

**SESSION V – Wednesday 25 May 9.30am**

## 1. Constitution of Assembly.

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

\* Psalm 127 – Unless the Lord builds up the house

Wiltshire George Smart (1776-1867)

1. Un - less the Lord builds up the house, its buil - ders toil in vain; un -  
less he keeps the ci - ty safe, they vain - ly watch main - tain.

- |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. Unless the Lord builds up the house,<br/>its builders toil in vain;<br/>unless he keeps the city safe,<br/>they vainly watch maintain.</p>     | <p>3. Sons are a precious heritage,<br/>a blessing from the Lord;<br/>the children that are born to us<br/>are truly his reward.</p>               |
| <p>2. In vain you rise before the dawn<br/>and late hours vainly keep<br/>that you may toil for food to eat –<br/>he gives his loved ones sleep.</p> | <p>4. Like arrows in a warrior's hand<br/>are children of one's youth.<br/>The man whose quiver's full of them<br/>is blessed by God in truth.</p> |
5. Such men will not be put to shame –  
that will not be their fate –  
when they contend against their foes  
who face them in the gate.

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*Prayer**Address*

Priorities  
*Reading* Psalm 127  
*Reading* Matthew 6:25-33  
 Reader: Rev John MacDonald, Lochalsh

**Psalm 127**

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

*Authorised Version*

**Matthew 6:25-33**

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

*Authorised Version*

*Prayer*

## \* Hymn CH4 257 - Singing, we gladly worship

*Vienen con Alegria* *Guatemalan folk melody arr. John L. Bell (b.1949) © WGRC, Iona Community*

Refrain Sing-ing we glad-ly wor-ship the Lord to-ge-ther, Sing-ing we glad-ly wor-ship the Lord.  
 Those who are tra-vel - ling the road of life sow seeds of peace and love.

Sing-ing we glad-ly wor-ship the Lord to-ge-ther, Sing-ing we glad-ly wor-ship the Lord. (End)  
 Those who are tra-vel - ling the road of life sow seeds of peace and love.

1. Come, bring-ing hope in-to a world of fear, a world which is bur-dened down with dread, a  
 world which is year-ning for a great-er love but needs to be shown the true way. D.C.

## Refrain [sung twice]:

*Singing, we gladly worship the Lord together,  
 Singing, we gladly worship the Lord.  
 Those who are travelling the road of life  
 sow seeds of peace and love.*

1. Come, bringing hope into a world of fear,  
 a world which is burdened down with dread,  
 a world that is yearning for a greater love  
 but needs to be shown the true way.
2. Come, bringing joyfully in both your hands  
 some kindling to light the path of peace,  
 some hope that there is a more human world  
 where justice and truth will be born.
3. Whenever hatefulness and violence  
 are banished for ever from our hearts,  
 then will the world believe the day is near  
 when sadness and pain shall find their end.

2. Minutes.
3. Report of the Panel on Review and Reform (Reports 2/1).
4. Report of the Housing and Loan Fund (Reports 15/1).
5. Report of the Iona Community Board (Reports 17/1).
6. Report of the World Mission Council including The HIV Programme (Reports 8/1 and Cases, Reports and Supplementary Reports p52) and Sections 48 to 51 of the Report of the Church and Society Council (Reports 3/4).

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF  
THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

CONVENED AT EDINBURGH, 23 MAY 2011

*At Edinburgh, and within the Assembly Hall, the 23rd day of May 2011 years, at 9.30 am, Session III.*

After observance of the Lord's Supper in the Assembly Hall, the General Assembly did again convene and was constituted with prayer.

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Business Committee which was given in by the Rev Janet S Mathieson, Convener.

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Committee appointed to prepare a reply to the Most Gracious Letter from Her Majesty the Queen which was given in by the Very Rev John Christie.

The Reply to Her Majesty's Most Gracious Letter was submitted and approved for signature and transmission to Her Majesty.

The Reply was in the following terms:

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

May it please Your Majesty

We, Your Majesty's loyal subjects convened in General Assembly, have received with pleasure Your Majesty's gracious letter to us.

We greatly value Your Majesty's continuing pledge to maintain the historic rights and privileges of the Church of Scotland.

