

General Synod 2014 Session

(A report from the Standing Committee.)

Introduction

1. The 16th General Synod was held in Adelaide from 29 June to 3 July 2014.
2. The 16th General Synod consisted of 245 members of whom 67 were from the Diocese of Sydney. A number of resolutions, canons and rules were passed at the session. A number of elections also took place for General Synod boards and committees.

Resolutions

3. Many of the resolutions related to formal matters concerning the business of General Synod. Others were of more significance. The resolutions that may be of particular interest are extracted in the Appendix. The report of the Viability and Structures Taskforce referred to in *Resolution R65/14* can be accessed on the website of the Anglican Church of Australia via –

<http://www.anglican.org.au/general-synods/2014/Documents/books/Book%20for%20website.pdf>

Canons

4. The following canons were passed –

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council Canon 2014

Financial Protection Canon 1995 Amendment Canon 2014

Special Tribunal Canon 2007 Amendment Canon 2014

Primate Canon 1985 Amendment Canon 2014

Use of Church Names Canon 1989 Amendment Canon 2014

Holy Orders Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004 Amendment Canon 2014

Special Tribunal Canon 2007 (s 52) Amendment Canon 2014

National Register Canon 2007 (Amendment) Canon 2014

Protocol for access to and disclosure of Information in the National Register 2007 (Amendment) Protocol 2014

Canon concerning confessions 1989 Amendment Canon 2014

Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2010

Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2010

5. Some of these canons have already taken effect, others will not take effect unless the requisite number of diocesan synods report their assent by ordinance, and still others will not take effect in Sydney until they are adopted by our Synod. The canons are, or will be, the subject of a further report prepared for the Synod.

Rules

6. The following rules were passed –

A Rule to amend Rule II for the Conduct of Elections ordered to be made by the General Synod

A Rule to amend Rule 1 – Standing Orders (Standing Order 42A)

A Rule to amend Rule 1 – Standing Orders (Standing Order 66)

Elections

7. The following persons from Sydney were elected to the following General Synod boards and committees –

*Council of the Australian College
of Theology*

The Rev Dr Peter Bolt
The Rev Philip Bradford
The Rev Dane Courtney
Archbishop Glenn Davies
Bishop Robert Forsyth
The Rev Dr Mark Thompson
Mr Garth Blake SC
Mrs Susan Hooke
Dr Stuart Pigginn

*The Board Electors of the
Primate*

The Rev Dr Peter Bolt
The Rev Dr Michael Stead
The Rev Dr Mark Thompson
Mr Garth Blake SC
Dr Karin Sowada
Dr Robert Tong AM
Elected as a Reserve
Mr Robert Wicks

Defence Force Board

The Rev Tim Booker
The Rev Andrew Nixon

Long Service Leave Board

Mr James Flavin

Standing Committee

The Rev Dr Andrew Ford
Bishop Robert Forsyth
The Rev Dr Michael Stead
Mr Garth Blake SC
Dr Robert Tong AM
The Hon Peter Young AO QC

The Board of Assessors (Appellate Tribunal)

The Rev Dr Peter Bolt
The Rev Dr Andrew Ford
The Rev Dr Michael Stead
The Rev Dr Mark Thompson

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee

ROBERT WICKS
Diocesan Secretary

26 August 2014

General Synod 2014 – Selected resolutions

R23/14 A Motion relating to Child Protection Measures

The General Synod:

- (a) commends the National Council of Churches in Australia for organising the *Safe as Churches? 2011 and the Safe as Churches? 2013* conferences on sexual misconduct and abuse in the Australian churches, and supports ongoing joint action by member churches and other participating Australian churches to promote the welfare and safety of all people within their communities; and requests the General Secretary to convey this resolution to the National Council of Churches in Australia;
- (b) recommends that the Commonwealth Government promote a national system that provides for:
 - (i) the mandatory reporting of child abuse by persons including ministers of religion to the police and the government child protection authorities;
 - (ii) the screening of all persons seeking to work with children in a paid or voluntary capacity;
 - (iii) the mutual recognition of clearances for persons to work with children in all States and Territories: and

requests that the General Secretary conveys this resolution to the Prime Minister, the Premier or Chief Minister of each State and Territory and the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

