

THIRD SEDERUNT

At the Sullivan Field House, Cape Breton University, Sydney, Nova Scotia, on Tuesday, June eighth, two thousand and ten at two o'clock in the afternoon, the Assembly met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS (cont'd from p. XXX)

J.E. Brewer moved, duly seconded, that the Women's Missionary Society/Atlantic Mission Society be allowed to distribute packaged information concerning "Look In – Shout Out" to all commissioners and guests prior to their reports. Adopted.

The Assembly called for the report of the Committee on Business, which was presented by R. Lyle, convener. E.E.G. Allen moved, duly seconded, that the agenda for the third sederunt be approved as presented. Adopted.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION (cont'd from p. XXX)

The Principal Clerk presented a second commissioner orientation session. He explained the different types of motions that arise in church courts, describing a situation which, while real, had humorous and maritime overtones.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BUILDING CORPORATION

The Assembly called for the report of the Presbyterian Church Building Corporation, which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by S. Quickert, chair of the corporation.

Receive and Consider

S.H. Limerick moved, duly seconded that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by S.H. Limerick, duly seconded. Adopted.

Report as a Whole

S.H. Limerick moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

THE NORMAN M. PATERSON FUND FOR MINISTERIAL ASSISTANCE

The Assembly called for the report of The Norman M. Paterson Fund for Ministerial Assistance which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by A.J.R. Johnston, convener.

Receive and Consider

A.J.R. Johnston moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by A.J.R. Johnston, duly seconded. Adopted.

Report as a Whole

A.J.R. Johnston moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

ECUMENICAL/INTERFAITH/INTERNATIONAL VISITOR

R.N. Faris was called forward to introduce The Rev. Father Robert Assaly, an Anglican Priest of the Diocese of Ottawa. As the Anglican Church of Canada's appointee to the ecumenical Middle East Working Group of the Canadian Churches, Father Assaly has been engaged with Middle East peace and justice issues for over 20 years.

"It is a tremendous privilege to be here amongst you," Father Assaly said. He observed that 2,000 years ago, when the Prince of Peace was born not far from his ancestral village, and the angel choirs sang "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth", they could not have been anticipating Bethlehem in the 20th century. Father Assaly shared personal observations about the Palestinian territories and described them as "the world's largest prison that is besieged on all sides". Palestinian Christians are calling for the support of churches around the world to bear witness to justice, peace and reconciliation. "Hope means not giving in to evil but rather standing up to it and continuing to resist it", said Father Assaly. "It is faith that overcomes the power of evil by seeing the goodness of

God in all people alike, including the Israelis. Love is seeing the face of God in every human being. However, seeing the face of God in everyone does not mean accepting evil or aggression on their part, rather this love seeks to correct the evil and stop the aggression.” Father Assaly pleaded with the General Assembly not to become one-sided on either side of the difficult issues of his homeland.

The Moderator thanked Father Assaly acknowledging the issues raised are large and complex. He assured Father Assaly of prayers for peace by Presbyterians.

ASSEMBLY COUNCIL

The Assembly called for the report of the Assembly Council, which as printed on p. XXX, was presented by B. Vancook, convener.

Receive and Consider

J.E. Clapp moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by J.E. Clapp, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 2 (p. XXX) was moved by J.E. Clapp, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 3 (p. XXX) was moved by J.E. Clapp, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 4 (p. XXX) was moved by J.E. Clapp, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 5 (p. XXX) was moved by J.E. Clapp, duly seconded. Adopted.

Emmaus Project

The Moderator invited D.J.M. Macleod forward to present on the Emmaus Project.

Additional Motion

P.G. Bush moved, duly seconded, that the 136th General Assembly urge all presbyteries to be on the lookout for missional opportunities within their bounds and to be bold in taking risks in seeking the advance of the reign of God. In that spirit of taking bold risks, The Presbyterian Church in Canada commit itself to planting 10 congregations a year over the five years 2012-2016.

Additional Motion Divided

At the request of two commissioners, the additional motion was divided into two motions.

Additional Motion

P.G. Bush moved, duly seconded, that the 136th General Assembly urge all presbyteries to be on the lookout for missional opportunities within their bounds and to be bold in taking risks in seeking the advance of the reign of God. Adopted.

Additional Motion

P.G. Bush moved, duly seconded, that in that spirit of taking bold risks, The Presbyterian Church in Canada commit itself to the vision of planting ten congregations a year over the five years 2012-2016.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

COMMITTEE ON BILLS AND OVERTURES (cont'd from p. XXX)

Recommendation No. 1 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Overture No. 16 (p. XXX) re moratorium in changes to regional staff funding be answered in terms of the General Assembly response to the Life and Mission Agency Recommendation No. 1.

Recommendation No. 2 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Overture No. 17 (p. XXX) re funding for regional staff travel be answered in terms of the General Assembly response to the Life and Mission Agency Recommendation No. 3.

Recommendation No. 3 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Overture No. 18 (p. XXX) re maintaining regional and staff funding levels be answered in terms of the General Assembly response to the Life and Mission Agency Recommendation No. 1.

Recommendation No. 4 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Overture No. 19 (p. XXX) re maintaining current funding level for regional staff be answered in terms of the General Assembly response to the Life and Mission Agency Recommendation No. 1.

Recommendation No. 5 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Overture No. 20 (p. XXX) re diaconal ministers conducting the Sacrament of Communion be referred to the Committee on Church Doctrine to consult with the Clerks of Assembly, the Life and Mission Agency (Ministry and Church Vocations), and the Order of Diaconal Ministries.

