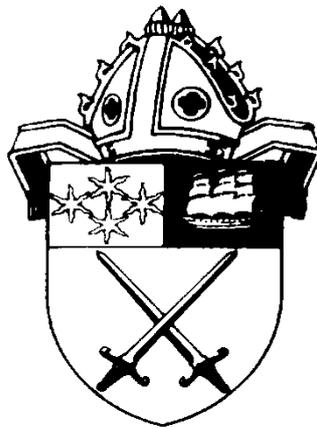


THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
THE DIOCESE OF BUNBURY
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



**FIRST SESSION
OF THE
FORTY FIRST SYNOD
2021 - 2023**

BOOK FOUR - 2021

MOTIONS, QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

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ACTIONS ON MOTIONS WITH NOTICE 2020

Number	M2020/1
Motion	Uluru Statement from the Heart be adopted
Mover	The Ven Julie Baker
Seconded	Rev'd Dr Lucy Morris

That:

Synod acknowledges the Uluru Statement from the Heart document as a description of the united request of 250 representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia for a Voice in Parliament for 1st Nations People. Further, that this Synod, in a spirit of reconciliation and love for 1st Nations People in this diocese, accept and support this call for representation in national life and rejects the continuation of the practices in Australia which systemically harm 1st Nations People. To this end, this Synod requests that the Bishop write to both the State and Federal representatives who have particular responsibility for 1st Nations People and policy to inform them of the support for the Uluru Statement from the Heart by this Synod.

Motion Carried

Update

Bishop to write a letter prior to Synod 2021.
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Number	M2020/2
Motion	Acknowledgement of People seeking asylum are entitled to human rights, dignity and social support and the opportunity to live in our community
Mover	Marie Ham
Seconder	Margaret Stone

That:

This Synod:

1. Acknowledges people seeking asylum are entitled to human rights, dignity and social support and the opportunity to live in our community.
2. Opposes the current placement of asylum seekers and refugees into offshore detention centres, seeks an end to these arrangements and seeks the closure of these centres.
3. Opposes any cuts to government programmes which provide a basic safety net of support to people seeking asylum, rendering them wholly dependent on church and other charities for survival and joins with Anglicare Australia and many other Non-Government Organisations in calling for a reversal to these cuts.
4. Opposes the removal of mobile phones and means of communications with the outside world.
5. Requests that Bishop in Council actively promotes and raises awareness of the existing terms of reference for the working party and actively seek members to join the inter-parish Working Group within the Diocese to access and provide the best objective information on the current status of asylum seekers to Australia and those confirmed as refugees by Australia.
6. Requests the Bishop write to the Minister for Home Affairs and Opposition Leader requesting:
 - (a) The reinstatement of government programmes which provide a basic safety net support for people seeking asylum; and
 - (b) The financial aid provided by these programmes matches that of Newstart; and
 - (c) The reinstatement of full funding to programmes that provide torture and trauma counselling for people seeking asylum.

Motion Carried

Update

Bishop to write a letter prior to Synod 2021.

Number	M2020/3
Motion	Apology to the Noongar First Nations people in the Anglican Diocese of Bunbury
Mover	Rev'd Dr Lucy Morris
Seconder	The Ven Julie Baker

That:

This Synod acknowledges there were disputes, battles, murders and deaths inflicted by the white colonists as settlers on the local Aboriginal population in our Anglican Diocese of Bunbury. We also acknowledge that Aboriginal children were taken from their mothers and that Aboriginal women were abused by settlers.

We have not learned the full story of our colonisation and do not yet know the extent of the pain and suffering we have caused to other sisters and brothers, and we need to hear this.

We acknowledge our role as a Church in supporting only the white settlers and their stories, which meant we never spoke out against the murder, slavery and theft of the Aboriginal people.

We benefited from this silence and our racism is invisible in our eyes while blinding others in the whiteness of abuse.

As a Synod, we recommend:

- (a) Synod establishes a working party to gather stories and evidence of the violence of European settlement of Noongar Boodja (country).
- (b) Parishes gather stories of local events in the process of colonization.

And these working parties prepare a full and comprehensive apology to the Noongar people across the Diocese, the First Nations People of this ancient land.

We are truly sorry for what we have done, the violence done to you in our name for our benefit as a colonizing Church.

