

## DECISIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFECTING MINISTERS

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

3. (T) The Assembly notes possible areas of work by the Committee will include:
  - a) A survey of Baptismal Preparation resources currently used in UPCSAs Churches.
  - b) A survey of Confirmation Preparation resources currently used in UPCSAs Churches.
  - c) A survey of Eldership Preparation resources currently used in UPCSAs Churches.
  - d) A survey of what courses/material is being used in UPCSAs congregations for the building up and equipping the saints for the work of ministry.
  - e) The development of a list of "Really useful Websites" for the general improvement of ministry in local churches.
  - f) Liaison with the Priorities and Resources, Ministry, Church Growth and Doctrine Committees concerning any help such a Christian Education Committee may be to their work.
  - g) The listing of what (if any) resources for Christian Education the UPCSAs currently owns and from where/whom these may be obtainable.

### CHURCH ASSOCIATIONS:

2. (T) The Assembly acknowledges the work done by the Associations.

### CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

2. (T) Assembly encourages Ministers and Congregations to actively seek ways, given a congregation's context, to ensure that the ministry offered through the church is as relevant and effective as possible.
3. (M) Assembly notes the recently held "Equipping the Local Congregation" Conference, thanks the Convener and Committee and requests that the CDP Committee plan more such conferences at localised venues.
5. (T) Assembly commends the CDP website to the UPCSAs as a resource tool and encourages Ministers and Congregations to submit information about resources they have found helpful to the committee for listing on the site. The website address is [www.upcsa-cdp.org.za](http://www.upcsa-cdp.org.za)
7. (M) Assembly:
  - a) rules that Transitional congregations pay assessments, in the same way that constituted congregations do, with at least the minimum payment as set by the General Assembly and instructs the Manual Committee to amend the Manual accordingly.

- b) instructs the CDP Committee to provide Transitional Congregations with resources explaining assessments, what they are used for and the process of paying assessments.

10. (M) Assembly accepts the word "Pastor" to refer to people who are trained and appointed to serve local congregations, but that they are not selected and trained as "Ministers."

The Assembly **referred** this proposal to the Church Development and Planning Committee in consultation with the Ministry Committee and Mission and Evangelism Committee.

11. (M) The Assembly recognises that various "Supportive Ministries" exist and may arise in the denomination and that these should be encouraged and celebrated.

The Assembly **referred** this proposal back to the Church Development and Planning Committee in consultation with the Ministry Committee and Mission and Evangelism Committee.

12. (M) Assembly instructs the CDP Committee and Ministry committee to establish a work group to explore the issues raised under the section in the Appendix on Supportive Ministries headed: General Recommendations, and to report to the 2011 Executive Commission.

The Assembly **referred** this proposal back to the Church Development and Planning Committee in consultation with the Ministry Committee and Mission and Evangelism Committee.

13. (M) Assembly instructs the Ministry Committee to establish the "Order of Youth Pastors" which will provide guidelines and processes for those who would serve the church in this way. The following issues need to be considered:
  - Selection Criteria and Base requirements
  - Recognised training courses
  - Guidelines for employment and remuneration
  - Gatherings of members for encouragement and training
  - Codes of Conduct

The Assembly **referred** this proposal back to the Church Development and Planning Committee in consultation with the Ministry Committee and Mission and Evangelism Committee.

### CHURCH UNITY COMMISSION:

2. (M) The Assembly adopts the document, "Suggested Procedures for Ministerial Transfers among CUC Churches," as a set of guidelines for the procedures to be followed when a Minister of Word and Sacrament of one Member Church of the CUC applies to be received into the ministry of another Member Church.

## **CLERK OF ASSEMBLY:**

### **Supplementary Report:**

2. The Assembly notes the changes to the circulation of the Papers for Assembly and encourages congregations to make greater use of the website.

### **CONFESSIONS OF FAITH:**

2. (M) The Assembly:
  - a) approves the amended version of the UPCS A Confession of Faith in Appendix B below;
  - b)remits the amended version of the Confession of Faith in Appendix B, together with the rationales for the amendments in Appendix A, to all Presbyteries for their consideration and approval of the amended version under the Barrier Act; and
  - c) instructs all Presbyteries to send their replies to this remit to the Clerk by 30 April 2011, so that the Executive Commission in 2011 can enact the revised Confession.
3. (M) The Assembly:
  - a) approves the "Points of Doctrine Fundamental for Ordination as a Minister or an Elder" in Appendix C below but changes the title of the list of points to "Essential Doctrine for Ordination as a minister or an Elder" and adds to bullet 16 in the list of points: "...and for corruption";
  - b)remits the "Points of Doctrine Fundamental for Ordination as a Minister or an Elder" in Appendix C to all Presbyteries for their consideration and approval under the Barrier Act; and
  - c) instructs them to send their replies to this remit to the Clerk by 30 April 2011, so that the Executive Commission in 2011 can enact their adoption.