Recommendation No. 6 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Overture No. 21 (p. XXX) re affirming annual General Assemblies be answered in terms of the General Assembly response to Assembly Council Recommendation No. 6.

Recommendation No. 7 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Overture No. 22 (p. XXX) re developing guidelines for part-time ministry be referred to the Life and Mission Agency (Ministry and Church Vocations).

Recommendation No. 8 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded.

That Overture No. 23 (p. XXX) re revising educational standards for candidates of other theological schools be referred to the Life and Mission Agency (Ministry and Church Vocations).

Amendment

S. Farris, duly seconded, that the words “and the Committee on Theological Education” be added to this motion. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 8 as amended was adopted as follows:

That Overture No. 23 (p. XXX) re revising educational standards for candidates of other theological schools be referred to the Life and Mission Agency (Ministry and Church Vocations) and the Committee on Theological Education.

Recommendation No. 9 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That Appeal No. 1 (p. XXX) re appeal against the verdict and censure of a commission of the Synod of Central Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda against Mr. Peikang Dai be referred to a Special Commission, consisting of five individuals not from the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda, established to deal with Appeal No. 1. Among the terms of reference, the following to be included:

- The Commission shall first determine if the appeal is in order.
- Expenses shall be reimbursed on a reasonable basis for the members of the commission.
- The commission shall have the authority to determine the number of witnesses each party may call and the duration of their presentations.

Recommendation No. 10 was moved by G.S. Malcolm, duly seconded. Adopted.

That a Committee on Terms of Reference be established to present terms of reference for the Special Commission re Appeal No. 1 to this General Assembly.

Report as a Whole

G.S. Malcolm moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

LIFE AND MISSION AGENCY COMMITTEE (cont'd from p. XXX)

Minute of Appreciation for The Rev. Arlene (Randall) Onuoha

The Rev. A. Onuoha was called forward, accompanied by The Rev. R. Wallace. D. Cho read a minute of appreciation for her (p. XXX).

Ms. Onuoha responded by stating that it has been a great honour and privilege to be a representative of Christ and of the church in Nigeria. She said, “I have seen the faithfulness of God every day and have had so many opportunities

to see people grow and the church grow; to see miracles and wonders in the church in Nigeria and Canada. So often I have seen things that seemed ready to die because we try to figure things out too much for ourselves, but when we remember it is not us but God in us that accomplishes things, then we can let go and proceed in faith with all the gifts God has given us and see things take off. I also want to thank God because God has been faithful in everything according to God's promises. I thank The Presbyterian Church in Canada because the church has also been faithful in promises and encouragement. I was called to minister and I am still in ministry. Thank you for the privilege and I ask God to bless us all in Jesus' name."

The Moderator told A. Onuoha that Christ shines through her and added, "We thank God for you." He then led the Assembly in prayer for A. Onuoha as she continues her ministry.

Recommendation No. 6 (p. XXX) was moved by D. Cho, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by D. Cho, duly seconded.

Amendment

G.M. Booy moved, duly seconded, that a Special Assembly Committee be struck to review the funding formula and the consequences of that formula, to report to the 137th General Assembly.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH DOCTRINE

The Assembly called for the report of the Committee on Church Doctrine which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by D.F. Robinson, convener.

Receive and Consider

W. Hong moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by W. Hong duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 2 (p. XXX) was moved by W. Hong, duly seconded.

Amendment

J. Dennis moved, duly seconded, that the fourth, fifth and sixth paragraphs be removed from "Canadian Presbyterian Statement on our Relationship with the Jewish People". Defeated.

Recommendation No. 2 was adopted.

Recommendation No. 3 (p. XXX) was moved by W. Hong, duly seconded. Adopted.

Report as a Whole

W. Hong moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Assembly called for the report of the Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee, which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by R.N. Faris, convener.

Receive and Consider

J.M. Lewis moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 was moved by J.M. Lewis, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 2 was moved by J.M. Lewis, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 3 was moved by J.M. Lewis, duly seconded.

Amendment

J.M. Lewis moved, duly seconded, that the following words be added to Recommendation No. 3 "and the response of the Canadian Jewish Congress to the 'A Moment of Truth' document". Adopted.

Recommendation No. 3 as amended:

That the document “A Moment of Truth A word of faith, hope and love from the heart of Palestinian suffering” and the response of the Canadian Jewish Congress to the “A Moment of Truth” document be sent to congregations, presbyteries and appropriate committees and agencies of the church for study and discussion with replies submitted by January 31, 2011.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

PENSION AND BENEFITS BOARD

The Assembly called for the report of the Pension and Benefits Board which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by K.J. Michie, a member of the board.

Receive and Consider

H. Hilder moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by H. Hilder, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 2 (p. XXX) was moved by H. Hilder, duly seconded. Adopted.

Report as a Whole

H. Hilder moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

The Principal Clerk announced that the minutes of the first sederunt were available for distribution.

Notice of Motion

S.D.P. Cleland presented the following notice of motion:

I give notice that, at a future sederunt, I will move or cause to be moved that the budget be reconsidered following the discussion of the recommendations regarding funding synod staffing. (This notice of motion was not pursued.)

ADJOURNMENT

Announcements having been made, the Moderator adjourned the Assembly to meet in the Sullivan Field House, Cape Breton University, Sydney, Nova Scotia, on Tuesday, June eighth, two thousand and ten, at seven thirty o'clock in the evening, of which public intimation was given. The sederunt closed with prayer by the Moderator.