In this year of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible we acknowledge its significant contribution to our language, culture and belief. We reflect with gratitude that the decision to undertake this work was taken in the presence of King James VI at the meeting of the General Assembly held in St Columba's Church, Burntisland.

We note with pleasure the success of Your Majesty's recent visit to the Republic of Ireland, acknowledging the tone of reconciliation and friendship which it engendered, and we pray for the continuing growth of goodwill and co-operation between our peoples.

We have rejoiced with your Majesty in the wonderful family occasion of the wedding of the Earl and Countess of Strathearn and the General Assembly assure Your Majesty of our prayers and affection for this young couple upon whom so many hopes and expectations are placed.

We appreciate Your Majesty's recognition of the challenges we face

both within the Church and as we seek to serve women and men at home and abroad. In that regard, we value Your Majesty's prayers for the peace and unity of the Church and those prayers will be joined with ours as we address the issues before us.

We are delighted to report that the celebration of faith and worship in Princes Street Gardens was a joyous occasion of witness to the gospel and its continued relevance in today's society.

It is a particular pleasure that Your Majesty has appointed Sir David Clive Wilson, Baron Wilson of Tillyorn, for a second term as Lord High Commissioner. His empathy for and understanding of our work at last year's General Assembly has been widely acknowledged throughout the Church.

Finally, we commend to the unfailing grace and guidance of Almighty God, Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and as our deliberations proceed we pray that God will continue to bestow favour upon Your Majesty that you may long reign over us.

Your Majesty's most faithful and loyal servants.

THE MINISTERS, ELDERS AND DEACONS OF  
THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND CONVENED IN  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Signed in our name, in our presence  
and at our appointment by

A David K Arnott  
*Moderator*

*It was moved, seconded and agreed -*

**The General Assembly:**

1. Note that visitors to the General Assembly will include Rabbi Julia Neuberger.
2. Appoint the following Selection Committee:
 

Rev Duncan Forrester	(13)
Rev Thomas Riddell	(66)
Rev Gordon Savage	(134)
Mrs Nicola Steel	(148)
Mr Alan Saunderson	(201)
Rev Iain Cunningham	(204)
Mrs Fiona Cameron	(232)
Rev Neil Galbraith	(267)
Mrs Maureen Stitt	(376)
Rev Fergus Buchanan	(378)
Rev Rosemary Frew	(476)
Very Rev Dr Alan Macdonald	(492)
Mrs Helen Moir	(529)
Miss Jeannie Allan DCS	(552)
Rev Dr John Ferguson	(570)
Rev Professor Andrew McGowan	(649)
Rev Susan Brown	(674)
Miss Esme Duncan	(684)

Rev Alastair Symington, *Convener* (157)  
Rev Colin Brockie, *Vice-Convener* (173)

The Moderator referred to the success of the Roll Away the Stone event in Princes Street Gardens on Sunday 22 May and expressed his thanks to the congregations of Edinburgh: St Cuthbert's and to the organisers.

#### **SPECIAL COMMISSION ON SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIPS AND THE MINISTRY**

The General Assembly called for the Report of the Report of the Special Commission on Same-Sex Relationships and the Ministry which was given in by the Hon. Lord Hodge, Convener.

