

CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE "F" Faith & Order

CONVENER: Terry Wall

QUESTION 30: What are the decisions of Conference on matters relating to Faith & Order?

Report pp F1-8

DECISIONS:

1. The report is received.
2. That Conference recognizes the significant contribution to the Faith & Order Committee of the Rev. Dr John Salmon over thirty years.
3. That Conference endorses the Covenant with the Anglican Church and encourages the Committee to take the next steps in the conversation.
4. That Conference welcomes the new Revised Pastoral Resolutions and commends them for use.
5. Conference accepts the principle of the appointment of Lay Superintendency and requests Faith and Order in conjunction with Law Revision to bring appropriate resolutions to Conference 2009.
6. That Conference refers the working paper on Sacraments in Local Shared Ministry back to the committee for further consideration.
7. That the committee for 2009 be: Terry Wall (Convenor), Tovia Aumua, (representing Sinoti Samoa) Shirley-Joy Barrow (representing the deacons), Norman Brookes, Michael Dye, Tony Franklin, Robyn Allen Goudge, Valerie Nicholls, Siosifa Pole, Tony Stroobant, Sisa Tuicakau (representing Wasewase ko Viti kei Rotuma e Niu Siladi), a representative from Vahefonua Tonga O Aotearoa, a student representative from Trinity College and a representative of the Evangelical Network.

C. Notice of Motion

From Waikato/Waiariki Synod

We believe that lay and ordained have theological, spiritual and pastoral skills and experience required for the position of Synod Superintendent. Therefore we ask that Conference allow a Synod to nominate a lay person to be the Synod Superintendent.

Explanation.

- *Since Conference 1981 the position of President of the Methodist Church of New Zealand, Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa has been open to Laypersons, as well as Presbyters and Deacons.*
- *The President, whether ordained or lay, is the Pastor of the church throughout the term of office.*
- *A Synod Superintendent also has pastoral and organizational responsibilities for the Presbyters, Deacons, members and Parishes within the Synod District, which is a considerably smaller area than the whole of NZ.*
- *Fewer senior Presbyters are available for Superintendency, as increasing numbers are approaching retirement, employed in chaplaincy or similar positions with limited parish or Synod involvement, or stationed in Connexional positions.*
- *Within Synods there are lay members who have leadership skills and experience of MCNZ.*
- *Should a lay person be nominated as Synod superintendent that person must:*
 - a) *Have the confidence of Synod members in his/her ability to provide the required leadership.*
 - b) *Have received appropriate training.*
 - c) *Attend a Synod superintendent's orientation training prior to induction.*
 - d) *Attend regular supervision with a registered supervisor.*
 - e) *Enter an appropriate Covenant with Te Haahi, recognising the authority of MCNZ.*
 - f) *Recognise that any authority given is valid only for the term of office.*

Decision:

1. That this be referred to the Faith and Order Committee for reporting back to Conference 2009.