

## EGGS meeting 8th February 2022 at 8pm

### at St. James the Less, Pimlico

#### MINUTES

1. **Welcome:** John Dunnett (JD), Chair of EGGs welcomed everyone (125 members and friends) to the meeting.

2. **Bible reading:** The Bishop of Hereford, the Rt. Rev Richard Jackson, gave the bible reading (John 20:19-23). He spoke about us being sent as Jesus was sent. Resurrection did not erase the scars of crucifixion. We go broken & empowered.

3. **Chair's mentions:** JD explained the difficulty of booking a central, accessible and affordable venue for this meeting in the absence of capacity at Church House. He thanked Rev Lis Goddard, Vicar of SJTL, who was hosting us this evening. JD also apologised for any issues encountered during the booking process & also noted the challenge of finalising numbers with sufficient notice for the caterers. Members were reminded that most dioceses are willing to refund the cost of the meal but that should that not be possible & there be financial difficulty to speak to a committee member.

The new committee has been elected & were introduced. They are conscious of the need to increase its diversity & this will be addressed by co-option of other members in the near future. EGGs membership & the normal schedule of meetings were briefly explained. The Chair explained that EGGs desires to be properly inclusive, so all are welcome at its Synod meetings but explained that only members may vote.

Andrew Atherstone introduced a new Grove booklet authored by himself and Andrew Goddard '*Drink this all of you*'.

JD paid tribute to a longstanding EGGs member, Colin Slater, who had died recently. For many years Colin had represented the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham as lay member.

4. **This Group of Sessions Agenda items:** 2 briefing papers had been circulated by email before the meeting (on God's People Set Free and Canterbury CNC). Members made oral contributions as noted below to indicate items where members could helpfully contribute in debate or support by voting.

#### **Wednesday:**

- Safeguarding – J Gibbs
- Challenging slavery and human trafficking – Mr A Bianchi
- Clergy remuneration – R Jackson
- God's people set free – A Greenwood

#### **Thursday**

- Governance of the C of E – I Paul
- Persecuted church- G Hordern (Fringe meeting)
- Canterbury CNC – M Tanner

Related to these items members were reminded that the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) is hosting a global summit to promote Freedom of Religion or Belief in London on 5-6th July 2022.

There is an opportunity to contribute to the public consultation on the proposed changes to the membership of the CNC for the See of Canterbury (GS2253, [canterburycnc.consultation@churchofengland.org](mailto:canterburycnc.consultation@churchofengland.org))

**5. 'What is church'?** The Chair explained the plan to have a (EGGS Member only) study day at All Souls', Langham Place, London, on Saturday 18th June 2022, to help members prepare for the LLF business that is scheduled to come before Synod in 2023. This item of business was otherwise deferred.

**6. Synodical posts and roles:** the Chair reflected on the impact of EGGS members exercising their vote in the recent Synodical role elections. Rev. Kate Wharton was elected Prolocutor of the Convocation of York, the Ven Luke Miller (commended by EGGS) was elected Prolocutor of the Convocation of Canterbury. Dr Jamie Harrison has been re-elected as the Chair of the House of Laity. Dr Nick Land had been elected as a central member of the CNC.

There are further elections in the near future. Guidance about voting will be emailed to members.

#### **7. PMMs**

Simon Eyre introduced his motion.

#### **8. General Synod questions**

The chair invited members to email any interest they might have in helping table questions in future groups of sessions.

**9. Notified AOB:** members were asked to pray for & support if available the presentation of a petition challenging the banning of 'Conversion Therapy' at 10 Downing Street on 10/2/22.

**10. Prayer:** John Dunnett closed the meeting with the Collect for the day.