*It was moved and seconded-*

**The General Assembly:**

1. Receive the Report.

2. Adopt as the proper approach to homosexual Christians the recommendations of the Special Commission, namely:
- (i) *The pastoral care of homosexual Christians*
- (1) It is contrary to God's will that Christians should be hostile in any way to a person because he or she is homosexual by orientation and in his or her practice. In other words we view homophobia as sinful. We do 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.
- (2) It is the duty of the Church to welcome, minister, and reach out to people regardless of their sexual orientation and practice. The Church should strive to manifest God's love to all of his people.
- (3) In particular, the Church should recognise the heavy burden which a homosexual orientation continues to place on some who find it difficult or impossible to reconcile their orientation with their understanding of God's purposes as revealed in the Bible. There is a particular need for the Church to reach out pastorally to them and to make them welcome.
- (ii) *The eligibility of homosexual Christians to hold office*
- (4) People who are homosexual by orientation are not barred by their orientation from membership of the Church or from taking up leadership roles in the Church, including the ministry of Word and Sacrament, the diaconate and eldership.
3. Subject to the moratorium set out in 8 below, maintain the unlawfulness of discrimination in the Church on the grounds of sexual orientation in terms of the Act on Discrimination (Act V 2007).
4. During the moratorium set out in 8 below, allow the induction into pastoral charges of ministers and deacons ordained before May 2009 who are in a same-sex relationship.
5. During the moratorium set out in 8 below, instruct all Courts, Councils and Committees of the Church not to issue press statements or otherwise talk to the media in relation to contentious matters of human sexuality, in respect to Ordination and Induction to the Ministry of the Church of Scotland.
6. In the light of the experience of the Special Commission and, in particular, the need for a sustained theological addressing of the matters before the Church, establish a Theological Commission of seven persons representative of the breadth of the Church's theological understanding, with the task of addressing the theological issues raised in the course of the Special Commission's work; and instruct the Selection Committee to bring names to a future session of the General Assembly.
7. **EITHER:**
- (a) Resolve to consider further the implementation of an indefinite moratorium on the acceptance for training and ordination of persons in a same-sex relationship thus maintaining the traditional position of the Church, and to that end:
- (1) instruct the Ministries Council and the Legal Questions Committee in collaboration to address the pastoral and procedural implications of such a moratorium on (i) the selection process, (ii) discipline, and (iii) the position of ministers who were ordained and inducted prior to May 2009; and to report to the General Assembly of 2012.
- (2) instruct the Theological Commission to continue the process of discernment initiated by the Report received by the General Assembly of 2007: "A Challenge to Unity: Same-sex relationships as an Issue in

Theology and Human Sexuality", taking account of the further work of the *Working Group on Human Sexuality*, with respect to Being Single and Marriage, and to report to a future General Assembly.

**OR:**

(b) Resolve to consider further the lifting of the moratorium on the acceptance for training and ordination of persons in a same-sex relationship, and to that end instruct the Theological Commission to prepare a report for the General Assembly of 2013 containing:

(i) a theological discussion of issues around same-sex relationships, civil partnerships and marriage;

(ii) an examination of whether, if the Church were to allow its ministers freedom of conscience in deciding whether to bless same-sex relationships involving life-long commitments, the recognition of such life-long relationships should take the form of a blessing of a civil partnership or should involve a liturgy to recognise and celebrate commitments which the parties enter into in a Church service in addition to the civil partnership, and if so to recommend liturgy therefor;

(iii) an examination of whether persons, who have entered into a civil partnership and have made life-long commitments in a Church ceremony, should be eligible for admission for training, ordination and induction as ministers of Word and Sacrament or deacons in the context that no member of Presbytery will be required to take part in such ordination or induction against his or her conscience; and to report to the General Assembly of 2013.

8. Instruct all Courts, Councils and Committees of the Church not to make decisions in relation to contentious matters of same-sex relationships, accept for training, allow to transfer from another denomination, ordain or (subject to 2 above) induct any person in a same-sex relationship until 31 May 2013.

9. Thank and discharge the Special Commission.

*It was moved and seconded as an amendment to the Deliverance:-*

Receive the Report subject to taking Section 4 after Section 7.

*On a vote being taken For or Against the amendment it carried Against.*

*It was moved and seconded as an amendment to Section 2 of the Deliverance:-*

*Delete the words: "in other words ... preaching or writing".*

*On a vote being taken For or Against the amendment it carried Against.*

The General Assembly suspended their sitting at 12.27pm until 2pm.

The General Assembly resumed consideration of the Report of the Report of the Special Commission on Same-Sex Relationships and the Ministry.

*It was moved and seconded as an amendment to Section 3 of the Deliverance:-*

*Delete the words:*

*"subject to the moratorium set out in Section 8 below".*

*On a vote being taken For or Against the amendment it carried Against.*

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to Section 4 of the Deliverance:-*

*After the words "ordained before" insert the word "31st" before the words "May 2009".*

*It was moved and seconded as an amendment to Section 4 of the Deliverance:-*

*Remove the word "are" and add "were recognised by their Presbytery prior to 31 May 2009 to be (in a same-sex relationship)".*

*On a vote being taken For or Against the amendment it carried Against.*

An electronic vote was called for on Section 4 of the Deliverance. On an electronic vote being taken For or Against Section 4, there voted 393 For and 252 Against. Section 4 carried For.

