

Record of Decisions (Unconfirmed Minutes)

Meeting of Congregation – Newlife Uniting Church

9 September 2018

Newlife Uniting Church:

1. Recognises and celebrates that it is a diverse family, united in Christ crucified and risen, where all are welcome.

(Members: Yes-268, No-1)

(Adherents: Yes-122, No-3)

2. Changes its name to Newlife Church, such change reflected as soon as practicable on all signage and printed material, as well as online and on social media.

(Members: Yes-214, No-52, Abstained-3)

(Adherents: Yes-110, No-14, Informal-1)

3. Affirms the 1997 Statement of the Assembly as its exclusive position regarding marriage; that marriage is the freely given consent and commitment in public and before God of a man and a woman to live together for life.

(Members: Yes-250, No-18, Abstained-1)

(Adherents: Yes-120, No-5)

4. Affirms its long-held position that the appropriate expression of our sexuality is celibacy in singleness and faithfulness in marriage.

(Members: Yes-264, No-5)

(Adherents: Yes-124, Informal-1)

5. Affirms the decision of the Church Council that the property of Newlife Uniting Church not be used for the conduct of same-gender marriages.

(Members: Yes-251, No-18)

(Adherents: Yes-120, No-5)

6. Noting the lack of appropriate consultation with other congregations and councils of the church prior to the 15th Assembly, and that the decisions of the 15th Assembly regarding marriage is a matter vital to the life of the church, communicates its enthusiastic support for various presbytery actions nationally for the decisions to be suspended, pending further consultation, under paragraph 39(b) of the Constitution of the Uniting Church in Australia.

(Members: Yes-255, No-11, Abstained-3)

(Adherents: Yes-121, No-4)

7. Consistent with the paper 'Standing Firm by Stepping Aside – 22.07.18', joins a new national network of congregations and leaders, with the view to forming non-geographic presbyteries.

(Members: Yes-236, No-31, Abstained-2)

(Adherents: Yes-116, No-7, Informal-2)

8. Formally communicates these decisions to the Presbytery of South Moreton, Synod of Queensland and National Assembly of the Uniting Church.

(Members: Yes-266, No-2, Abstained-1)

(Adherents: Yes-125)