

**ANGLICANS FOR FAITH INTERCESSION RENEWAL AND MISSION
(AFFIRM)**

CONSTITUTION

1 DEFINITIONS

In this Constitution:

"Affiliate" means any affiliate of AFFIRM under clause 3.

"Council" means the Council of AFFIRM appointed pursuant to clause 4.

"Associate" means any Associate of AFFIRM approved under clause 13.

"Member" means Affiliate, Associate or Local AFFIRM Group.

"CA-NZ" means The Church Army in New Zealand.

"Church" means the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia

"Covenant" means the Covenant signed on 27 August 1993 by representatives of Anglican Renewal Ministries New Zealand, CA-NZ, NZCMS and Latimer and annexed to this Constitution as the Appendix.

"NZCMS" means the New Zealand Church Missionary Society.

"Latimer" means the Latimer Fellowship of New Zealand.

"BTC" means Bishopdale Theological College.

"Mission Statement" means the mission statement of AFFIRM contained in the Covenant and amended at a meeting of Council on 20-22 February 1995.

"SOMA-NZ" means the agency of the charismatic renewal named Sharing of Ministries Abroad (New Zealand).

2 AFFIRM

2.1 AFFIRM is a movement comprising societies, fellowships, groups and individuals within the Church. It formally came into being when the Covenant was signed.

2.2 The purposes of AFFIRM shall be exclusively charitable and are as follows:

2.2.1 the advancement of religion by:

2.2.1.1 enhancing the life and furthering the mission of the Church, and in particular pursuing the purposes set out in the Mission Statement, namely to call the Church to biblical faith, the life of prayer, spiritual renewal and effective mission;

2.2.2 all purposes necessarily ancillary to 2.2.1 above.

3 AFFILIATES

3.1 The following are affiliates of AFFIRM as at the date of adoption of this Constitution:

Anglican Mainstream New Zealand

CANZ

NZCMS

Latimer

SOMA-NZ

BTC

3.2 Any other society, fellowship or group associated with the Church which desires to affiliate with AFFIRM shall apply to the Council. The Council shall as soon as possible consider the application and make a recommendation to the next Annual General Meeting of AFFIRM. No individual person, or single parish or ministry unit may become an Affiliate (but may become an Associate). If the Annual General Meeting approves the affiliation the new Affiliate shall forthwith by duly authorised agents sign the Covenant and shall thereupon be entitled to appoint or elect such number of representatives to the Council as the Annual General Meeting shall determine.

3.3 Any Affiliate may withdraw its affiliation by giving six months' notice to the Council.

3.4 The Annual General Meeting may determine that a society, fellowship or group will no longer be recognised as an Affiliate of AFFIRM.

4 COUNCIL

4.1 There shall be a Council of AFFIRM which shall comprise:

4.1.1 persons appointed or elected by each of its Affiliates according to the constitution and internal procedures of that Affiliate

4.1.2 person appointed by a local AFFIRM group in accordance with clause 10; and

4.1.3 persons co-opted by Council under clause 4.4.

4.2 The number of persons to be appointed or elected to the Council by each Affiliate shall be determined by the Annual General meeting of AFFIRM from time to time. The general principle is that the number of representatives of each Affiliate will be such as fairly reflects the comparative membership (or, if more appropriate, mailing list) strengths of the various Affiliates.

4.3 Each Affiliate may appoint or elect a proxy for any of its representatives on the Council and that proxy may attend any Council meeting which that representative is unable to attend and shall in every respect be treated as a Council member during that meeting. Any representative who resigns or ceases to hold office may be replaced by the Affiliate who appointed them.

4.4 The Council may co-opt to its membership a maximum of eight further persons.

4.5 A member of the Council shall cease to hold that office if:

4.5.1 they become unable, under any applicable legislation, to be an officer of a charitable organisation; or

4.5.2 the Annual General Meeting resolves that it is in the best interests of AFFIRM that they cease to hold office.

5 COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council shall meet at least twice each year at such place or places as it shall decide. Subject to this Constitution it shall regulate its own procedure.