Rev Andrew Coghill (697) entered his dissent to which the following commissioners adhered:

Rev Peter Barber	(3)
Rev Oliver Clegg	(7)
Rev Jonathan de Groot	(8)
Rev Philip Hair	(16)
Rev Robin Sydserrf	(26)
Ms Dee Hunter	(43)
Mr Allan McCulloch	(47)
Mrs Christina Orr	(52)
Ms Laurene Ramage	(53)
Mr Robert Scott	(55)
Rev Robert Gehrke	(63)
Mr Alexander Kennedy	(71)
Mr Alex Middleton	(73)
Rev Graham Duffin	(80)
Rev Graham Astles	(114)
Rev Hugh Steele	(123)
Mr Alan Dodds	(125)
Mrs Jennifer Dodds	(126)
Rev William Kelly	(130)
Rev Robert Malloch	(131)
Mr John McIlroy	(138)
Mrs Helen Teenan	(140)
Rev Thomas McWhirter	(145)
Dr Nigel Miscampbell	(146)
Rev Alastair Symington	(157)
Mr Frank Potter	(167)
Rev Andrew Black	(172)
Rev Gavin Niven	(177)
Rev Geoffrey Redmayne	(178)

Mr Fraser Cooper	(181)
Mr John Strathdee	(188)
Rev Scott Cameron	(190)
Rev James McNay	(192)
Rev Alistair Cook	(216)
Rev Francis Murphy	(226)
Rev Graham Nash	(227)
Mr Charles Davey	(234)
Mr Stanley Nathan	(242)
Rev Martin Allen	(251)
Rev Richard Buckley	(255)
Rev Stuart Duff	(261)
Rev Jonathan Keefe	(273)
Rev David McAdam	(281)
Rev Stuart Smith	(286)
Mr John Duncan	(301)
Mr William Gray	(304)
Dr Roland Hunt	(307)
Mr Peter Kay	(308)
Miss Sheila Martin	(315)
Rev Mahboob Masih	(345)
Rev Ronald Stitt	(353)
Rev Alan Telfer	(354)
Mr Steven Preston	(371)
Mr John Roberts	(373)
Rev Fergus Buchanan	(378)
Rev Charles Cameron	(379)
Rev Colin Caskie	(380)
Rev Alastair Duncan	(382)
Rev Andrew Barrie	(395)
Rev David Carruthers	(397)
Rev George Cringles	(398)
Rev Murdo Campbell	(415)
Rev Aftab Gohar	(417)
Rev Joyce Keyes	(420)
Mr Ian Baillie	(425)
Mrs Catherine McKim	(429)
Miss Margaret Corrie DCS	(436)
Rev Alan Dunnett	(440)
Rev Alex Macpherson	(443)
Rev Scott Raby	(445)
Mr Iain R McNicol	(451)
Mr Ian Russell	(454)
Mrs Jean Porter DCS	(456)
Rev Stanley Brook	(489)
Rev Grant MacLaughlan	(514)
Rev Alan Reid	(516)
Rev Anne Stewart	(519)
Mrs Hazel Hewitt	(582)
Rev Hugh Conkey	(591)
Rev Colin Dempster	(592)

Rev Heather Peacock	(595)
Mrs Alice Kemp	(609)
Rev Donald Martin	(616)
Rev William J McMillan	(617)
Rev Peter Park	(619)
Rev Calum Stark	(620)
Rev Paul van Sittert	(621)
Rev Peter Humphris	(648)
Rev Hugh Watt	(650)
Rev Richard Corbett	(659)
Rev Scott Polworth	(665)
Rev Stewart Goudie	(675)
Rev John Mann	(676)
Rev Ivor MacDonald	(687)
Rev John MacDonald	(688)
Rev David Macleod	(689)
Mr Donald Livingstone	(691)
Rev Andrew Downie	(693)
Rev Donald Morrison	(694)
Mr Hamish Taylor	(696)
Rev Andrew Coghill	(697)
Rev Stephen Macdonald	(698)
Rev Thomas MacNeil	(699)
Rev Neil Galbraith	(700)
Mr Kenneth Paterson	(701)
Mr Stewart Wilson	(702)
Rev Garwell Bacchas	(743)

(105 commissioners entered their dissent).