### **DOCTRINE ETHICS AND DISCIPLINE:**

3. (M) The General Assembly:
  - a) adopts the two documents, "Ten Questions about Baptism" and "Some Answers To Help Parents" in Appendix B and "The Meaning and Challenge of Baptism" in Appendix C below as official documents of the UPCS A;
  - b)commends them to Ministers and Elders for pastoral use with and instruction of parents applying for the Baptism of their children; and
  - c) instructs the Clerk to have the documents printed as two booklets, make them available on a cost-recovery basis, advertise them to all Ministers and Sessions and also make copies available at future General Assemblies and Executive Commissions.
  - d)instructs the General Secretary to make these documents available on the UPCS A website.
  - e) instructs the Translations Committee to translate these document into languages used in the UPCS A.
4. (T) The Assembly draws the attention of:
  - a) all interested in becoming members of the Order of Lay Preachers and

- b)all concerned with advising those who are so interested to the document on how to become a member of the Order in Appendix D.

### **ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS:**

3. (T) The Assembly instructs all Congregations and Presbyteries that have not already submitted details about their partnerships with other congregations and/or Presbyteries and/or Synods abroad to do so by the 30th December 2010.
6. (M) The Assembly:
  - i) endorses the view expressed on State and Church Relationships as found in the body of the report.
  - ii) draws attention to article 25 and 26 on 'Church and State' and 'Peace and Conflict' in the UPCS A Confession of Faith.
  - iii) encourages the Church to take advantage of opportunities to partner with the state in poverty alleviation.
10. (M) The Assembly:
  - a) adopts the document of principles and procedures on Partnerships with other Churches as found in Appendix 1 at the end of the report.
  - b) instructs the General Secretary to make it available to all Presbyteries and congregations.
13. (M)The Assembly:
  - a)notes the stand taken by SAFCEI on South Africa's energy policy as indicated in section 8 of this report and,
  - b)encourages Ministers to familiarise themselves with the DVD on "Global Warming and Religions"
  - c) encourages Congregations to use the DVD for biblical study, reflections and discussions.

### **FINANCE:**

5. (T) The General Assembly notes that the RB Hagart Trust Fund was established to assist retired ministers and their spouses and invites motivated applications to assist with emergency medical expenses and requests Presbyteries to advise retired ministers of this facility
7. (T) The General Assembly notes that the on-going non-identification of payments made into the UPCS A banking account will have major negative financial implications to the denomination and to congregations and ministers as these payments made and not identified may have been meant for either of loan repayments, assessments, medical aid, pension fund contributions or other intended recipient
12. (M) The General Assembly:
  - a) endorses the following arrear assessment reduction plan:
    - i) applications for reduction of arrear assessments to be submitted to the Presbyteries by 30 June 2011.

- ii) applications to include the prescribed yellow form for 2009, together with payment of minimum assessments for that year; evidence of the total amount of assessments in arrears at the end of 2009 and an indication of why the arrear assessments have arisen.
  - iii) Presbyteries to assess the validity of each application and the congregation's ability to address the arrears, bearing in mind that all congregations will be expected to keep assessments up to date with effect from 2010.
  - iv) Presbyteries to recommend to the Finance Committee the degree to which a reduction of arrear assessments should be granted, bearing in mind that the Finance Committee's original intention was to offer a 50% reduction.
  - v) any concession granted by the Finance Committee will be subject to:
    - a) compliance by the congregation with the requirements for submission of financial information, and
    - b) payment of current assessments.
  - vi) any payment towards arrear assessments to be made by a congregation in terms of this arrangement to be made to the Presbytery, which has the responsibility of monitoring such payments.
  - vii) any funds raised specifically by a congregation to meet their obligation in terms of this arrangement to be free from assessment in terms of the Rules of Assessment.
  - viii) failure to comply with the arrangement put in place in terms of this process will result in the original debt being reinstated.
- b) instructs the Finance Committee to set up and communicate the necessary mechanisms to implement the plan as from 1 January 2011.