We would like to start a process of reconciliation and learning your stories to shape a new future.

Motion Carried

Update

A committee has been established chaired by Rev'd Dr Lucy Morris members being Mrs Susan Davies, Dr Don Reid and Ms Elisabeth Pellican. The committee has met 4 times, and report to BIC. Work is now underway.

Number	M2020/4
Motion	Apology to People of Different Sexualities
Mover	Rev'd Dr Lucy Morris
Seconded	Very Rev'd Darryl Cotton

That:

This Synod in response to the commitment at the 1998 Lambeth Conference in section I.10 c. which reads – This Conference recognises that there are among us persons who experience themselves as having a homosexual orientation. Many of these are members of the Church and are seeking the pastoral care, moral direction of the Church, and God's transforming power for the living of their lives and the ordering of relationships. We commit ourselves to listen to the experience of homosexual persons and we wish to assure them that they are loved by God and that all baptised, believing and faithful persons, regardless of sexual orientation, are full members of the Body of Christ;

- i) Acknowledges Jesus' command for his disciples, to 'love one another, just as I have loved you' (John 13:34) and the depth of our love will speak to the world about the quality of our discipleship (John 13:35)
- ii) Acknowledges in our Diocese our behaviour, words and actions as Christians have not always demonstrated this command in our treatment of people of diverse sexualities and gender who identify themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-gender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+) people.
- iii) Recognises our welcome to all of God's people in the Church in the Diocese of Bunbury has not always been as our Lord invites and urges us to offer, and we are truly sorry for our lack of welcome, acceptance and understanding of all of God's people.
- iv) Declares we are deeply sorry for our discriminatory behaviour, words and actions, our lack of understanding of those whom we have seen as different in the past and continue to exclude to this present day.
- v) States we are truly sorry we have missed the opportunity to listen and understand the devastating impact we have had on others who may identify differently to heterosexual, the distress we have caused to individuals and to their families and the wider community.

- vi) Commits to understanding and acknowledging more clearly and honestly the impact this has had on people's lives, on their relationship with God and the Church.
- vii) Openly and thankfully acknowledges the wonderful and rich diversity of God's creation.

Motion Carried

Update
Invitation extended and accepted by LGBTQI community and the local Bunbury parish to attend Bishop in Council meeting. Out Southwest Committee, Equal Voices Australia, and local members of the Bunbury Parish attended the February meeting at which Trustees were also present. Bishop Ian worked with the executive to make the invitations and made time in BIC to listen and talk.

Number	M2020/5
Motion	Diocesan Trustees establish a mechanisms for Parishes to receive donations with tax deductibility for works on buildings
Mover	David Swain
Seconder	Michelle Schmidt

Withdrawn.

Number	M2020/6
Motion	Administration of Communion
Mover	David Swain
Seconder	Linley Matthews-Want

That:

This Synod requests Bishop, with whatever counsel he deems appropriate, investigate, and if possible, implement options for safe and hygienic administration of communion of both kinds that we can be consistent with the tenets of our faith.

Motion Carried

Update
Talks ongoing with Bishops in the Anglican Church of Australia but currently no change to communion in one kind as communicated to the Diocese by Bishop Ian

Number	M2020/7
Motion	Assessments
Mover	Rev'd Ian Mabey
Seconder	Marilyn Royer

That:

For the financial years beginning July 1 2021 to June 30 2022 the total of the parish and ministry assessments will be derived in such a way that it will meet the recurrent costs of the Diocesan office using transitional arrangements where necessary.

Motion Carried

Update

This accounting process has been enacted from 1 July 2021.

ACTIONS ON MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE 2020

Number	M2020/1
Motion	Deference of Motions 1, 2, 3 & 4
Mover	Rev'd Cn Linley Matthews-Want
Seconder	Rev'd Noel Oakey

That:

This Synod defers dealing with Motions 1, 2, 3 and 4 whilst committing to enter into a longer period of discussion and time of listening on these important issues.

To do this, we recommend that we will discuss these issues at length

- a) Clergy Conference
- b) At Deaneries over the next 12 months and then
- c) Bring back these Motions (1-4) (in their present or revised form) to be considered at next year's Synod where we can prepare for a longer conversation about these matter.