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to both Sections 7(b)(ii) of the Deliverance and Section 2(ii) of the proposed amendment:-*

*After the words "allow its ministers" insert the words "and Deacons".*

*It was moved and seconded to amend Section 7 of the Deliverance to read as follows:-*

- (1) instruct the Theological Commission to continue the process of discernment initiated by the Report received by the General Assembly of 2007: "A Challenge to Unity: Same-sex relationships as an Issue in Theology and Human Sexuality", taking account

- of the further work of the *Working Group on Human Sexuality*, with respect to Being Single and Marriage;
- (2) Further Instruct the Theological Commission to give full consideration to the Report of the Special Commission on Same-Sex Relationships and the Ministry received by the General Assembly of 2011 and to prepare a further report for the General Assembly of 2013 containing:
    - (i) a theological discussion of issues around same-sex relationships, civil partnerships and marriage;
    - (ii) an examination of whether, if the Church were to allow its ministers freedom of conscience in deciding whether to bless same-sex relationships involving life-long commitments, the recognition of such lifelong relationships should take the form of a blessing of a civil partnership or should involve a liturgy to recognise and celebrate commitments which the parties enter into in a Church service in addition to the civil partnership, and if so to recommend liturgy therefor;
    - (iii) an examination of whether persons, who have entered into a civil partnership and have made lifelong commitments in a Church ceremony, should be eligible for admission for training, ordination and induction as ministers of Word and Sacrament or deacons in the context that no member of Presbytery will be required to take part in such ordination or induction against his or her conscience; and to report to the General Assembly of 2013.
  - (3) Meantime, continue the moratorium on the acceptance for training and ordination of persons in same-sex relationships thus maintaining the traditional position of the Church and instruct the Ministries Council and the Legal Questions Committee in collaboration to address the pastoral and procedural implications of further

continuing the moratorium on (i) the selection process, (ii) discipline, and (iii) the position of ministers who were ordained and inducted prior to May 2009; and to report to the General Assembly of 2013.

An electronic vote was called for on the amendment to Section 7 of the Deliverance. On an electronic vote being taken For or Against the amendment, there voted 303 For and 347 Against. The amendment to Section 7 carried Against.

*It was moved and seconded as an amendment to Section 7a of the Deliverance:-*

1. *After the words "resolve to" remove the words: "consider further the implementation of" and insert the word "implement".*
2. *After the words "instruct the Theological Commission to" remove the word: "continue" and insert the words: "bring to a conclusion".*
3. *After the words "and to report to" remove the words: "a future General Assembly" and insert the words: "The General Assembly of 2013".*

*On a vote being taken For or Against the amendment it carried Against.*

Section 7 of the Deliverance offered the Assembly a choice between Section 7a and 7b. On an electronic vote being taken for Section 7a or for Section 7b, there voted 294 for 7a and 351 for 7b. Section 7b carried For and Section 7a carried Against.

The following commissioners indicated their dissent:

Rev Peter Barber	(3)
Rev Oliver Clegg	(7)
Rev Jonathan de Groot	(8)
Rev Philip Hair	(16)
Rev Robin Sydserrff	(26)

