishop of Zululand seconded

This PSC noting:

- The presentation made on the process and the need for further development of liturgical resources in ACSA,

Supports:

- the call for Diocese to identify persons with particular liturgical skills and make them available for this work.

Recognises

- the work done by the committee to date and
- the need identified for persons who are able to write in the languages in which the ACSA Prayer Book is published,

Respectfully requests Diocesan bishops to actively encourage and support such persons to further develop these skills, and to train clergy and laity in sound liturgical principles

PSC approved the motion.

6.4 The translation of Deutero-Canonical Books into isiZulu

The Dean of Natal proposed and Dean Isaiah Manqele seconded

This PSC, noting:

1. that the work for the translation of the Deutero-Canonical Books into isiZulu has been completed and handed to the Bible Society of South Africa for publication.

2. that this work is crucial for the Zulu speaking Christians to be able to read from the Deutero-Canonical books when required.

Respectfully requests the Metropolitan to contact the Bible Society and call for a progress report.

The motion was approved by PSC.

6.5 SACC and support for National Convention

The Bishop of the Highveld proposed and the Bishop of Natal seconded

This PSC, noting that:

1. ACSA, in June 2017, participated in the SACC Triennial Conference;
2. A call for a National Convention to discuss the public outcry concerning the state of the nation and its implication for our prophetic witness as an ecumenical movement was made at that conference.

This PSC respectfully requests the Metropolitan to commit ACSA to support and encourage participation in such a National Convention.

The motion was approved by PSC.

6.6 Motion on CUC

Ven NB Mafereka proposed and Mr Khotso Tau seconded.

This PSC, noting that;

Whereas we are members of the Church Unity Commission,
That this PSC resolves to explore and to revisit the sharing of resources like the College of the Transfiguration for the valuable process of theological education and formation and other possible areas of collaboration such as human resources and expertise.

The motion was approved by PSC

6.7 Motion on Diocesan Secretaries Conference costs

Bishop Garth Counsell proposed and Archdeacon Joshua Louw seconded

This PSC, noting:

the importance of the annual diocesan secretaries' conference and the need for prudent financial management

Recommends that the travel costs for Diocesan secretaries to attend their annual conference be covered by the dioceses. Where a diocese is unable to do so, subsidisation from the CPF can be considered.

The motion was defeated.

13h00 Lunch

PSC reconvened at 14h30

TWELFTH SESSION

6.8 The environment

The Bishop of Swaziland proposed and the Bishop of Zululand seconded

This PSC,

Recognising that the preservation of the environment is part of our God given mission, we respectfully propose that:

All Dioceses of ACSA observe the Season of Creation, to raise awareness, pray and take action.

- The Season of Creation readings be included in the main section of the lectionary or be alternative readings;
- All bishops appoint a Diocesan environmental coordinator and/or chaplain to facilitate environmental education and to ensure that materials from the Provincial Environmental office is disseminated at parish level.

- All Bishops ensure that Season of Creation materials are translated into the relevant Diocesan languages.

The motion was passed by PSC.

6.9 Water and sanitation

The Bishop of George proposed and Bishop Ernesto seconded

This PSC, noting:

The importance of water justice and ensuring access to potable water and sanitation, and

Recognising:

The excellent work being conducted by diocesan projects in Niassa and Angola in partnership with local communities in terms of water sanitation and health (WASH) standards.

Requests:

The ACSA environmental network, in partnership with Hope Africa, to research these models and lessons learnt with a view to applying them in Dioceses where it is needed.

The motion was passed by PSC.

6.10 Support for St Mark's District Six, Cape Town

The Bishop of Table Bay proposed and the Bishop of False Bay seconded

This PSC

Extends warm greetings to the Rector, Churchwardens, councillors and parishioners of St Marks Church District Six, Cape Town, and assures them of our support, thoughts and prayers following the petrol bombing of part of their church on Wednesday 27 September, 2017.

In doing so, PSC also condemns this destructive act of violence against a sacred place of worship that remained a beacon of hope during the struggle for justice and freedom against forced removals.

The motion was passed by PSC.

6.11 Provincial Youth Council (PYC)

Revd BM Mafereka proposed the motion, and invited Ms Abigail Hopley to speak. The motion was seconded by the Bishop of Natal who invited Bino Makhalanyane to speak.

Whereas

1. PSC 2015 reduced the PYC and ASF budget for sound reason; and
2. Recognising the importance of ministry to young people in our Province and the need for co-ordination and support of Diocesan activities at Provincial level.

This PSC

Recognises the efforts made by the PYC and ASF to regularise its affairs and to prepare a detailed program which will be interrogated by Provincial Finance Board and the Provincial Treasurer.

