

## **DAY 3: SATURDAY 18 August 2018**

### **Morning Prayer**

Saturday morning prayer was led by Mopani Archdeaconry.

Bible Study in allocated groups followed after the members had watched the Alpha video on “How and Why should I tell others”.

### **1. Session 5**

The Bishop opened the day’s sitting of Synod, and offered the Living and Sharing Jesus-shaped life prayer.

#### **1.1 Quorum**

The Registrar confirmed the quorum.

#### **1.2 Minutes of Day 2: Sessions 1 – 4**

Reserved for adoption after scrutineers would have completed their duties.

#### **1.3 Presentation and reading of petitions**

There were no petitions submitted.

#### **1.4 Notice of Motions**

One new motion was received.

##### **Motion 26: Mutual Support**

Proposed by: Philip Moseki  
Seconded by: Lekoapa Masipa

This Synod notes:

The lack of financial support from within our parishes to assist one another in case of need is conspicuous. The Diocese has parishes that can help others to meet their needs.

As one body in Christ, this Synod respectfully requests a policy to be developed to address this matter and to direct the finance board to carefully work out modalities for its implementation.

The new motion was accepted unanimously for inclusion in the agenda.

#### **1.5 Asking and Answering of questions**

No questions had been received.

## **1.6 Motion 16: Retired Clergy as Trainers and Mentors in Assisting Diocesan Training**

Proposed by: Rev Susan Elliott  
Seconded by: Rev Ron Reiners

Whereas, this Synod

Recognises the valuable role which retired clergy can play in training, in countering false teaching, in the development and empowering of people, valuable resources could be lost if they are not specifically targeted. There are many skills learned by experience that are not in textbooks. Retiring Clergy have a wealth of knowledge, experience background in training, and history (Anglican & South African), which could be shared with younger clergy and lay leaders

And, acknowledging the often long distances clergy must travel for training, and that self- supporting clergy cannot easily take time off from work to attend such training. Long distances can sometimes increase feelings of isolation and a mentor available can counter this with advice and support

Believes that that a specific mentor should be assigned to a specific Parish so relationships and trust grow

Respectfully requests the Bishop and Chapter to:

- 1) Institute a program whereby retired clergy can be more effectively and frequently used as trainers and mentors at Diocesan training events, and locally in Parishes
- 2) Develop a 'floating' system to assist in a Parish where a Rector is away for a long period of time (e.g. Severe illness), or awaiting a new Rector
- 3) Develop a formal structured program of training for members of the Diocese as they progress from membership of the Guild of St. Mark and pre-ordination training, training for new Deacons and Priests (e.g. Practical training in celebrating the Eucharist)
- 4) Include Lay Ministers, Interns and other Diocesan ministries (EG. Sunday School teachers) into a similar program of training
- 5) Use such training and teaching to counter false theological teaching, and to generally empower and equip people for more effective ministry

The motion was accepted unanimously.

## **1.7 Motion 19: Unity in Worship**

Proposed by: Rev Jonathan Meintjes  
Seconded by: Rev Susan Elliott

This Synod

Noting that:

1. The role of the church is encapsulated in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).
2. The church is corporately the people of God united in the purpose of propagating the Gospel and promoting the continual growth of the church in three dimensions, namely:
  - a) Spiritually,
  - b) the cure of souls (be it materially or psychologically) and
  - c) numerically.

3. Many small churches in the diocese cannot sustain themselves because they are too small and have very limited resources.
4. Clergy in some parishes are stretched and cannot supply these churches with more than a very limited ministry which limits the potential for growth.

To summarise:

The Proposer respectfully requests that Chapelries and Parishes consider the forming of United Churches where membership has dwindled or they find themselves in difficulties to make them no longer sustainable.

The motion was finally approved.

### **1.8 Motion 26: Mutual Support**

Motion received at item 1.4 on page 1.

The motion was approved unanimously.

### **1.9 Motion 3: Constitution of Jane Furse Memorial Village**

Proposer: Ven Philip Moseki  
Seconder: Kgabo Ledwaba

This Synod gives thanks for progress made, and approves the new Memorandum of Incorporation for the Jane Furse Memorial Village as a Non-Profit Company.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Tea break, and members will converge into conferences on Development and Organisations reports thereafter.

## **2. Session 6**

### **Third Conference of Synod: Development & Organisations**

*Members of Synod met in small groups to discuss the **Development** reports and the reports of **Diocesan Organisations**. Motions could be formulated, in triplicate, for presentation to Synod.*

### **2.1 Midday Prayers**

The Diocesan Youth Leaders conducted the midday prayers.