**Supplementary Report:**

5. (Notice of Motion **M2**)

"General Assembly sets the General Assembly rate of Assessment for 2011 as follows:

<i>Up to R100 000</i>	<i>2.5%</i>	<i>of the Congregational Income</i>
<i>Up to R200 000</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>of the Congregational Income</i>
<i>Up to R300 000</i>	<i>7.5%</i>	<i>of the Congregational Income</i>
<i>Up to R400 000</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>of the Congregational Income</i>
<i>Up to R1 000 000</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>of the Congregational Income</i>
<i>Over R1 000 000</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>of the Congregational Income</i>

*with effect from 1 January 2011, and the assessment rate shall apply to the total Congregational Income."*

**This Notice of Motion was amended to read:**

The General Assembly:

- iv) instructs the Finance Committee in consultation with Priority and Resources Committee to reconsider the rate of assessment and the method of collection using the information at their disposal
- v) refers the original Notice of Motion M2 to the Finance Committee
- vi) instructs the Finance Committee to report to the Executive Commission in 2011. **(agreed)**

6. (Notice of Motion **M3**)

The General Assembly

- a) *instructs the Finance Committee to reformulate a comprehensive travel policy for the UPCSA giving due consideration to the diverse needs and affordability of the Church, and*
- b) *and reports to the Executive Commission in July 2011.*

**GENERAL SECRETARY:**

- 2. (M) The Assembly:
  - a) notes the work undertaken by the Moderator and General Secretary in attempting to get the Associations and their counter groups to dialogue;
  - b) commends the UPWF GENEX and the Aggrieved Group for their initial meeting and urges them to continue the dialogue with the intent to find reconciliation, peace and unity; **(agreed)**
- 9. (T) The Assembly notes the progress made on the arrangements for the 2011 Ministers' and Spouses' Conference.
- 10) (M).The Assembly:
  - a) adopts the document of principles and procedures on Partnerships with other Churches as found in Appendix 1 at the end of the report
  - b) instructs the General Secretary to make it available to all Presbyteries and Congregations

**Supplementary report:**

- 2. (T) The Assembly notes the proposed theme of the Conference, and encourages ministers and their spouses to offer their comments to help shape the programme content.
- 3. (M) The Assembly:
  - 3.1 approves the dates of the Conference as from 7-11th September 2011.
  - 3.2 requests congregations to release their ministers for Sunday, 11th September 2011, and encourages the arrangement of an internal pulpit supply for that Sunday, where possible.

4. (M) The Assembly urges congregations and Presbyteries to cover the cost of travel and accommodation for ministers and their spouses attending the Conference.
5. (M) The Assembly:
  - 5.1. expresses its thanks to the MCG and the UPMF for their participation in the dialogue process facilitated by the Moderator and the General Secretary.
  - 5.2. Urges them to continue to dialogue on the issues which have led to the current situation and, if needed, enter into a mediation process.
  - 5.3. Agrees that the Moderator, the General Secretary and the Immediate Former Moderator, Rev. CN. Mkandawire would facilitate the dialogue process.

#### **JUSTICE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (South Africa):**

2. (T) The Assembly publicly condemns xenophobic behaviour and dedicates one Sunday to focus on xenophobia.
3. (M) The Assembly:
  - i) encourages local Congregations to design and establish ministry programmes that address the ministry for refugees and report their experiences to JSR South Africa;
  - ii) instructs JSR South Africa to make available to Congregations information about programmes that have worked; and
  - iii) instructs JSR South Africa to report to the Executive Commission in 2011.
5. (M) The Assembly:
  - i) encourages the Ministry Committee to develop a model for cross cultural ministry and report to the Assembly in 2012 ;
  - ii) encourages the Ministry Committee, whenever possible, to place Probationers in a cross-cultural ministry setting for their probation;
  - iii) instructs the Ministry Committee to encourage Probationers and Congregations to consider cross-cultural placements whenever possible; and
  - iv) encourages Congregations, which are considering calling a Minister, to give serious thought to the possibility of calling a person of a different cultural background.
6. (Notice of Motion **M1**)
 

*In view of the Government's intention, set out in the Film and Publications Amendment Bill of 2006' (Protection of Information Bill), to establish a mechanism to control the dissemination of information and of published and filmed material to the citizens of South Africa through a Government-appointed Review Board, Board Council and Appeal Tribunal, the General Assembly*

*1. declares that it supports the banning of all outrightly pornographic material, and most especially all child pornography; but*

