

THEOLOGICAL FORUM – COLLATED DELIVERANCE – GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note the Forum's range of activities and support given to the Church.
3. Recognising the Church's doctrine and practice in matters of human sexuality and marriage:
 - a. Receive the report "An Approach to the Theology of Same-Sex Marriage" as a resource to the Church and commend it as a basis for study and discussion and instruct the Ecumenical Relations Committee to invite comment and feedback from our ecumenical partners and report to the General Assembly of 2018.
 - b. Invite the Church to take stock of its history of discrimination at different levels and in different ways against gay people and to apologise individually and corporately and seek to do better.
 - c. Instruct the Legal Questions Committee to undertake a study of the matters which would require to be addressed in any new legislation permitting Ministers and Deacons to officiate at same-sex marriage ceremonies, with a view to presenting a Report to the 2018 General Assembly.
4. Urge the Forum, in consultation with other Councils, to investigate theologically the theme of reconciliation, with particular reference to the divisions within the Church of Scotland, Scottish churches and Scottish society concerning same-sex marriage.