General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui Report

**Common Life Liturgical Commission 2016-2018 (Jan 2018 Draft)**

The Common Life Liturgical Commission has had a fulfilling last two years, and the members have worked together well in engaging with liturgical issues and practices across our 3 Tikanga church. At the first meeting of the Commission, after Te Hīnota Whānui 2016, Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu stepped down as Chair and nominated the Venerable Carole Hughes. The Commission continue to be deeply grateful for the liturgical insight and support that Pihopa Te Kitohi offers to the group and wider church, and wish to thank him sincerely for his leadership of this Commission.

In addition to the items highlighted below the Commission has responded to many liturgical queries and issues from across our church. The issues that have been discussed include: reserved sacrament guidelines, advice on rituals in Anglican funerals, an app for lectionary and other resources, youth and children’s liturgical resources, gender inclusive liturgical language, hymns, Aotearoa Sunday, a preaching guide publication, lectionary suggestions, For All the Saints, and the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The following report includes details on key projects that the Liturgical Commission has been working on over the past two years.

**A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa History**

A few years ago, the Liturgical Commission was invited by General Synod Standing Committee to publish a book on the history of *A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*. The Reverend Geoff Haworth was commissioned to research and write this history and he has been working on this for some time. Over the past couple of years the publication has been brought to fruition. The intention of the book is that it captures a point in time in our liturgical history, and that it will be a resource for theological students as well as a point of interest for the wider church. I am deeply grateful for all those who have journeyed with Geoff and others in writing this important story, and I am very excited about the launching of it around the time of Te Hīnota Whānui 2018. The Advisory Group to this project was initially Bishop George Connor, The Reverend Dr Hirini Kaa, Dean Trevor James, and the Reverend Tricia Carter. Over the past two years the members of the group have been The Venerable Carole Hughes, Bishop George Connor, the Reverend Nick Mountfort, the Reverend Eseta Mateiviti-Tulavu and the Reverend Jacynthia Murphy.

**He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa translation**

Tikanga Māori and Tikanga Polynesia members of the commission continue to highlight the ongoing need to translate the liturgies into their own languages. Tikanga Pasefika have translations of several services being trialled – including Eucharists, Baptism, Marriage and Funeral liturgies in several Pacific languages. Tikanga Māori have completed translation of the full set of Collects in the Prayer Book. The Common Life Liturgical Commission moved a motion at their meeting in September 2017 encouraging liturgical translations and offering support required to enable this process. It is hoped that in the near future some of the translated liturgies will become Formularies through the General Synod process.

**Website and online**

We are aware of the increasing need for online resources and over the past few years the Commission has been working on digitising the prayer book, other liturgical resources, and resources from the El Kit. Mr Benjamin Brock Smith has completed the full macronisation of the online prayer book, and from that created the updated Eucharistic Separate print file, and we are most grateful for his work on this. In 2017 the digitised versions of three Te Reo El-Kit tapes were uploaded on to the General Synod website.

While this Church withdrew from an arrangement with Living Liturgy some time ago, it was with regret that we heard that the NZ contract for this liturgical resource, with Labora, was cancelled in 2017 mainly due to limited uptake of the resource over recent years. I wish to acknowledge and give thanks to the Reverend Brian Dawson, Bishop George Connor and the Reverend Jenny Dawson for promoting and developing this resource. It is hoped that the online prayer book resources will continue the intention and work of Labora.

**NZPB-HKMOA Printing**

In addition to the online material, the commission is also printing an updated edition of the Eucharistic Separate, as well as planning a revised edition of the whole prayer book, both of which will include the never before printed Alternative Great Thanksgivings and the macronisation changes. At the writing of this report the commission were in the process of getting quotes from printers, and so this task will be done in 2018.

**Traditional Collects**

Over the past several years collects for years A, B and C have been written and used across the church and included in the lectionary, and we have received a good response. Some revision, especially for consistency of endings, has been worked on. The Commission wishes to offer gratitude and thanks to all those who have been involved in writing, editing, publishing and overseeing the promotion and publishing of these collects.

**International Anglican Liturgical Consultation (IALC)**

The International Anglican Liturgical Consultation (IALC) is the official network for liturgy of the Anglican Communion, recognized by the ACC and the Primates’ Meeting. Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu attended the IALC meeting, including the steering committee, from Thursday 3 August 2017, which was held at the Leuven Institute for Ireland, Leuven, Belgium. Conversations included discussions on bivocationality, prayer book revisions and issues around the refugee crisis. The members discussed the subject of rituals and liturgies that have given expression to hopes and fears, and how they have affected Anglican/Muslim relations. Additional time was given to several topics on Anglican Sacramental Theology (sacramental theology being the topic of the Societas Liturgica Congress to follow), and a presentation/workshop on *Digital Tools for a Liturgist’s Life.*

The meeting received a paper on Steps towards Reconciliation - “A Liturgical grid for a corporate rite of penance.” This was the work of a couple of members who were present at the Montreal consultation. It suggests that there are essentially 8 steps in penance’

1. The need to remember and to honestly look back.
2. Lament: The voicing of sorrow and loss.
3. Recognising the humanity of those who have wronged us and done us harm.
4. Recognising our corporate sin: sin as something we do, something we are, and something society is.
5. The first resolve: “we must change.”
6. Accepting our differences – and recognising that our experiences are not the same.
7. Resolving to walk together.
8. Sharing a vision of a new future: ‘A new heaven and a new earth.’

