

84 MINISTRY AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITING CHURCH (Facilitation Group)

84 聯合教會事工及會籍事宜 (透導小組)

教會全國大會已決議:

The Assembly resolved:

1. To note the following extracts from Assembly minute 00.25.03:
  - (a) that the Church's faith is in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that the Church's work and unity are built upon the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ;
  - (b) the authority of the Scriptures as defined in the Basis of Union, acknowledging that within the Church there is a range of views on questions of Biblical interpretation on various matters of Christian faith and practice;
  - (c) we are bound together by Christ, and because we love the Uniting Church as part of the one holy catholic and apostolic church we will continue to work together in our diversity as servants of the living God.
2. Recognizing that:
  - (i) within the Church people of faith have wrestled with integrity to interpret Scripture in relation to the issue of Christian sexual ethics and have on some issues come to mutually exclusive positions;
  - (ii) there are members of the Church who have reached the conclusion that "celibacy in singleness and faithfulness in marriage" is a faithful Christian standard for Christian sexual ethics;
  - (iii) there are members of the Church who have reached the conclusion that "right relationships" as outlined in *Uniting Sexuality and Faith* is a faithful Christian standard for Christian sexual ethics; and
  - (iv) membership of the Uniting Church is open to all persons subject only to the guidance of the Basis of Union, the Constitution, the Regulations and policies of the Assembly,to call upon members of the Church to seek to live together in peace as people of faith, notwithstanding differing views in the matter of same sex relationships.
3. To remind Presbyteries that:
  - a. in considering issues related to candidature, ordination or commissioning for specified ministries, and the placement of persons in specified ministries, decisions should only be taken on a case by case basis; and
  - b. a decision on the suitability of an applicant or candidate depends upon a wide range of criteria and may include consideration of the manner in which the applicant's or candidate's sexuality is expressed.
4. To request the Standing Committee:
  - (a) to provide guidance for Congregations and Presbyteries on how to conduct discussions on contentious issues in ways that comply with the Church's policy on vilification and harassment;
  - (b) to seek advice for the Church on the legal implications of the relevant legislation, eg anti discrimination legislation, anti vilification legislation, etc; and advise councils of the Church of this advice; and
  - (c) to amend, on the advice of the Legal Reference Committee, Regulation 2.7.16(l) to make more explicit the role of presbyteries in the placement of people in specified ministries.

1. 注意有關全國大會00.25.03會議記錄中之撮要:
  - a. 教會的信心是建基於三一神:父、子、與聖靈,並且教會的事工和合一,是建基於主耶穌基督和祂工作。
  - b. 正如「合一宣言」所定義有關聖經的權威,我們認知在教會內,對於闡釋有關聖經提及到基督徒對不同事情的信心和實踐,會有不同的觀點。
  - c. 我們被基督連結在一起,並因為我們愛聯合教會,這個屬於獨一、聖潔、大公、及使徒制度之普世教會的一部份,我們作為永生神的僕人,將繼續在分歧中一起攜手工作。
2. 確認:
  - i. 教會信眾已經盡上很大的努力,以真誠的態度來闡釋聖經有關基督徒性道德方面的問題上,在部份問題中達至完全對立的立場;
  - ii. 教會中有會友已達至以下的結論:「單身者過獨身生活或結婚者忠於婚姻」是在基督徒性道德方面而論,一個忠心基督徒的表現;
  - iii. 教會中有會友已達至以下的結論:在合一之性問題及信仰中所提及「適當之關係」是在基督徒性道德方面而論,一個忠心基督徒的表現;並且
  - iv. 聯合教會將按「合一宣言」憲章、規例和教會全國大會政策的指引下,來接納所有人成為會友,呼籲教會中在同性性關係這問題上採納不同立場的會友,因著皆為信徒之原因,尋求和平共存。
3. 提醒眾教區:
  - a. 以個別的個案型式,來考慮有關按立或差遣指定事工的(聖職)<sup>1\*</sup>人員候選人,及委派(聖職)<sup>2\*</sup>人員於指定事工;
  - b. 決定申請人或候選人是否適合,應以一系列廣闊的條件,並可以包括考慮已公開其性取向之申請人或人選。
4. 要求研究小組:
  - a. 向眾堂會及眾教區提供指引,去面對如何在合付教會政策下,商討有關侵犯和滋擾等具爭議性之問題;
  - b. 在有關牽連到相關法例,例如反歧視法,反詆毀法,向教會尋求建議,並教會議會作出建議,並
  - c. 在法律咨詢小組的建議下,修改規例2.7.16(1),更清楚也指引眾教區在委派(聖職)<sup>3\*</sup>人員於指定事工的事情上所扮演的角色。

1\* 譯者按

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