

These are the Resolutions and Declarations of the Synod of the European Continental Province, passed at the meeting from June 8th – 15th, 2024.

**The European Continental Province is part of the worldwide Moravian Church –
Unitas Fratrum.**

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I. Unity, Mission, Province, Ecumenism

1. Letter to Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center

Dear sisters and brothers,

the Synod of the European Continental Province of the Moravian Church received reports about the situation on Star Mountain. We are deeply moved, and heartbroken to hear about everything that is going on, and what people are facing in the midst of pain and fear.

We appreciate your dedicated work that is giving hope to many people in this difficult situation as you care for the children and young people at Star Mountain.

We send warm greetings to all staff members, to the students and their families. We assure you that we are always with you in our thoughts and prayers.

As we kneel in prayer, we trust that God will give you strength, patience and courage to stand firm in the hope for peace and reconciliation.

God bless you all!

*Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love.
(1. Cor. 16, 13-14)*

The Synod of the European Continental Province 2024, Herrnhut



2. Expression of gratitude to the mission organizations of the ECP

Synod expresses its gratitude to the mission organisations of the European Continental Province, Switzerland (HMS in Mission 21), Denmark (BDM), Netherlands (ZZg), Sweden (FEBS), and Germany (HMH) for their interesting and inspiring reports.

Through the good and ever-growing cooperation between the European mission organizations a network developed. Various projects in other provinces of the worldwide Moravian Church benefit from this. We are pleased to see that young people from the European Continental Province continue to do voluntary service in other provinces. Through their commitment, these young people are also encouraged to engage with the Moravian Church and the mission organizations in their European home countries.

Synod is pleased that **ZZg** is working on its policy and dealing with fundamental questions such as "What is essential?" and we wish them God's blessing for that. We appreciate all the work ZZg is doing in over 40 projects. We would particularly like to emphasize the following projects:

Suriname is facing continued economic problems. In this light it is encouraging to know that ZZg is providing for example, support to an elderly home (Huize Albertine).

We are also pleased that ZZg is contributing to an emergency aid fund in Malawi as well as contributing to Star Mountain.

Synod appreciates the work of **HMS** in the Southern and South-Western provinces of Tanzania. It is good to see that HMS continues its long-term partnerships with the provinces in Tanzania by mutual visits, in addition to material assistance. We recognise that HMS as a small organization plays an important role in Mission 21.

Among other projects the synod is impressed by **HMH**'s work, for example in the following areas:

The establishment in Zanzibar of an educational institution "Herrnhuter Academy" containing a Kindergarten, Primary and Secondary School and Vocational Training. The Moravian Church has not been allowed to construct a church building in this predominantly Muslim part of Tanzania, but church services are being held in a meeting hall at the school.

Synod is grateful to HMH for taking the responsibility on behalf of the Moravian Church to support Star Mountain in various ways.

Synod recognises that HMH is about to implement a change of its constitution, in order to streamline membership.

The work of **BDM** takes place in the provinces of Western Tanzania and Rukwa, and BDM is also active at Lake Tanganyika Province and in Eastern Congo, Burundi, Rwanda and also in Albania.

Synod acknowledges with gratitude that BDM has started a project to build financial and administrative capacities at the Sikonge hospital.

We are thankful for the health project at Lake Tanganyika which has been going on for many years. Synod appreciates the involvement of young people in voluntary service in Tanzania and of on the board of BDM.

Synod is thankful for the long-term work of Klas Lindberg at **FEBS** and wishes him God's blessing for his retirement.

With pleasure, we read about the regular bible reading group called "Lectio Divina", which has become the heart of the work in Stockholm and brings joy to the whole fellowship.

We appreciate FEBS's support to the Moravian Church of Albania specifically the annual bible camp in Pogradec and the school program involving the Roma community in Lezha, from where a ray of hope and light is spreading throughout the whole community.

We also appreciate the involvement of development work with young people in South Africa and support provided for constructing the first church building in Uganda.