Motion Lost

Number	M2020/2
Motion	Human Sexuality – Lambeth Conference 1998
Mover	Rev'd Jamie Murray
Seconder	John Jarvis

That:

This Synod endorses Resolution 1.10 on human sexuality in its entirety as passed at the Lambeth conference 1998.

Motion Lost

MOTION WITH NOTICE 2021

Number	M2021/1
Motion	Action for Safe Air and climate change
Mover	Mr Adrian Price
Seconded	Mr Don Reid

That:

TEXT OF MOTION:

This synod notes with concern the Federal Government's lack of attention to the pollution of the atmosphere which is adversely affecting the climate of Earth and recommends government action to formulate and promote a policy of Safe Air for the world.

EXPLANATION OF MOTION:

Addressing concerns about climate change is in keeping with the 5th Mark of Mission; 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, to sustain and renew life on earth'.

Policies and actions of present and previous Federal Governments have been less than convincing of their intention to meet targets set by most other nations.

The following suggestions are made:

1. Governments and industries to cease investing in fossil fuels.
2. Increase support for investment in renewable fuels.
3. Provide incentives to replace motor vehicles using fossil fuels with electric or hydrogen fuelled vehicles.
4. Provide incentives for communities and home-owners to be less reliant on energy from fossil fuels.
5. Continue to expand the locations of electric and hydrogen recharging stations.

Locally:

1. Conduct an environmental assessment of church and home using the Anglican Diocese of Bunbury Sustainable Living Working Party Audit.
2. Actively support the Regional Climate Change Committees recently formed by most Local Governments.

Number	M2021/2
Motion	Federal Government Refugee and Asylum Seeker Policy
Mover	Mr Adrian Price
Seconder	Mr Don Reid

That:

TEXT OF MOTION:

This Synod:

- 1. Reinforces support for previous Motions M2014/03, M2015/08 and M2018/3, and**
- 2. Recognises the urgent need for a more compassionate attitude towards persons fleeing persecution, and**
- 3. Opposes the detention of children of refugees or asylum seekers, and**
- 4. Opposes the indefinite detention of refugees or asylum seekers, and**
- 5. Requests the Bishop to contact relevant Federal Ministers regarding these matters.**

EXPLANATION OF MOTION:

A Sri Lankan family initially accepted as refugees, whose children were born in Queensland and initially happily settled in Biloela in Queensland, gainfully employed and involved in community groups, were then forcibly deported to Christmas Island with the intention of returning the family back to Sri Lanka. There they suffered mental and physical health problems, including one child nearly losing her life to illness.

After some three years in detention and continuing community protests, they are back in Australia but still in detention.

This behaviour shows little regard for human worth or dignity, nor does it reflect the views of many Australians, including members of this synod.

Number	M2021/3
Motion	Provision of affordable accommodation
Mover	Mr Adrian Price
Seconded	Mr Don Reid

That:

TEXT OF MOTION:

This Synod supports low cost housing as shown in the ‘tiny home movement’ and other alternatives, and asks the Bishop to write to encourage Local, State and Federal Governments to enable individuals and developers to construct them.

EXPLANATION OF MOTION:

Throughout Australia, it is estimated that more than 200,000 persons (of which about 20,000 are in WA) are classed as homeless. All have no security for themselves or their belongings. These people are frequently told to move on by authorities. This is not a new problem but has become more extreme due to home rental increases, rising house prices and the employment impact of COVID 19.

The City of Bunbury has established a few ‘tiny homes’. Unfortunately, these are mostly out of reach of unemployed, aged pensioners and other low wage persons.

Generally, First Nation persons have the greatest difficulty finding ‘a roof over their heads’.

In Dandaragan, north of Perth is a motel made entirely from refurbished sea containers. Such units are highly suitable for temporary family or permanent single persons accommodation.

Andrew Forrest and family have provided 40 demountables to those made homeless after the Wooroloo bush fire earlier this year.

Changes are needed to Local and State Governments to allow this form of housing, and in some cases permit more than one unit on the same land location.

Number	M2021/4
Motion	Racism and Gender Based Discrimination
Mover	Rev'd Dr Lucy Morris
Seconder	Rev'd Ian Mabey

That:

TEXT OF MOTION:

This Synod acknowledges the experience and active expressions of racism together with gender-based discrimination, patriarchy and sexism in our churches, parish communities, workplaces and across Australia. These attitudes and actions are experienced by both clergy and the wider faith community.