R26/14 A Motion relating to The Revd Dr Leon Morris

General Synod notes that the 100th anniversary of the birth of Leon Morris occurred this year on 15 March 2014, and gives thanks to God for his life and ministry and its ongoing impact. This includes his various parish ministries, particularly in the South Australian outback with BCA in the Diocese of Willochra during World War Two (1940- 45). We celebrate his contribution to theological education, most notably in Australia as Vice-Principal (1945-1959) and Principal (1964-1979) of Ridley College in Melbourne, also as Warden of Tyndale House (1960-63) in Cambridge, England, and as visiting lecturer elsewhere. And we recognise his contribution to Australian biblical scholarship and publishing, most notably his first major work, *The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross*, alongside numerous Bible commentaries and other publications. We rejoice in the example of Dr Morris' work, which was marked by integrity of scholarship, clarity of expression, humility of spirit, reverence for the teachings of Scripture, and devotion to the Lord and his saving work.

R27/14 A Motion relating to Christ Died for Our Sins: Essays on the Atonement

General Synod notes the circulation to its members of the General Synod Doctrine Commission's book *Christ died for our sins: essays on the atonement*, and commends the further study of this important book of essays.

R28/14 Anglican Communion Covenant

That this General Synod:

1. Affirms the commitment of the Anglican Church of Australia to the Anglican Communion;
2. Affirms its openness to participating in any further consideration of a covenant proposal; and
3. Urges upon the Instruments of Communion a course of action that continues to seek reconciliation and the preservation of the Communion as a family of interdependent but autonomous churches.

R29/14 Vale The Right Reverend John McIntyre

The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia records its gratitude to God for the life and witness of John Charles McIntyre, the Eleventh Bishop of Gippsland from 2006 to 2014.

Throughout his ministry John McIntyre identified with the powerless and marginalised and both the Church and wider community are richer for his example of Christian vocation.

Synod prays for his widow Jan and their three children and with the people of God in Gippsland as they mourn the untimely death of their much loved Bishop.

R30/14 The Province of New South Wales Ordinance

That General Synod:

- (a) notes that the Provincial Synod Constitution Amendment Ordinance 2011 was passed by the NSW Provincial Synod in May 2011;
- (b) notes that the NSW Anglican Church of Australia Constitution Act 1902 requires changes to the NSW Provincial Constitution to be ratified by, or made in accordance with, a canon of the General Synod;
- (c) notes that this ordinance has received the assent of most of the dioceses in NSW;
- (d) notes it is expected that in the near future the ordinance will have received the assent of all dioceses of NSW;
- (e) asks the Standing Committee of General Synod, once the proposed change has been approved by all dioceses in NSW, to seek approval by General Synod canon by implementing the procedures of a circular canon as provided in section 28A of the Constitution NSW, to seek approval by General Synod canon by implementing the procedures of a circular canon as provided in section 28A of the Constitution.

R35/14 Deaconess Margaret Amelia Rodgers AM (1939-2014)

This Synod records its thanks to God for the life and witness of Margaret Rodgers who devoted her life to serve her Saviour and Lord particularly within the context of the Anglican Church of Australia.

As a student at Deaconess House she completed a ThL with first class honours and then went on to earn a BA and BD (Hons) at Sydney University. Archbishop Marcus Loane invited her to become Principal of Deaconess House in 1976. She had the unenviable task of modernising the institution following the iconic tenure of Deaconess Mary Andrews AM. Educational standards were lifted and a fresh vision for women's ministry was articulated. The appointment to the position of Research Officer for the General Synod in 1985 allowed Margaret to combine her training in theology and history and apply this to national questions of policy and practice in the Anglican Church of Australia and beyond. Her final two positions as CEO, Anglican Media, Sydney in 1994 and subsequently in 2004, Archbishop's Media Officer, enabled her personal skills, wide circle of friends and many years of Anglican networking to be harnessed in service to her home diocese and it's Archbishop.

Margaret's extensive 'extracurricular' activities were largely undertaken in Margaret's own time, during periods of annual leave or in some instances where her employer decided it would be beneficial for all concerned for Margaret to be involved as, part of her employment. Within the Diocese of Sydney there was membership of the Standing Committee for some 30 years, the cathedral chapter and Chair of New College in the University of New South Wales. Nationally, there were two decades of membership of the Standing Committee and the National Council of Churches.