2. *emphasizes the principle that the communications media form an essential sentinel or watchdog in any truly democratic society;*
  3. *points out that any Government that had the interests of democracy and accountability at heart would promote a culture of dissent and accountability instead of attempting to censor or hinder the media;*
  4. *condemns the "Protection of Information Bill" as mooting an attack on the freedom of the media that will give the Government the power to hinder the media from reporting Government misdemeanours, of which there are many, including its scandalous waste of public money, its failure to keep its election promises and the widespread and endemic corruption of Government office-holders and officials;*
  5. *expresses appreciation to COSATU, its President, Sdumo Dlamini, and its General Secretary, Zwelinzima Vavi, for their opposition to the bill and calls on them to be faithful to their ideas in leading the opposition within the Government alliance against this bill, no matter how difficult this may be for them politically;*
  6. *calls on all the Christian citizens of South Africa and in particular all Presbyterians to join in marching, demonstrating and protesting against the bill in whatever way they can, for the sake of democracy against all who would curb or limit it for selfish political interests; and*
  7. *calls on all ministers and other preachers in the UPCSA to protest against the bill and rouse their congregations to oppose it on the basis that, as our Lord said, it is the truth that sets us free – not the control or suppression of truth by the Government.*
- Assembly instructs the press officer to issue this statement to the press and ETV and SATV as soon as possible.*

#### **LIFE CONCERNS:**

2. (T) The General Assembly encourages every member of the UPCSA to engage with the issues of life concerns in an attitude of mature and responsible Christian debate, a debate that is grounded in our Saviour's love for us and His Creation.

#### **MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY:**

2. (M) The Assembly:
  - (a) i) adopts the Minimum Stipend scale for the year 1st January – 31st December 2011 as recorded in the body of the report in the case of South Africa;
  - ii) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to investigate linking stipends to the CPIX in each country;
  - iii) grants the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee the authority to approve the minimum stipend scale and transport allowance for churches in Zambia and Zimbabwe for 2011 in consultation with the Synod of Zambia and the Presbytery of Zimbabwe respectively, and
  - iv) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to conduct a market related remuneration survey in South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe and on the basis of it, to propose to the Executive Commission in 2011 a new set of minimum stipends.

(b) resolves that the Minimum travel allowance for ministers be set as R3 600 as from 1 January 2011 with regard to South Africa.

(c) The Assembly:

- i) sets the pulpit supply fee at R 400 or the equivalent in US dollars for Zimbabwe and Zambian Kwacha for Zambia per service
- ii) requests The Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to provide guidelines for travel related to pulpit supply and instructs that in the meantime Presbyteries set the policy for travel. **(agreed)**

3. (M) The Assembly instructs all Presbyteries to report, by 31 March 2011, to the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee (in terms of para 10.27 (q) of the Manual) on the complete 2010 emoluments of all the ministers under their care and discipline, whether seconded or in pastoral charge.

4. (M).The Assembly:

- a) notes that the UPCS A Loan Scheme will be re-introduced in 2011 with the principles outlined in the report.
- b) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to investigate alternative ways of securing loans and report to the Executive Commission in 2011.

5. (M) The Assembly:

- i) thanks the Committee for its work, and refers the proposal back to the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee for further research and report on the implementation of the Centralisation of Stipends system and instructs it to give a detailed report to the 2011 Executive Commission.
- ii) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to work with Presbyteries to explore the possibility of implementing such a system.

#### **MANUAL:**

5. (M) The General Assembly amends para 16.111 (c) to read:  
16.111 Secondment may be considered ... (c) to specialised ministries recognised by this Church or to any Chaplaincy in the Military, the Police or the Correctional Services;

#### **MINISTERIAL MARRIAGE AND FAMILY CARE:**

2. (T) The General Assembly commends those Presbyteries that have an active (and pro-active) Pastoral Care Programme for ministers and their families.

#### **MODERATOR DESIGNATE:**

The Rev RJ Botsis was elected as Moderator Designate of the General Assembly.

#### **OVERTURES:**

##### **OVERTURE 3:**

##### **PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND THE CALLING OF MINISTERS:**

"The Presbytery of the Western Cape overtures the venerable General Assembly:

1. to permit congregations that are not up to date with their assessments to General Assembly and/or their Presbyteries to call a minister, provided that they have supplied justification acceptable to their Presbyteries for their failure to be up to date.
2. to instruct:
  - i) its Finance Committee to work through Presbytery Treasurers and Finance Committees to ensure that congregations pay their assessments to General Assembly and their Presbyteries; and
  - ii) to amend the Manual of Faith and Order by removing the words "or are in arrears with the payment of assessments to the Council of the Church" from chapter 16 para 3 and any other reference to the same rule from the Manual of Faith and Order of the UPCS A."