This Synod recognises the need to encourage positive change in these behaviours and beliefs and to educate actively in managing these issues in our multi-cultural church community, as this does not reflect the love of God for all God's creation. We celebrate each individual made in God's image, called into the fullness of community, respected, honoured in all vocations and loved with all our differences. God's gospel invites us to act on this and provides clear leadership in our advocacy for gospel justice.

Therefore, this Synod calls on the Diocesan clergy and lay parish leaders, communities and diocesan entities to demonstrate active leadership in encouraging and responding to complaints and feedback on these matters as part of the Grievance and Feedback policy and process; and, to raise awareness and promote changes in these attitudes and behaviour throughout the diocese by:

- rejecting all such behaviour and making clear the unacceptability of all racism and gender-based discrimination in our church communities, parishes and diocesan workplaces.**
- providing regular training and awareness-raising about the unacceptable nature of racism and gender-based discrimination and this to be included in Diocesan Safe Church training content, with ordinands, LLMs and for all new parish counsellors, wardens, and in clergy Professional Development.**

- **ensuring all diocesan policies and practices reflect the rejection of such expressions of discrimination.**
- **offering counselling to affected individuals and by ensuring consequences in employment, volunteering and in lay leadership roles which will be applied if an individual or group's behaviours, attitudes, words and actions continue to ignore this will of Synod in God's kingdom, and for this to be applied equally both to clergy and lay people in the diocese.**

EXPLANATION OF MOTION:

Racism and gender discrimination are included generally in our Laity 'Being Together' Code of Conduct. However, many in our Diocese, experience specific instances of discrimination and a lack of awareness and education about these attitudes and behaviours. This Motion is provided so Synod can purposefully deal with these two areas of poor behaviour, which include unkind judgement and discrimination based on unearned privilege, entitlement, white supremacist racism, patriarchy, misogyny and male headship; and, an unwillingness or lack experience to educate, discuss and raise awareness and engage in critical conversations which would lead positively to changes in behaviour and understanding.

Supporting documentation and Reflections

Being Together and Faithfulness in Service Codes of Conduct

Diocesan gender report 2021 – General Synod

Domestic and Family Violence Policy

Consideration of gendered clergy titles

Black Deaths in Custody and Uluru, Statement from the Heart

Number	M2021/5
Motion	Heritage Building Funding
Mover	David Swain
Seconder	Michele Schmidt

That:

TEXT OF MOTION:

This Synod requests the Bishop and Diocesan Trustees petition and lobby with Government at all levels, and other parties as appropriate, on means to assist small parishes and community organisations maintain heritage listed churches and buildings, including avenues for grants or other special concessions, and possibility of mechanisms to enable donations for works or maintenance on buildings to be received with tax deductibility status, especially those with heritage listing; and further, to implement any measures so identified as may be practicable.

EXPLANATION OF MOTION:

The nature of doing church establishes buildings that almost inevitably develop community significance that extends beyond the community of faith having responsibility for the building. The Government, in the name of the wider community will place buildings on heritage listings and in so doing create a range of expectations in respect of those buildings. In small rural parishes this can be an onerous burden, with very restricted options to service this requirement. The fact of heritage listing magnifies the burden, with additional requirements for conservation plans, restrictions on what may be done and so on. Moreover the decision to list is usually made external to the community of faith, with the community of faith having little opportunity to make the impost manageable. It would seem to be a requirement that heritage listed building have a mandatory requirement for full insurance, adding further to the burden of maintaining the building.

It seems fair that if Government can create these obligations and expectations, especially for small parishes, that some means of assistance be provided to enable the obligations to be satisfied. In the current regulatory environment and climate it has also become a necessity that the Diocese be actively involved in arrangements such as providing tax deductibility status and overseeing grants etc.



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF BUNBURY

AMENDMENT TO MOTION

I give notice that I will move the following amendment to the motion
_____ by:

Deleting the words:

Adding the words:

The lines of the motion affected will then read:

SURNAME:

(Please print)

SIGNATURE:



**ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF BUNBURY
NOTICE OF MOTION**

FULL NAME OF MOVER *(please print)*:

FULL NAME OF SECONDER:

TEXT OF MOTION:

That

SIGNATURE:

ADMINISTRATION USE:

DATE RECEIVED: _____

ITEM NO: _____