### **2.2 Notices**

- The Communication Team announced that excerpts of the proceedings of Synod are being circulated through twitter and uploaded on the Diocesan website. This is one way of “telling” others about what is going on in the Diocese.

### **2.3 Adoption of Minutes of the Day 1 and Day 2**

Completed minutes of the past two days were presented. Ron Reiners proposed for adoption of the minutes, and Miriavhavha Matodzi seconded.

### **2.4 Discussions from the conference**

- Concerns were raised about the effectiveness of ANSOC, as Anglican students who leave their homes for tertiary institutions, either join the structure for socialising or divert into other churches, mainly charismatic.
- Numbers of ANSOC structures are less than the actual students there from the ACSA.

### **2.5 Notice of motions**

There was no notice of new motions.

### **2.6 Motion 4: Constitution of St Mark's College**

Proposer: Ven Philip Moseki

Secunder: Kgabo Ledwaba

This Synod approves the new Memorandum of Incorporation for St Mark's College as a Non-Profit Company – an Anglican Church School in partnership with the Limpopo Department of Education.

The motion was approved unanimously.

### **2.7 Motion 14: Paperless Diocese by 2021**

Proposed by: Makwetša Ramusi

Seconded by: Rev. Jonathan Meintjes

This Synod notes:

1. The greatest responsibility of humanity to care for God's creation as the custodians, as per Genesis 1:28
2. The great (excessive) amount of paper used at meetings such as Diocesan Standing Committee;
3. The costs of paper and its negative impacts on the environment;
4. The emergent use of electronic devices (in this Information Age) and their simplicity;

Furthermore:

1. It is encouraged by the Diocesan Youth of Cape Town, who in 2017, called for a "paperless" Synod.
2. It lauds Synod of Bishops for setting a great example by carrying out a "paperless" Synod.

This Synod therefore respectfully pledges:

1. To adopt as far as possible a "paperless" diocese by 2021 and thus reduce paper usage in its activities, and instead resort to the use of electronic devices;

2. That the Diocesan Standing Committee, as executor of Synod's resolutions, strives to adopt a paperless administration policy, with the advice of the Diocesan Green Anglicans Council.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Synod broke for lunch.

### **3. Session 7**

The Chairperson of Synod welcomed the Church wardens and Treasurers who have joined Synod for the Finance session.

#### **3.1 Adoption of Financial Statements 2015 -2017**

Rev Mackson Shika proposed for the adoption of the audited financial statements 2015–2017. The seconder was Rev. Shearsby Mupfudzapake.

#### **3.2 Motion 10: Lephhalale Mission Parish Arrears**

Proposed by: Archdeacon David Maubane  
Seconded by: Archdeacon Shashi Ledwaba

This synod notes that Lephhalale Mission Parish has been in arrears since 2014 which is now five years – totalling R45,824.00 at present.

Synod resolves that the Mission Parish be given amnesty to start on a clean slate in 2019, provided that they are up to date with their current pledge to the Diocese at the end of 2018.

The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **3.3 Motion 22: Zoutpansberg Arrears**

Proposed by: Ven. Robbie Novella  
Seconded by: Gayley Mabirimisa

This Synod, noting that Zoutpansberg Parish

1. Acting in good faith accepted a trainee deacon, Revd Bertha Gowera in 2015
2. This was based on the promise of assistance from her home Diocese in Zimbabwe, but that assistance never materialised
3. Zoutpansberg Parish therefore incurred unforeseen and additional costs
4. This led to the Parish falling into arrears in 2015, and this financial strain continued for 2016 and 2017
5. That the Parish has endeavoured to pay off these arrears by paying an additional R1000 per month to its Pledge, for the period January 2016 to date;

Therefore, respectfully requests Diocesan Finance Board to authorise the writing-off of these outstanding arrears accumulated from January 2015 to 31 December 2017.

The motion was approved unanimously.

### **3.4 Fourth conference of Synod: Budget Presentation and Governance.**

The Bishop presented an overview of our Vision, Goals and Plans for 2019 as well as a summary of the proposed Budget and Budget Process. The presentation was entitled "Making Disciples in Times of Transition".

The Diocesan Administrator presented the proposed 2019 budget.

## **4. Session 8**

### **4.1 Notice of Motions**

There were no new motions.

### **4.2 Motion 6: Communication**

Proposed by: Reverend Jonathan Meintjes

Seconded by: Rev Olive Senyatsi

This synod, Noting that:

1. The role of the church is to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people of this world and to communicate the grace of God so that the world may be brought to salvation.
2. Communication is a wider issue including how we keep contact with each other and ensure that the information we need for effective ministry and management of our churches is available to us all the time.
3. Technology advances have made communication much simpler and affordable for all people.
4. While there are informal efforts to increase the use of information technology (in particular the promotion of MyAnglican) there is no formal structure to extend this to the entire diocese, resulting in pockets of implementation, while many areas are still only communicable via telephone.