*Referred to Presbyteries for comment and report back at the Executive Commission of 2011.*

##### **PENSION FUNDS (PEPF):**

3. (M) Assembly authorises the Trustees
  - (a) to research the possibility of introducing a Personal Health Insurance (PHI) provision into the Rules of the PEPF; and
  - (b) to proceed with the introduction of such a provision if they find it is possible to do so.

##### **PENSION FUNDS (UPCSA):**

3. (M) Assembly notes the progress in regard to the incorporation of the RPCSA Pension Fund Credits into the UPCS A Pension Fund.
4. (T) Assembly instructs Congregations to make regular monthly payments of pension contributions for their Ministers as required by the Fund.
5. (M) General Assembly;
  - i) instructs Presbyteries to follow up on all Congregations and Ministers not making regular monthly contributions to the Pension Fund, and take appropriate action, and
  - ii) instructs the Principal Financial Officers of the Pension Funds to make this information available to Presbyteries.

## Supplementary Report:

### 3. (Notice of Motion M5)

The Assembly adopts the following amendments in Chapter 16 of the Manual:

16.6 A Minister who wishes to retire prematurely from the active Ministry of this Church on the ground of infirmity, physical disability, ill-health, or for any other reason, applies to the Presbytery for permission to retire early. The Presbytery reports the facts, and submits its recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the UPCS A Pension Fund which may or may not approve the application. If the application is approved the Minister tenders his/her resignation from the pastoral charge to the Presbytery or, in the case of a Minister occupying an administrative post in the Central Office, to the Church Office Committee.

16.7 A Minister retires at the end of the month in which he/she reaches Normal Retirement Age of 65 years, unless otherwise provided for in the Rules of the UPCS A Pension Fund.

**Note:** The Rules of the Fund provide for a Minister who was a member of the PCSA Pension Fund at 31 December 1999 to retire at the end of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 68 years and for a Minister who was a member of the RPCS A Pension Fund at 31 December 1999 to retire at the end of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 70 years.

16.8.1 A Minister or a person occupying a post designated as a pensionable post by the General Assembly retires in accordance with the Rules of the UPCS A Pension Fund. On a Minister's retirement the General Assembly may declare him/her to be a Minister Emeritus of this Church with a seat in the Presbytery within whose boundaries he/she resides, but without ministerial connection with the Congregation which he/she last served except by invitation of the Interim Moderator or the subsequent Minister in matters other than executive action or decision making.

16.8.2 On retirement in terms of these rules the Minister shall receive the benefits of the UPCS A Pension Fund applicable in his/her case in accordance with the relevant rule of the Fund in force at the time of the retirement.

## Retirement Procedure

16.9 At least six months prior to the date on which he/she is to reach Normal Retirement Age a Minister informs the Session of the Congregation in which he/she is serving of his/her impending retirement and the Session in turn informs the Presbytery. A Minister in an administrative post in the Central Office of the Church informs the Church Office Committee of his/her impending retirement and the Committee in turn informs the Presbytery in which the Minister has a seat (see para 10.27(r)). A Minister in a seconded post, or without charge, informs the Presbytery Clerk of his/her impending retirement. In each case the Presbytery informs the Ministry Committee of General Assembly and the Board of Trustees of

the UPCS A Pension Fund and may apply to the General Assembly or its Executive Commission for the Minister to be declared a Minister Emeritus.

16.10 The Presbytery arranges for a Valedictory Service to take place close to the date on which the retirement is to take effect (see the Service Book and Ordinal). Thereafter the Presbytery on which the retired minister has been granted a seat exercises pastoral care of him/her and takes note of the provisions concerning Stated Supply in paras 16.147ff below.

16.107 If a Minister is in a secular full-time post the rules on stipends, emoluments, Long Leave and pension contributions given above do not apply unless the Minister remains a member of the Fund in terms of its Rules. [~~Delete:~~ except that the Congregation remains liable to pay the pension contributions it would pay for a Minister who has no secular work.] If the Minister wishes to stay in the manse he/she may do so if  
(a) the Session and the relevant financial authority (on this term see Chapter 8) agree that he/she may; and  
(b) it is agreed that he/she will pay the Congregation a specified sum equivalent to the rental value of the premises (which may be altered from time to time).