Request PSC to revisit the decision to reduce the funding in the Common Provincial Fund for 2019.

The amended motion was passed by PSC.

6.12 Canon Law Committee - appreciation

The Bishop of Table Bay proposed and the Bishop of Kimberley & Kuruman seconded that

This PSC records its appreciation and acknowledgement of the hard work that the Canon Law Committee has done and continues to do, to ensure

that all canonical and legal matters pertaining to the life of our church are understood and applied correctly and effectively.

PSC wishes them well for their forthcoming conference assuring them of our prayers and support.

The motion was passed.

6.13 Demographics of Church Membership

The Bishop of the Free State proposed and Mr Tau seconded

This PSC noting that:

1. We are part of a diverse society that seeks to be inclusive.
2. Our recent provincial and diocesan events in some regions has seen a significant reduction in participation of white parishioners at these occasions.

We humbly request the Metropolitan to establish a commission to seek the reasons for this and that the Commission table a report at PSC in 2020.

The motion was passed by PSC.

6.14 Religious education

The Revd Thomas Mhuriro proposed and the Bishop of Lesotho seconded

This PSC, noting that:

ACSA has many church schools that seek to promote the ethos and values of Anglicanism that assists in making a lasting contribution to the moral regeneration of society,

Respectfully requests that the Governing Bodies of our Anglican Schools:

1. Make every effort to ensure that Religious Education is mandatory in their syllabi;

2. Ensure that an Anglican chaplain is appointed at our schools;
3. Give preference to the appointment of Anglican managers, principals and teachers, at our schools;
4. Ensure that their syllabi have international accreditation and appeal.

The motion was passed.

6.15 Anglican schools infrastructure

The Revd MB Mafereke proposed and the Bishop of Swaziland seconded

This PSC:

Noting the importance of keeping ownership of our schools and the need for continual infrastructure development so as to meet the educational needs of our children.

s

Respectfully requests that:

1. The Anglican Board of Education sets up a fund to be used solely for contributions towards capital expenditure, maintenance and improvement of infrastructure and facilities at Anglican schools.
2. The Board seek donor funding from our partners and provide annual reports to the donors and PSC on all income and expenditure

The motion was passed.

6.16 Congratulations to Dr Mamphela Ramphele

Archdeacon Keith de Vos proposed and Bishop Garth Counsell seconded

This PSC extends heartiest congratulations to Dr Mamphela Ramphele on her forthcoming 70th birthday.

PSC wishes her God's richest blessings and assures her of our prayers

The motion was passed.

6.17 Message of condolences

The Revd Canon R Philips proposed and the Bishop of False Bay seconded

This PSC extends its heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Rev Susan Dyers of the Diocese of False Bay, who passed away after a very brief illness. We pray for God's comfort during this time of bereavement.

The motion was approved.

6.18 Message of support to Mexico

The Bishop of Table Bay proposed and the Bishop of George seconded

We the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, meeting as the Provincial Standing Committee from the 27th to 29th September 2017, sends a message of support to the Archbishop and the faithful of Mexico who were recently adversely affected by earthquakes and floods.

We assure them of our constant prayers and care as they rebuild their lives and communities.

The message was approved.

6.19 Liturgical material in Siswati language

Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya of Swaziland proposed and Ms Moira Nkosi seconded

This PSC recognising:

- That having liturgical material available in local languages enables people to worship better and with deeper understanding.

Respectfully request that:

- All groups in ACSA that worship in the Siswati language come together to form a sub-committee of the Provincial Liturgical Committee that will produce/translate the liturgical material in Siswati.
- All other language groups in which the APB is presented, also form similar sub-committees.

The motion was approved.

PSC adjourned for tea at 16h30

PSC reconvened at 17h00

THIRTEENTH SESSION

6.20 Motion on Human Sexuality

The Revd Denver Heugh proposed and Mr Xavier Kleinschmidt seconded

This Provincial Standing Committee, noting that:

The Synod of Bishops 2017, in response to requests from previous Provincial Synods to provide guidelines for ministry to those who identify themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex or questioning (LGBTIQ), has given the Archbishop the discretion to constitute a Provincial Commission on Human Sexuality and has provided it with its terms of reference.

Therefore respectfully requests that this Provincial Standing Committee:

Recognizes that the Archbishop of Cape Town has constituted the Provincial Commission on Human Sexuality and endorses its work.

The motion was approved by PSC.