Respectfully requests that:

1. the Bishop appoint a committee to address the issues of communication in the diocese through:
  - a) the development of a formalised communications strategy that is achievable and measurable,
  - b) the planning of and implementation of appropriate technologies to facilitate communication both at parish level and at diocesan level,
  - c) The implementation of training programmes for all clergy and office bearers in the churches of the diocese for the introduction and use of various communication systems and technologies,
  - d) The monitoring and reporting to the Bishop and Diocesan Finance Board on the progress of implementation of communication systems on a regular basis and
  - e) The establishment and oversight of a budget to finance the implementation of the above strategy.

2. The Diocesan Finance Board appoint a person with information technology experience to coordinate and drive the implementation and training of communication systems in the diocese. This will be absolutely necessary if a communication strategy is going to succeed as it requires the dedication of a person on a full time basis. Such a person would be required to:
  - a) Help in the development of the communication strategy,
  - b) Assist in the implementation of communication systems both telephone and computer based.
  - c) Manage internet and telecommunications protocols for the diocese as a whole.
  - d) Promote and encourage the implementation of technologies that are appropriate to each parish and the diocese.
  - e) Liaise with the developers and assist in the roll out of MyAnglican in all parishes.
  - f) Undertake training of the clergy and office bearers in each parish on the use of communication systems such as MyAnglican etc.
  - g) Report regularly to the proposed Communications Committee on the progress being made.
  - h) Manage a communications budget to ensure the most cost effective implementation of the strategy.

Discussions cautioned members regarding costs that would be incurred and encouraged parishes to put aside budgets for communication.

The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **4.3 Motion 15: Priests in Charge**

Proposed by: Revd. Daniel Makololo

Seconded by: John Galane

This Synod

1. Notes that the ministry of the Rector and Priest in Charge are of equal importance.
2. Requests the Bishop and Chapter to investigate if Priests in Charge should be licensed with a specific time frame.
3. Believes that the Bishop should be empowered to renew the licence when necessary.

The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **4.4 Motion 18: Travelling Rates Review**

Proposed by: Archdeaconry David Maubane

Seconded by: Revd. Isaac Maja

This synod notes that car maintenance including petrol and spare parts cost are going up day by day.

Respectfully requests Diocesan Finance Board to review travelling rates regularly, recommending R4 per kilometre at this time.

The motion was approved unanimously.

## **4.5 Unopposed Motions**

### **4.5.1 Unopposed motion for Pam Oberholzer**

Proposed by: Dean Luke Pretorius  
Seconder: Ven Philip Moseki

This Synod notes with both sadness and appreciation the intended resignation of Ms Pam Oberholzer early 2019.

Synod is deeply appreciative of the work done by Pam. This was always done both professionally and expeditiously. We will miss her calm and considered wisdom in matters legal and property.

Synod is also aware that Pam was strongly supported by her husband, Anton, who made possible the many hours of pro-bono work and travel Pam has undertaken on behalf of the Diocese.

For all this, Synod expresses its deepest appreciation. Pam, you are an incredible person and an inspiration to us all.

We will miss you, but wish you all the very best in your future. We assure you of our love and ongoing prayers for you and Anton.

The motion was approved unanimously.

### **4.5.2 Unopposed motion: Kofi Annan**

Proposed by: Ven Robbie Novella  
Seconder: Dean Luke Pretorius

This Synod notes the death today 18 August 2018 of Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations.

This Synod notes that he was an African and a world leader. We mourn his passing. Synod recognises that he and many other outstanding world leaders are African. This Synod acknowledges with appreciation the important role which African leaders can and must play in the affairs of the world.

The motion was approved unanimously.

### **4.5.3 Unopposed motion: Jack Kudumela**

Proposed by: Rev Olive Senyatsi  
Seconder: Freda Chigumadzi

Noting that Rev Jack Kudumela since the last Synod has retired due to ill health, this Synod respectfully requests the Bishop to send our continued support of prayers to the Kudumela family.

The motion was approved unanimously.



#### **4.6 Appointment of Diocesan Auditor**

DFB nominated SizweNtsalubaGobodo Inc as Diocesan Auditors for the next three years.

Synod agreed to and approved the appointment of SizweNtsalubaGobodo Inc as Diocesan Auditors for 2019 to 2021.

The Chairperson of Synod declared the session adjourned for the day.

#### **4.7 Evening prayer**

Archdeaconries of the West and of the South-West led the evening prayer.

Minutes approved

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Bishop: Diocese of St Mark the Evangelist

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Date