6 INCORPORATION

The Council shall apply to become an incorporated trust board under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957 and a registered charity under the Charities Act 2005.

7 POWERS

In addition to the powers implied by the general law of New Zealand or contained in the Trustee Act 1956, the powers which the Council may exercise in order to carry out the purposes of AFFIRM are as follows:

7.1 to open and maintain one or more bank accounts in the name of AFFIRM Trust Board;

7.2 to appoint and employ an Administrator and such other officers or employees as it may think fit and to coordinate or share in arrangements by which a person or persons is engaged to promote the purpose defined in clause 2;

7.3 to hold and administer property whether real or personal;

7.4 to enter into contracts in pursuance of its other powers;

7.5 to publish, or superintend, or otherwise enter into arrangements for the publication of, a magazine which:

7.5.1 broadly expresses the orthodox Christian theology of its Affiliates, as summarised in the Covenant,

7.5.2 may be called the AFFIRM Magazine or by a different name,

7.5.3 stimulates thought as to the contemporary implications of Christian faith,

7.5.4 and promotes the mission of the Church in all its aspects;

7.6 to arrange conferences designed to further some or all of the purposes stated in the Mission Statement;

7.7 to recognise local AFFIRM groups;

- 7.8 to appoint a chairperson in accordance with clause 8;
 - 7.9 to keep itself informed about the activities of its affiliates and to make proposals to maximise cooperation between them wherever practicable and to avoid undesirable clashing of activities;
 - 7.10 to determine which activities, conferences or meetings shall be conducted under the AFFIRM banner;
 - 7.11 to monitor theological and other developments within the Church, to make submissions or representations to synods or bishops or other clergy as judged appropriate, and to provide assistance to an Affiliate in any respect, if so requested by that Affiliate;
 - 7.12 to do such other things as may from time to time be necessary or desirable to enable the Council to give effect to and to attain the purposes of AFFIRM;
- but nothing will authorise the Council to act inconsistently with the Covenant.

8 CHAIRPERSON

At its first meeting after each Annual General Meeting the Council shall elect one of its members, who must also be a member of the Executive pursuant to clause 9, to be its chairperson until a successor is installed. The chairperson shall have a deliberative vote only. In the absence of the chairperson from any meeting the Council may elect any other of its members to chair that meeting.

9 EXECUTIVE

At its first meeting after each Annual General Meeting the Council shall also elect an Executive which shall comprise not more than 5 of its members. In between meetings of the Council it may exercise all Council's powers on its behalf, but shall report fully to the Council on any such actions at the next meeting of the Council.

10 LOCAL AFFIRM GROUPS

A local group of AFFIRM supporters who wish to be recognised by Council and to use the AFFIRM name may apply to the Council accordingly. The Council shall then decide whether to recognise that group and to permit use of the AFFIRM name, in either case subject to such terms and conditions as the Council may think fit. The Council must be satisfied that the proposed local AFFIRM group intends to pursue goals compatible with the Covenant. The Council may invite a local AFFIRM group to appoint a representative to the Council, in which event that group may appoint a representative accordingly.

11 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 11.1 The AFFIRM movement will hold an Annual General Meeting in March or April of each year. The Council shall decide the exact date and the place. If present the chairperson of the Council shall chair the Annual General Meeting. In his or her absence the meeting shall elect some other person to chair the meeting.

- 11.2 Any authorised representative of an Affiliate or Local AFFIRM Group, and any individual Associate or authorised representative of an Associate, may attend, speak and vote at the meeting. Any other communicant member of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia may attend but shall not be entitled to vote or (without the leave of the chairperson) speak. An Affiliate or Local AFFIRM Group may be represented by no more than 2 persons, and an Associate which is not an individual may be represented by no more than 1 persons.
- 11.3 The Council shall present an annual report and the annual financial statements and its current statement of goals and priorities to the meeting. It shall also send copies of such documents to each Affiliate.
- 11.4 The Annual General Meeting may be held in conjunction with one of the meetings of Council and in addition to the above business shall if practicable be addressed by a speaker on a topical subject.