6.21 Greetings to Archbishop Desmond and Mrs Leah Tutu

The Revd Canon Dr Ron Philips proposed and Ms Kim Williams seconded

We respectfully request this sitting of Provincial Standing Committee to send warm greetings with the assurance of prayer and heartfelt congratulations to Archbishop Emeritus Desmond and Mama Leah Tutu on their birthdays respectively on 7th and 14th October, and especially to assure Mama Leah whose health has also been poorly, of our deep prayer. God richly bless both Arch and Mama Leah and their families.

The motion was passed.

6.22 Appreciation of those learned in the law

The Bishop of Saldanha Bay proposed and the Bishop of Table Bay-seconded

This PSC records its gratitude and appreciation to those learned in the law, namely

The Chancellor of ACSA - Judge Ian Farlam

The Deputy Chancellor - Judge Leona Theron

The Registrar of ACSA, Advocate Raynold Bracks and

The Deputy Registrars, Mr Lloyd Fortuin and Ms Rosalie Manning

For the manner in which they so generously and skilfully apply the required jurisprudence to the processes of Faith and Order in ACSA.

The motion was passed.

6.23 Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane

The Bishop of Table Bay proposed and Ms Charlene van Rooyen seconded

This PSC sends warm greetings to Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane remembering his leadership and significant contribution in the effective administration and smooth execution of the Synodical and administrative processes of our Church.

PSC continues to uphold him in our prayers giving thanks for his recovery after being hospitalised recently.

The motion was passed by PSC.

6.24 Greetings to the Anglican Church of Kenya

The Bishop of St Mark the Evangelist proposed and Dean Luke Pretorius seconded

This PSC sends warm greetings to the Provincial Synod of the Anglican Church of Kenya meeting at this time. Please be aware of our love and prayers during this time of political uncertainty.

The motion was passed.

6.25 Ordination of women

The Revd Dalcy Dlamini proposed and the Bishop of False Bay seconded

This PSC

Acknowledges that the Anglican Church celebrates with joy 25 years since the ordination of women to the priesthood, and that September 2017 marks the beginning of this 25th year anniversary.

Appreciates the call from the Metropolitan to all Diocesan Bishops to remember this historic moment, and mark this occasion in their Dioceses.

Gives thanks to the ACSA gender programme, and HOPE Africa, under the leadership of Bishop Margaret Vertue and the Reverend Canon Dr Vicentia Kgabe, for facilitating a celebratory conference with women priests from all dioceses in ACSA.

Appreciates the inclusion in PSC of this celebration at the special Eucharist service attended by all delegates of PSC as well as 120 women priests and some special guests, deacons, visitors and laypeople.

Noting that while we celebrate 25 years of the ordination of women to the priesthood;

1. We are challenged by the fact that very few women clergy are represented in the leadership and decision making of Dioceses and ACSA in its provincial; structures.
2. There is a need for more theological education and training offered to women, especially younger women in ACSA.
3. Leadership development, ministerial formation and structured mentorship for new vocations is critical for the sustainability and growth of our church.

Hereby resolves to respectfully request the Metropolitan to:

- A) Commend the statement from the 25th year celebration conference to all dioceses for their prayerful consideration and implementation.
- B) Receive and adopt the statement released by the women priests' conference as a component of the programmatic framework within ACSA, in achieving its vision. This will require the collaboration of the relevant programmes.

- C) Distribute the conference statement and pledge from the 25th year celebration to all members of PSC, and to all provincial and diocesan structures.

The motion was passed.

6.26 Greetings to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby

The Rt Revd Ebenezer Ntlali, Bishop of Grahamstown, proposed and The Ven Dr George Palmer seconded

This PSC, noting that:

As you chair the Primates Meeting in October 2017, and further noting that you are to address amongst others,

- Withdrawal of the UK from the EU
- The growing tension between North Korea and the USA
- Issues of social injustices, more in particular
- The widening gap between the rich and the poor
- Human sexuality
- Climate change
- Political instability especially in Africa
- Loss of cultural norms and values within society

Wish to assure you of our continued prayers and support, asking God's guidance and necessary strength and wisdom for this task.

The motion was passed.

6.27 Contribution of This PSC to the Discussion Regarding Abuse of Alcohol

Bishop Carlos of Lebombo proposed and Bishop Stephen of Matlosane seconded that

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa is a church that believes in good morals in all families and society. The church acknowledges the fact that people consume alcohol from time to time as a means of socialization. It is with great concern that the church observes a trend in the community at large that at times alcohol is misused or drunk excessively, even by our children. Excessive alcohol consumption destroys families and the future of our children.

We also observe that some liquor outlets sell alcohol to children under the legislated age limit. The church takes this opportunity to implore all the liquor outlets in all the countries within our Province to respect and uphold the liquor legislation of their respective countries. We plead with the outlet owners to heed our plea so that we collectively prevent our minor children from purchasing alcohol.

