

The following motion has been received for our one-day Synod.

Standing Committee is of the view that this motion will provide a good starting point for discussion and debate.

As per the preliminary notice sent yesterday, any other motions must be received by 5pm Friday 12th January 2018. This is as per Standing Order No.1 whereby, motions are required at least 60 days before the Synod Session begins.

Motion in Response to Motion 29

Moved: Keith Buck **Seconded:** Helen Neame

Recognising, but not agreeing with, the direction that the Provincial Church seems to be moving on the issue of blessing (and ordination) of people in same gendered relationships.

and

Acknowledging that the church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia has reached a point where the passionately held, and seemingly irreconcilable, convictions of people on both sides of the debate has brought the church to a point of crisis.

and

Continuing to affirm the orthodox biblical stance on marriage and sexuality that has been endorsed by two previous synods in the Diocese – wishing to be faithful to the clear teaching of scripture regarding our human sexuality,

and

Understanding that same-gendered blessings and ordinations have been practiced for many years by Bishops within our Church with little or no legal challenge

and

Confirming our desire to remain in communion with, and speak into, the life of the wider church.

and

Appreciative of the fact that this Small Working Group Report does not suggest any change to the Doctrines and Formularies of the Church, and therefore enables this Diocese to remain faithful to its evangelically orthodox heritage

We move that:

We thank the Small Working Group for the thought and work put into the preparation of a report that acknowledges, very clearly, the diversity that exists within the Church and provides a way in which the church might continue in a form of unity that recognises and accepts the diversity that exists.

and

We affirm the autonomy that this report offers to us as a Diocese to be faithful to our orthodox stance on our human sexuality

and

We encourage our members of General Synod to support motion 29 at the upcoming General Synod as a way forward

and

Should motion 29 fail and motion 30 therefore be back before the House, we encourage our General Synod Reps to advise General Synod that this Diocese will be investigating whether or not it can remain part of the voluntary compact that is the Provincial Church.