International Anglican ministry included substantial media involvement with several Anglican Consultative Councils and the tumultuous 1998 Lambeth Conference. There was also the Joint Presidency of the Christian Conference of Asia.

Margaret was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia on Australia Day 2014.

R38/14 Human Rights

That the General Synod:

- (i) affirms the importance of freedom of religion and its manifestation in the related freedoms of speech, association and conscience for a healthy and mature society; and
- (ii) declaring its opinion that such freedoms are at risk of being undermined in Australian society due to a focus on other, sometimes competing, rights, calls on the Federal, State and Territory governments to take steps to ensure that the freedoms of religion, speech, association and conscience are protected, strengthened and promoted; and
- (iii) calls on the Federal Government to continue its advocacy of such freedoms internationally through diplomatic channels and other appropriate instruments of global engagement; and
- (iv) respectfully request the Primate to convey the above terms of this resolution to the Prime Minister, the Premiers of the States, the Chief Ministers of the Territories and their respective Attorneys General.

R39/14 Professional Standards Audit

That the General Synod:

- (a) noting the recommendation of the Professional Standards Commission in its Report to the General Synod that each diocese conduct a regular audit of the implementation of its professional standards and safe ministry policies and procedures;
- (b) noting the resolution of the National Bishops' Meeting held from 30 March to 3 April 2014 to support the participation of their dioceses in a professional standards audit process that aims at continuing quality improvement;
- (c) recommends that each diocese implements a professional standards audit process that contains the following elements:
 - (i) the Bishop informs the General Secretary that he or she requests an audit of the diocese's professional standards performance against its own policies and procedures which provides recommendations for continuing quality improvement of its practices, policies and procedures noting any recommendations from the General Synod or the Standing Committee;
 - (ii) the General Secretary liaises with the Bishop and the diocese engages an auditor and makes the necessary arrangements for the audit;
 - (iii) the auditor visits the diocese and conducts the audit in conjunction with diocesan staff and officers;
 - (iv) at the conclusion of the audit, the auditor prepares a full report for the Bishop and Diocesan Council which may include recommendations for further action;
 - (v) at the invitation of the diocese the auditor may assist with implementing any recommendations and review progress;
 - (vi) the Bishop will send a copy of the report and any diocesan response to the General Secretary within four months of the completion of the report.

R41/14 Safe Ministry Policies and Practices

The General Synod:

- (a) receives the report of the Professional Standards Commission; and
- (b) requests the Professional Standards Commission
 - (i) to prepare a report identifying barriers to change in the areas of safe ministry and professional standards in the Church and strategies to address them; and
 - (ii) to consult with the Primate with regard to preparing pastoral guidelines for Private Confessions with special reference to Child Sexual Abuse; and
 - (iii) to report to the 17th General Synod as to the progress of the Church in the development and implementation of safe ministry policies and structures.

R42/14 Hospitality

That this General Synod:

reaffirms its encouragement to every diocese to encourage parishes, schools and agencies to reaffirm their commitment to welcoming and including people in the life of the Church by investigating factors which may prevent people from participating fully, especially people with lived experience of disability, and initiating improvements which enhance accessibility and participation.

R44/14 General Synod Discussion Groups Follow-up

This General Synod, recognising the value of the group discussions at this session and the importance of ongoing discussions between its members on matters affecting the Anglican Church of Australia and on matters affecting spiritual, moral and social welfare, requests the General Secretary to put in place arrangements to enable members of the General Synod to exchange their views freely with one another on such matters before, during and after sessions of the General Synod.

R45/14 Being Together

The General Synod:

- (a) adopts *Being Together* as the statement of expectations regarding the behaviour of members of Church communities;
- (b) authorises the revision of *Being Together* by the Standing Committee subject to any proposed revision being circulated to dioceses for comment before being made;
- (c) directs the Standing Committee to table any revision of *Being Together* at the following session of the General Synod; and

recommends that each diocese adopt *Being Together* as the statement of expectations regarding the behaviour of members of Church communities in the diocese.