Rev Samuel Torrens	(27)
Ms Laurene Ramage	(53)
Rev Robert Gehrke	(63)
Mr Alexander Kennedy	(71)
Mr Alex Middleton	(73)
Rev Graham Duffin	(80)
Rev Graham Astles	(114)
Rev Gordon Kennedy	(143)
Rev Thomas McWhirter	(145)
Dr Nigel Miscampbell	(146)
Mr Frank Potter	(167)
Rev Gavin Niven	(177)
Rev Geoffrey Redmayne	(178)
Mr John Strathdee	(188)
Rev Scott Cameron	(190)
Rev James McNay	(192)
Rev Martin Thomson	(194)
Rev Alistair Cook	(216)
Rev Francis Murphy	(226)
Rev Graham Nash	(227)
Rev David Stewart	(228)
Mr Charles Davey	(234)
Rev Martin Allen	(251)
Rev Stuart Smith	(286)
Mr John Duncan	(301)
Mr William Gray	(304)
Dr Roland Hunt	(307)
Miss Sheila Martin	(315)
Rev Mahboob Masih	(345)
Rev Fergus Buchanan	(378)
Rev Colin Caskie	(380)
Rev Alastair Duncan	(382)
Rev David Carruthers	(397)
Rev Murdo Campbell	(415)
Rev Aftab Gohar	(417)
Rev Joyce Keyes	(420)
Mr Ian Baillie	(425)
Rev Alan Dunnett	(440)
Rev Alex Macpherson	(443)
Rev Scott Raby	(445)
Mr Ian Russell	(454)
Rev Andrew Morrice	(461)
Rev Grant MacLaughlan	(514)
Rev Alan Reid	(516)
Rev Anne Stewart	(519)
Rev David Sutherland	(538)
Rev Peter Phillips	(557)
Rev Dr Iain Barclay	(568)
Mrs Hazel Hewitt	(582)
Rev Hugh Conkey	(591)
Rev Heather Peacock	(595)

Rev Donald Martin	(616)	
Rev Peter Park	(619)	
Rev Calum Stark	(620)	
Rev Paul van Sittert	(621)	
Rev Graham Crawford	(630)	
Rev Hugh Watt	(650)	
Rev Richard Corbett	(659)	
Rev Scott Polworth	(665)	
Rev John Mann	(676)	
Rev Ivor MacDonald	(687)	
Rev John MacDonald	(688)	
Rev David Macleod	(689)	
Rev Donald Morrison	(694)	
Mr Hamish Taylor	(696)	
Rev Andrew Coghill	(697)	
Rev Stephen Macdonald	(698)	
Rev Thomas MacNeil	(699)	
Mr Kenneth Paterson	(701)	
Mr Stewart Wilson	(702)	
Rev Garwell Bacchas	(743)	

Remove the words "until 31 May 2013" and insert the words "until the General Assembly of 2013 has heard the report of the Theological Commission".

*The Deliverance as amended was then agreed to.*

The Hon. Lord Hodge on his retiral as Convener was thanked by the Moderator for his noteworthy service to the Commission and the General Assembly.

The General Assembly adjourned at 6.18 pm to meet again in this Hall tomorrow at 9.30 am for business, whereof public intimation having been made, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

(76 commissioners entered their dissent).

*It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to Section 8 of the Deliverance:-*

ASSEMBLY HALL  
EDINBURGH, 23 May 2011, 6.18 pm

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## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **SESSION V – Wednesday 25 May**

WORLD MISSION COUNCIL

*New Staff Member:*

Rev Ian Alexander, Council Secretary

*Mission Partner in Training:*

Dr Ruth Shakespeare

*Retiring Chaplains to Mission Partners:*

Very Rev Dr David Lunan

Mrs Maggie Lunan

## NOTICES OF MOTION

**The Rev Dr Brian S Sheret (576)** gave notice that on the **Report of the Panel on Review and Reform** he will move the following COUNTER-MOTION to Section 9 of the Deliverance:

While accepting the case for larger Presbyteries in some instances, reject the proposals for Presbytery Councils as placing too much power in the hands of a few and for Presbytery Assemblies with infrequent meetings as less democratic than the present arrangements.

**Rev William D Brown (5)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Panel on Review and Reform** he will move the following ADDENDUM to Section 12 of the Deliverance:

*At the end of the Deliverance add the words: "and to consult with member denominations of ACTS within Presbytery bounds regarding opportunities for ecumenical collaboration and partnership working".*

**Rev John Christie (854)** has given notice that on the **Report of the World Mission Council** he will move the following ADDENDUMS to the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 18 and renumber:*

*"Instruct the World Mission Council to engage with other Partner Churches and the Church of Bangladesh to seek methods to offer textile factory workers adequate - and potentially life saving - Health and Safety provision.*