The ACSA believes that the whole community should work together towards the agenda of moral regeneration.

Therefore the position of this PSC is that:

- Enforcement of laws regarding the sale of liquor should be strictly applied.
- All churches should stand together in educating people about the impact of excessive alcohol consumption
- Collaboration with NGO's to assist those involved and affected by the excessive use of alcohol should be encouraged
- The governments within the ACSA be asked to consider that raising the age limit for entering liquor outlets and buying alcohol be raised to the age of 21
- All parents and caretakers are called upon to abstain from consuming alcohol irresponsibly so as to become exemplary mentors of a society free of alcoholism
- All whose business involves the production and promotion of alcohol are called upon to take such positive measures to ensure their success does not become a curse on to our communities and to the future of our nations

Lastly, the ACSA believes that “together we can build the future of our countries by inculcating good and responsible manners of alcohol consumption in our children and restore and heal families torn apart by excessive alcohol consumption”.

The motion was passed.

7. Motion of thanks - Dean of the Province

Bishop Stephen proposed messages of sincere thanks and gratitude to the following:

- Mr Rob Rogerson and his Provincial team for their commitment and hard work in the planning and organising for this PSC.
- The PEO, Ven. Horace and his team for putting together all the PSC materials, dealing with the correspondence and making sure that the material is received in time by all members.
- The Provincial Chancellor, Judge Ian Farlam, Provincial Deputy Registrars, Mr Lloyd Fortuin and Ms Rosalie Manning, for their legal minds and guidance provided during PSC, but also over and beyond this. The Dean also extended happy birthday wishes to Mr Lloyd Fortuin.
- John Allen who is always present at our events to provide guidance on media matters.
- Bishop Charles May and the people of the Diocese of the Highveld for welcoming us in their diocese and their overwhelming hospitality.
- Dean Simon Aiken and Bishop Martin for providing the musical accompaniment on keyboard and guitar respectively.
- Rev Keith Griffiths and the liturgical team for tailoring the services and for the creativity and vibrancy that was added to the services.
- Rev Maureen Simons for helping with the administration matters at this PSC.

- Rev Winnie (Trinity Church NY) was thanked in absentia for the wonderful and profound message she delivered the previous day in which she emphasised and demonstrated to us that even when God has seemingly been defeated, God remains ever present in our lives and our situations.
- Bishop Margaret for her homily on the final day, and for reminding us all to humble ourselves before God and one another, embrace one another and stop undermining others, and to remember that we are always surrounded by the angels of heaven.
- The women clergy of this Province were congratulated on their 25th celebration of the ordination of women to priesthood, and for their contribution in the life of the church of God.
- Rev Courtney Sampson for his powerful and challenging sermon at the opening of PSC in which he gave us a rude awakening and called our Province to do better in terms of addressing our slow pace in recognising the capabilities of women.
- Members who served on the Provincial Pension Fund Board and have since stepped down, viz Archbishop Thabo, Dr T Seoka and Adv Ronnie Bracks.
- The newly appointed Trustees, Bishop Charles May, Julian Kok and Kabelo Motsepe were congratulated.
- Bishop Ellinah and Archbishop Thabo were thanked for presiding at the Eucharistic services and for nourishing us with heavenly food.
- The Management and staff of Kopanong Conference Centre for their hospitality, friendship and kindness during our stay.
- The respective Dioceses for having confidence in those delegated to represent them at this PSC.
- All members of PSC were thanked for the commitment and passion that they have shown during the deliberations which were commended to God for his blessing and the wish that God would empower us to translate into action what we have deliberated and decided upon.
- Dean Andrew Hunter and Mrs Freda Chigumadzi for taking the Minutes of PSC.

- PSC also extended its congratulations and best wishes to Bishop Martin Breytenbach and his fiancée Ms Colleen Thomas on their forthcoming wedding on 14 October next month.
- Archbishop Thabo for his leadership who, despite being a husband and father, he spends a lot of time away from home on issues of the Province and the wider Communion. He was also thanked for representing the Province on issues related to politics, environment, education and the economy.

Bishop Bethlehem then thanked the Dean of the Province for the diligent way he exercises his duties and wished him well in his role of assisting the Archbishop of Cape Town and Metropolitan in the formidable tasks and ministry in ACSA to extend God's kingdom in our lands. PSC sent his wife and family our love and assured them of our prayers.

8. Archbishop Thabo led PSC in prayer and song before dissolving PSC at 18h50.

This was followed by Evening Prayer and Dinner.

Signed: _____

Date: _____