R46/14 Faithfulness in Service

That the General Synod:

- (a) notes that the Standing Committee has been authorised by resolution 33/04 to make revisions to *Faithfulness in Service*;
- (b) notes the retabling of *Faithfulness in Service* as adopted by the General Synod in 2004;
- (c) notes the tabling of the revisions of *Faithfulness in Service* made by the Standing Committee since General synod adopted *Faithfulness in Service* in 2004;
- (d) notes the tabling of the current version of *Faithfulness in Service* incorporating all revisions made by the Standing Committee since 2004; and
- (e) directs the Standing Committee to table any further revisions at the following session of the General Synod.

R47/14 Adoption of a Model Episcopal Standards Ordinance

That this Synod:

- (a) commends for enactment by every diocese the proposed Model Episcopal standards Ordinance attached to the Supplementary Report of the Standing Committee concerning a Model Episcopal Standards Ordinance;
- (b) requests that where a diocesan synod enacts or proposes to enact an Ordinance which departs in any matter of substance from the Model Ordinance, the Standing Committee be notified of the proposal or enactment; and
- (c) requests the Standing Committee to appoint a group to review such notifications, to discuss, where appropriate, the proposal or enactment and, where appropriate, to make recommendations for amendment of the Model Ordinance.

R52/14 Encourage Church Unity

This General Synod endorses the following Statement and commends it to dioceses inviting each diocese to commit itself to fulfil to the best of its ability the expectations described in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 following. The General Synod further acknowledges the importance of the serious internal issues raised in the Church Unity Task Force Supplementary Report and requests to the Standing Committee the continuation of work of this Task Force in a reconstituted form, to report to the next General Synod.

FOUNDATIONS

- 1 The Anglican Church of Australia is a fellowship within the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church in which each member diocese recognises loyalty to Christ and in particular, a common faith and order, a shared inheritance in worship, life and mission and a readiness to live in an interdependent life.
- 2 The members of this Church are incorporated into the one body of Christ and are called by Christ to pursue all things that make for peace and unity.
- 3 This Church is constituted by the consent of its members and ratified by the Acts of Parliament of the several states and territories of Australia as the Anglican Church of Australia Act 1961 or 1962.

EXPECTATIONS

- 4 The dioceses of this church look to each other to spend time with openness and patience to listen pray and study together in order to discern the will of God for this Church and its people as we seek to be led by the Holy Spirit into all truth and to proclaim the Gospel afresh in each generation.
- 5 Each diocese expects that all dioceses will support each other and co-operate in a process of discernment and seeking direction for the spread of the Gospel throughout Australia and beyond.

The dioceses expect each other to act with diligence care and caution in respect of any action which may provoke controversy, which by its intensity, substance or extent could threaten the unity of this Church.

R55/14 Responses to Refugees and Asylum Seekers

That, acknowledging the Federal Government's constitutional authority to administer orderly immigration policy; recognising the moral complexities of the task; remembering the daily difficulties endured by defence force personnel; and accepting that "people trafficking" is an insidious social evil:

- 1 this Synod nonetheless affirms the basic human right to seek asylum as expressed in the UN Convention, and affirms Australia's past positive record of providing refuge and asylum;
- 2 urged by the compassion of God the Synod, therefore respectfully calls upon the Federal Government to honour Australia's international obligations, and urges Government and Opposition to reconsider and revise some aspects of their current policy, including:
 - arbitrary treatment of people under the Migration Act (1958) depending on their mode of arrival, not upon their status as asylum seekers;
 - emotive use of the term 'illegal' to describe asylum seekers whose refugee status has yet to be determined;
 - continuing recourse to off-shore detention facilities;
 - continuing instances of immigration detention of women and children;
 - continuing instances of periods of detention greater than three months, which put detainees at clear risk of serious mental illness;
 - imbalance of fiscal priorities toward border patrol and detention services, and away from diplomacy, regional capacity building and international refugee foreign aid;
 - arbitrary and retrospective discrimination against family stream applicants who have received permanent visa, passed the relevant tests and paid the relevant fees, but who were maritime arrivals;
 - the suppression of information about maritime operations involving refugees;
 - the secrecy surrounding the operation of offshore detention centres;
 - risk of alienation, and barriers to integration, from lack of access to government services under limited visa conditions; and
 - the rapidly changing policy environment that often leaves asylum seekers and their advocates uncertain of how to proceed.
- 3 the Synod urges Government and Opposition to work with regional neighbours and the UNHCR to develop a compassionate and workable regional response to refugees and asylum seekers, also to enable quicker processing and acceptance of greater numbers of refugees located in UN refugee camps close to the countries of origin they have left and to develop immigration policies that are more just and compassionate, so that they can be remembered with pride by future generations of Australians, while appropriately protecting the current generation of Australians;
- 4 the Synod also recognizes with gratitude the work of Anglican auspiced refugee agencies; existing refugee ministries of local churches: it encourages more local churches to engage in loving refugees with practical care and sharing Christ's love, and commends study resources and work of the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce (ACRT – www.australianchurchesrefugeetaskforce.com.au);
- 5 requests the Primate to advise the Prime Minister, Minister of Immigration and Border Protection, and the Leader of the Opposition of the contents of the motion.