12 ADMINISTRATOR

The Council may appoint and remove an Administrator of AFFIRM. The Administrator shall:

- 12.1 make arrangements for Council meetings;
- 12.2 keep records of all Council meetings;
- 12.3 attend to Council correspondence;
- 12.4 do all other such things as the Council may direct.

The Council may pay the Administrator an honorarium and shall refund any expenses incurred and approved by Council.

13 ASSOCIATES

Any individual member, parish or ministry unit of the Church who or which supports the objectives of AFFIRM and signs a declaration accordingly and indicates a wish to do so shall be enrolled as an Associate of AFFIRM. An Associate may attend and vote at any Annual General Meeting. The Council will from time to time communicate with Associates in order to advise them of AFFIRM's or Affiliates' activities and to obtain their opinions on proposals before the Council.

14 FUNDS

- 14.1 Any funds of the Council shall be administered by an honorary Treasurer. Any cheques may be signed by any two of the Treasurer, the Administrator and any other Council members appointed by Council for such task. The Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing and presenting annual financial statements.
- 14.2 No member of the Council or any person associated (as defined in the Income Tax Act 2007) with any such Council member shall participate in, or materially influence, any decision made by the Council or AFFIRM in respect of the payment to or on behalf of

that Council member or associated person of any income, benefit or advantage whatsoever, except where that income, benefit or advantage is derived from:

14.2.1 personal or professional services to AFFIRM rendered in the course of business or employment charged at no greater rate than current market rates;

14.2.2 reimbursement of expenses incurred by Council member or associated person on behalf of AFFIRM; or

14.2.3 interest on money lent at no greater rate than current market rates.

14.3 Any such income paid shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arms length transaction (being open market value).

14.4 The provisions and effect of this clause 14 shall not be removed from this Constitution and shall be included and implied into any deed replacing this Constitution.

15 AMENDMENT

15.1 This Constitution has been approved by each of the Affiliates before adoption.

15.2 This Constitution may be amended at any Annual General Meeting provided that:

15.2.1 the proposed amendments have first been approved by the Council; and

15.2.2 any proposal to amend the wording of the Covenant has first been approved by all the Affiliates before it is approved by Council.

15.3 Any amendment to this Constitution must preserve the charitable objects of AFFIRM and be acceptable to Inland Revenue and the Charities Commission and otherwise be in accordance with the law of New Zealand governing charitable bodies.

16 DISSOLUTION

16.1 AFFIRM may be dissolved by agreement of all the Affiliates. The termination of an affiliation shall not of itself constitute a dissolution of AFFIRM.

16.2 If, on the termination, winding up, failure, dissolution or liquidation of AFFIRM there remains, after payment of all of AFFIRM's debts and liabilities, any property or assets whatsoever, they shall be distributed amongst such of the Affiliates as are charitable organisations as at the date of dissolution and in such proportions as the Council has earlier decided (or, in the absence of any such resolution, in equal shares).

16.3 Upon dissolution, AFFIRM shall cease to exist except for the purpose of discharging any legal obligations incurred before dissolution.

Appendix

AFFIRM COVENANT

AFFIRM (Anglican For Faith Intercession Renewal and Mission) is a partnership of voluntary societies and groups in the NZ Anglican Church that have signed the following covenant:

AFFIRM seeks to recall the church to biblical faith, the life of prayer, spiritual renewal and effective mission.

What we hold in common:

We uphold the creedal beliefs of the Anglican Church, and affirm especially:

- (a) The love of God as the source and motive of our life and mission;
- (b) The Lordship of Jesus Christ over the church and the world;
- (c) The authority of the Bible as God's living word to individuals and communities;
- (d) The Holy Spirit's gifting of all Christian women and men for their varied ministries;
- (e) The centrality of evangelism within the whole mission of the church;
- (f) The need for continuing renewal of local congregations as living communities of faith and love;
- (g) The priority of prayer and worship as under girding all Christian life and action.