## PRESBYTERIAL CONGREGATIONAL RELATIONS:

3. (T) The General Assembly approves the committee's intention to continue communicate with the structures of these two denominations where the united congregations exist, in an effort to encourage and consolidate relations for the united work.

## PRESBYTERIAN EDUCATIONAL FUND:

2. (T) The Assembly thanks all those who have so generously given to the Fund.

3. (T) The Assembly declares Sunday, 12th June 2011, as PEF Sunday.

5. (M) That the Assembly requests all corresponding Trustees to make the new change in the accounting procedures in the General Assembly Office procedure known to the congregations in their Presbyteries, with the banking details for donations.

## WORSHIP:

2. (M) The Assembly adopts the amendments to the Orders for the Ordination and/or Induction of Ministers in Appendix A to the report.

3. (M) The Assembly:  
(a) draws the attention of Presbyteries to the amended Minister's Vow/"Declaration" for ordinations and inductions referred to in, and located by, the Report and so to the amendments to the *Manual*, par. 2.6.2 and 2.6.3 (Chap 2 Pg. 33-35) with regard to the ordination and induction of Ministers; and

(b) draws the attention of Ministers and Sessions to the amended Elder's Vow/"Declaration" referred to in, and located by, the Report and so to the amendments to the *Manual*, par. 2.6.4 (Chap 2 Pg. 35) with regard to the ordination and induction of Elders.

8. (M) The Assembly adopts the amendments in Appendix E to:
- (a) the Order Preceding Holy Communion,
  - (b) the three Orders for Holy Communion except for the change in the third Communion Order on page 243 "be nourished with His very body and blood", to be changed to a clearly non-receptionist wording; and
  - (c) the Order for Worship on the Lord's Day without Holy Communion and the amendments in the body of the Report to do with the Commandments.
9. (M) The Assembly adopts the Seasonal Prefaces in Appendix F.

**Supplementary Report (P.331-341):**

14. (M) The Assembly adopts the Order for the Baptism of Believers as printed in the Papers, Proceedings and Decisions of the Executive Commission 2009, p.186-191, and approved by that Executive Commission, with the amendments to the Baptismal Prayer and the Vow proposed in Appendix I below.
15. (M) The Assembly adopts the Order for Holy Communion with Children as printed in the Papers for the 8th General Assembly 2008, p.310-313 and approved by that Assembly with minor amendments (Proceedings and Decisions of the 8th General Assembly 2008, p.503, no.3).
16. (M) The Assembly adopts all the amendments to the Order for the Ordination and Induction of Ministers proposed in Appendix J below and specifically affecting:
- a) the Ordination Prayer,
  - b) the Moderator's Declaration, and
  - c) the Statement on the Ministry and Mission of the People of God.
17. (M) The Assembly further:
- a) authorizes the Committee to shorten the Orders for Ordination and/or Induction in any minor ways that are appropriate and do not injure the Orders as a whole;
  - b) instructs the Committee to examine in what appropriate ways the various Narratives for these Orders can be shortened and report to the 2011 Executive Commission on this; and
  - c) instructs the Committee to explore whether, and if so in what appropriate ways, the Declaration of Standards can be shortened and report to the 2011 Executive Commission on this.
18. (M) In the light of its adoption of proposal 16(b) above, the Assembly amends Appendix C(2).1 in the Manual of Faith and Order (App. Pg. 15) to accord with it.
19. (M) The Assembly:
- a) adopts the amendments to the Orders for the Ordination and/or Induction of Elders proposed in Appendix K below; and
  - b) urges Ministers and Sessions to inform the Committee whether or not they think the Vow in these Orders should be shortened, and if so how.
20. (M) The Assembly adopts the Order for the Induction of Deacons as printed in the Papers, Proceedings and Decisions of the Executive Commission 2009, p.192-194, and approved by the Executive Commission in 2009, together with the amendments proposed in Appendix L below.
21. (M) The Assembly:
- a) approves the Order for the Reception of Members by Transfer etc. in Appendix M below for use and comment, and
  - b) urges Ministers to use this Order and send comments on it to the convener by 31 March 2011, so that it can be amended if necessary and submitted to the Executive Commission in 2011 for adoption.
22. (M) The Assembly:
- a) officially adopts the Revised Common Lectionary as the official lectionary of the UPCS; and
  - b) adopts Appendix N below as a preface to the *Lectionary*, to be printed in the *Service Book and Ordinal*.