R58/14 Mr Max Horton OAM

That:

This General Synod notes that this Synod is probably the last at which Mr Max Horton OAM will be a representative for the Diocese of Northern Territory.

This Synod profusely thanks Max for this work for the General Synod over 41 years, including time as the Deputy President of the Appellate Tribunal, as the Lay Secretary of General Synod and as an Australian representative on the Anglican Consultative Council, and wishes him God's every blessing for the future.

R60/14 Resourcing the Royal Commission Working Group

That:

- 1 This General Synod welcomes the Interim Report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The General Synod expresses its commitment to continuing the work with the Royal Commission so that child sexual abuse can find no place within Australia society in the Anglican Church of Australia.
- 2 That the General Synod authorise the General Secretary to employ a Royal Commission Officer to perform the functions set out in the report on page 7-250 in Book 7 of the Synod papers, in consultation with the Metropolitans, on a contract basis for a total remuneration package of up to \$120,000 per annum, and that the expenditure so incurred be recouped from the Statutory Fund by an additional assessment over and above 3.5% cap resolved by the Standing Committee in November 2013 (Resolution SC2013/2/40).
- 3 That the General Synod authorise the Royal Commission Working Group, in consultation with the Metropolitans, to incur costs in relation to the hearing by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse as the Working Group deems appropriate up to a limit of \$300,000 to be paid from the Reserve Fund.

R64/14 Gambling in Australia

This Synod notes the Federal Parliament's inactivity in terms of responding effectively to the Productivity Commission's recommendations in its 2010 report into gambling. Synod grieves for the hundreds of thousands of Australians damaged by pervasive problem gambling throughout our community.

Therefore Synod again urges Federal, State and Territory parliaments to enact effective measures – as recommended by experts independent of the gambling industry – to reduce the impact and incidence of problem gambling, especially via poker machines, but also in the rapidly growing area of online gambling.

In addition, Synod calls on all levels of government to take long-term steps to reduce their reliance on revenue raised by taxation on gambling.

Synod also refers the issue of gambling and associated problems to the Public Affairs Commission for its careful consideration and requests a report in response by the next General Synod.

R65/14 Report of Viability and Structures Task Force

That Synod:

1. Welcomes the Report of the Viability and Structures Task Force.
2. Resolves to:
 - (a) Refer the Report to the dioceses for their consideration and response to the Standing Committee of General Synod by 31 October 2014,
 - (b) Commend the Diocesan Financial Advisory Group (DFAG) for their work on the financial well-being of dioceses and request all dioceses to co-operate with DFAG as they continue with that task,
 - (c) Request the Provincial bodies within the Anglican Church of Australia to each institute an urgent review of the number and boundaries of dioceses in their respective Province including consideration of boundaries across current provincial borders, using as a guide the viability criteria outlined in this Report,
 - (d) Request the Australian Bishops' Meeting to develop a protocol for the training of new bishops in the Anglican Church of Australia,