*Add a new Section 19 and renumber:*

*"Instruct the World Mission Council to engage with the Presbytery of Zimbabwe in exploring issues relating to contributing to building peace as Zimbabwe prepares for the future".*

*Add a new Section 20 and renumber:*

*"Instruct the World Mission Council to develop the partnership between the Church of Scotland and the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan".*

**Rev Gordon Palmer (348)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following AMENDMENT to Section 6 of the Deliverance:

*Add the words: "Remove the cap on re-admissions in the instances of former Church of Scotland ministers serving elsewhere in the worldwide church, and affirm the remaining key levers ...".*

**Rev Stuart Fulton (441)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following ADDENDUM to the Deliverance:

*Insert a new Section 9 and renumber:*

Instruct the Ministries Council to bring costing and strong empirical evidence to support a change in Auxiliary Ministry, with at least two options for progress, to the General Assembly of 2012.

**Rev Stuart Fulton (441)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** he will move the following ADDENDUM to the Deliverance:

*Insert a new Section 10 and renumber:*

Instruct the Ministries Council to bring forward to the 2012 General Assembly a timed plan to include Associate Ministers as office holders of Presbytery and to research a similar plan for the inclusion of deacons as Presbytery office holders to a future General Assembly.

**Mrs Ella Gill (662)** has given notice that on the **Report of the Ministries Council** she will move the following AMENDMENT to Section 14 of the Deliverance:

Amend to read "incentive to Probationer Ministers and ministers".

**The Rev Graham Nash (227)** has, for the sake of clarity, given notice that on the **Overture anent Special Commission on Ministries and 20:20 Vision** he will move the following AMENDMENT to the Deliverance.

Amend the Deliverance to read:

1. Receive the Overture
2. Instruct the Selection Committee to bring to a future session of the General Assembly the names of 9 persons to serve on a Special Commission, independent of the present Councils of the Church, to consider the concerns outlined in this Overture: to consult with Councils, Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions; and to report to the General Assembly no later than 2013
3. Instruct the Ministries Council to suspend its work on that part of 20:20 vision related to the *Building for Sustainable Future Patterns of Ministries, Finance and Presbytery Planning* until the General Assembly of 2013 has had the opportunity to act in response to the recommendations of the Special Commission
4. Instruct Presbyteries to suspend the Presbytery Planning process and to fill vacancies following the procedure set out in Act IV 1984 until the General Assembly of 2013 has had the opportunity to act in response to the recommendations of the Special Commission

In this form, and with the agreement of the Ministries Council, the deliverance would be taken as a counter-motion against **Sections 2, 4, 6, 7 and 22 of the Ministries Council Report**

2. Affirm the outline for mission given in the Council's *20:20 Vision: Refocusing the Ministries of the Church for Mission* report, and instruct the Council to report regularly on the ways in which this vision is being implemented in the life of the Church.
4. Instruct Presbyteries to continue the process of Planning, applying the principles outlined in sections 1.3 and 1.4 of this report and using the numbers of ministries

- indicated in Appendix 1 – Table 1, and to complete the process of developing and approving revised Presbytery Plans by December 2012.
6. Affirm the key levers applied by the Council towards the establishing of a balanced budget by 2014 and instruct the Council to continue working together with the Council of Assembly Finance Group to ensure that outcome.
  7. Reaffirm the commitment of the Church of Scotland to a variety of ministries within which the Parish Ministry is the pivotal expression of the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the fulfillment of the Church's role as a national Church charged with the responsibility of a territorial ministry to every part of Scotland.
  22. Affirm the key principles for budgeting and use of resources outlined and instruct the Council to monitor carefully the implementation of these principles.

The Assembly should, however, be aware that there will be opportunity under the Standing Orders to propose amendments to Sections of the Deliverance of both the motion and counter-motion before a final vote is taken. In the course of considering amendments to the motion and counter-motion the **Overture of the Presbytery of Ayr** will be taken as a proposed amendment to Section 4 of the Ministries Council Deliverance.

**The Chairman** has given notice that on the **Report of the Pension Trustees** he will move the following ADDENDUM to the Deliverance:

*Add a new Section 2:*

The General Assembly ratify the appointment of Graeme Caughey as a new Employer Nominated Trustee.