Another paper entitled, ‘Freely Receive, Freely Give: Reflections on a theology of Reconciliation and Ritual – Gregor Sneddon (Canada), was presented. It discussed the experience of reconciliation in the Anglican Church of Canada. Their liturgy at the General Synod began with a: ‘Rite of Remembrance and Thanksgiving over Water’, and concluded with a Rite of Return’ including a sending rite. The paper also provides some theological principles of reconciliation. It explores the themes of metanoia, eschatology, identity, baptism, free will and repentance. “The Ottawa Rite of Remembrance and Return is one application of some theological themes of reconciliation in the context of the Anglican Church of Canada and its relationship with the First Peoples of Canada.”

Walter Knowles delivered a paper – “Receiving Absolution – Doing Penance” – some thoughts towards a Sacramental Reconciliation of People. In his paper, Walter discusses the subject of recognising colonialism, the practice of sacramental reconciliation (involving contrition, confession, satisfaction [penance] and absolution – Augustine), Confession, eschatological sacramentality etc.

The next consultation / conference will be in 2019 in Hong Kong.

**Baptism/Confirmation proposals**

As reported in the Te Hīnota Whānui report in 2016, a small working group prepared a paper on Confirmation, and, following the tabling of that report and its proposals at General Synod / Te Hīnota Whānui 2016 to allow wider consultation, over the last two years the Commission has sought engagement and responses from across the 3 Tikanga, and this will be reported back to General Synod / Te Hīnota Whānui 2018.

**General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui Liturgical Bills and Motions – 2018**

In addition to the 2016 ‘tabled’ proposals concerning:

A Way Forward, Baptism and Confirmation (and Ordination), and Guidelines for Christian Initiation, which will all return to the 2018 General Synod / Te Hīnota Whānui agenda, the following are being proposed:

Confirmation Bills for –

* Statute 724 Collect Endings, along with a proposal based on assent feedback for an alternative set of collect endings in place of Statute 724,
* Statute 728 The Grace in Te Reo Māori, and
* Statute 729 Quotations from Te Paipera Tapu 2012.

Other Bills:

* To include ‘A Week of Prayer for Christian Unity’ in the Calendar/ Te Maramataka.
* To amend page 511 and/or ‘An Alternative Form for Ordering the Eucharist’ (a 3 Bill option).
* To amend the CLLC Canon (B/XXX) to update its provisions.
* To provide a Te Reo Māori translation of the 2016 amendment to the Constitution/ Te Pouhere regarding ‘Authorised Services’.
* To add Te Paipera Tapu 2012 to the schedule of authorised translations of Holy Scripture in Title G/ Canon V. (if required!)

**30-year anniversary of prayer book - 2019**

Advent Sunday 2019 will mark the 30 year anniversary of the launching of *A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*. The Commission hope that our church can celebrate this occasion, and the members have already commissioned a hymn for this celebration, and are exploring other events/ resources.

The members of the Commission wish to thank Te Hīnota Whānui for their support, and thank the Reverend Michael Hughes, as General Secretary. Michael continues to offer outstanding administrative support and advice. It is also appropriate to offer thanks and gratitude to Bishop George Connor, who is the Commission’s Liturgical Consultant. Both Michael and Bishop George’s wisdom, attention to detail, efficiency and a willingness to assist at any time is a taonga to our church.

**Membership during 2016 – 2018**

Tikanga Maori The Right Reverend Te Kitohi Pikaahu

The Reverend Dr Peter Wensor

Tikanga Pakeha The Venerable Carole Hughes (Chair)

The Venerable Nick Mountfort

Tikanga Pasefika The Reverend Dr Eseta Mateiviti-Tulavu

The Reverend Sione Ulu’ilakepa

Liturgical Consultant The Right Reverend George Connor

General Secretary The Reverend Michael Hughes

Co-opted Members Tikanga Maori – The Reverend Jacynthia Murphy

Tikanga Pakeha – The Reverend Stephen Black

Tikanga Pasefika – Miss Anstarzia Havili

The Ven Carole Hughes - Chair