- (e) Refers the Report to the Fresh Expressions Australia Task Force, Anglicare Australia, the Anglican School's Network and other organisations within the Church with a request that they report to the Standing Committee of General Synod and to the Dioceses as to how they can best assist in responding to the issues raised,
- (f) Requests the Ministry Commission of General Synod to examine the issues from the Report related to the provision and training for ordained ministry, and the various current models of non-stipendiary ministry in the Anglican Church of Australia and the development of appropriate standards of selection, training and professional development, and to report to the Standing Committee of General Synod and to the Dioceses,
- (g) Requests the Fresh Expressions Australia Task Force to consider the questions of diocesan vitality and viability together.
3. Requests the Standing Committee of General Synod to:
- (a) Establish a Steering Group of seven persons:
- to plan and coordinate the dissemination of the Report and the responses of the dioceses
 - to develop and implement strategies to address the issues raised in the report.
- (b) Establish DFAG as a Task Force of General Synod under the Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon 1998 and establish its Terms of Reference.
- (c) Establish, through the Australian Registrar's Network, a programme of ongoing training for Registrars and senior diocesan administration staff.
- (d) Seek agreement from the dioceses on a comprehensive and holistic way in which General Synod can address the needs of Dioceses seeking help with financial difficulties, risk management, governance concerns professional standards and operational viability.
4. Receives the report from the Diocesan Financial Advisory Group (DFAG).
5. Refers the matters raised therein for further consideration by the Standing Committee.
6. Synod reaffirms its confidence in the future of the Anglican Church of Australia (Synod resolution 12-01) and calls upon all Diocesan Synods to examine the Matthew 28 text containing the Great Commission, and encourages all Anglican ministries to make disciples of Christ, from peoples of all nations, baptizing them, and teaching them from the Bible to observe all the words of Christ; and consider what cultural and ministry emphasis changes need to occur, within every Diocese, in order to increase each Diocese' effectiveness in raising up disciple-making disciples of Christ.
7. With respect to the strategies referred to in paragraph 3(a), the following matters be referred to the Standing Committee for consideration and for report to each diocese as soon as possible:
- (a) legislation or other actions which the Standing Committee recommends to implement the strategies developed by the Steering Group;
- (b) the convening of a special general synod as soon as practicable for the sole purpose of considering such strategies and any necessary legislation;
- (c) whether the special general synod should involve small groups discussions prior to any legislation or other actions being debated in the special general synod; and
- (d) ways to minimize the cost the special general synod.

R66/14 Conversation on Marriage

That this Synod:

- 1 acknowledges the conversation continuing in this Church about the celebration of marriage with respect to eligibility of persons who have not been baptised to be married in Anglican churches, and
- 2 requests the Liturgy and Doctrine Commissions to consider ways in which they may inform and support that conversation after this Session, such as:
- the possibility of a joint meeting focusing on this topic in the next two years;
 - preparation and publication of a volume of essays;
 - holding one or more workshops or consultations enabling communication and conversation on key issues of sacramental theology, liturgical practice, and related missiological and pastoral considerations.

R67/14 Resources for Hearing Confessions

That the General Synod requests the National Bishops' Meeting to provide suitable resources for use by those hearing confessions which address the issues surrounding penitence, contrition and amendment of life in the light of contemporary expectations concerning transparency and disclosure.

R70/14 The Revd Canon Dr Bruce Ballantine-Jones OAM

That this Synod, recognising this is likely to be the last synod at which The Revd Canon Dr Bruce Ballantine-Jones OAM will be present.

Thanks God for Bruce's service of the crucified and risen Christ and in particular for his contributions to the General Synod ever since he was first elected as a representative of the Diocese of Sydney in 1985. Bruce's energetic participation in a variety of committees serving the General Synod has enriched our life and we wish to thank him and pray for God's blessing on his future life and ministry.

R71/14 Mr Neil Cameron

That this Synod notes that this will be the last General Synod that Mr Neil Cameron will be a representative for the Diocese of Sydney.

This Synod gives great thanks to Neil's pithy and sententious service to the Anglican Church of Australia through his continuous membership of this Synod from the Fourth General Synod in 1973 to the Sixteenth General Synod in 2014.

This Synod particularly notes his insightful time on the General Synod Standing Committee and his perceptive service on the Church Law Commission during the period when the Canons of 1603 were revised for Australian use.

Finally this Synod wishes Neil and Marcia, God's every blessing for the future.