Synod is pleased to hear about the work that has been extended in **Gothenburg** after the pandemic.

We appreciate the various ways it is reaching out to all age groups and especially to young people.

The ecumenical engagement has proved to be very effective, so that the church of Sweden recognises the fellowship in Gothenburg as an inspiration for other churches.

We appreciate the support to the kindergarten in Burrel and the annual bible camps in Pogradec, Albania.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the staff in the mission organisations for their dedicated work.

I can do all things through Him, who gives me strength. (Phil. 4,13)

3. Report of the Unity Synod 2023

Synod appreciates the work done at the Unity Synod in South Africa and that 44 resolutions were agreed and adopted.

It appreciates the institution and role of the Unity Synod including its diversity and the inter-synodal unity committees, thus uniting the worldwide Moravian Church.

Particularly, the synod is grateful that resolutions #8 (Replacement of racist wording), #23 (Unitas Fratrum Apologetic Efforts for its Complicity in the Institution of Slavery) and #41 (Integrity of Creation) have been adopted.

The Moravian Church in Northern India started more than 150 years ago. Synod is pleased that South Asia, along with others, received the status of a mission province.

Synod expresses its concerns about the conflict in Nicaragua and prays that the reconciliation process will proceed.

II. Congregations and Church Life

4. Formation of a working group on the topic of "Recruiting members in the congregations of the Moravian Church"

The Provincial Board establishes a working group with at least five members from different regions to look at the issue of the steady decline in membership in the congregations of the Moravian Church on a trans-regional basis, to collect the measures already considered and/or implemented in congregations and to initiate further ideas for membership recruitment until the next Synod. The working group's engagement with this topic should create further opportunities to reach people.

5. Intercessory prayer

On behalf of the Synod, the following message is sent to the congregations, societies and institutions of the Moravian Church:

Dear brothers and sisters,

as members of the Synod, we would like to invite you to pray for the path of our church. During our synodal meeting in Herrnhut, we discussed some difficult topics:

- *staff shortages in the preaching ministry and in diaconal institutions,*
- *the challenge of finding good structures for the future of our congregations,*
- *the question of how we can counteract the declining number of members.*

As we continue to search for answers to these pressing questions, we ask you in our congregations, societies and other institutions to include the topics of our Synod in your prayers – in personal

intercessory prayer, in worship prayers, in prayer circles – to ask our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for his help. He is the living Word that gives us strength and shows us the way.

The following prayer can help us:

Jesus Christ, you are the Lord of our church. In the face of many unanswered questions and pressing problems, we ask for your guidance. Call people into your service to proclaim your name and to strengthen us in our faith. Open people's hearts so that they may experience and accept the good news of your love. Help that our churches may become a spiritual home for them. Help us to find good forms of cooperation between our congregations. And strengthen us to minister in your name to our threatened world.

6. Four-region model for the Moravian Church in Germany

Synod thanks the Conference of the Moravian Church in Germany for the 4-region model presented for the congregations in Germany. It welcomes the efforts to create a sustainable structure for the Moravian Church in Germany.

It asks the responsible working group, in discussion with all those involved (congregations, full-time employees, Provincial Board, teams) and in exchange with the “Centrale Raad” and the committees of the other countries of our province, to further develop and concretize the model presented.

The following aspects should be taken into account:

- Examination of the use of the term "region" in order to avoid confusion with other geo-graphical units
- What number and geographical division of regions works best?
- Clarification of the relationship between individual congregations and the regional association
- Possibilities and limits of voluntary commitment
- Existing local ecumenical cooperations
- Characteristics and relationship between local and regional congregations
- Opportunities for cooperation in administrative tasks (buildings, financial administration)
- Needs and tasks of full-time employees
- Goal: Strengthening the congregations

Synod calls on the congregations and societies in the respective regions to familiarise themselves with the model of the regions by the end of 2024, to exchange ideas and to start considering forms of cooperation.

Synod invites the “Deutsche Konferenz” to submit an evaluation of the experiences with the regions-model and, if applicable, a draft resolution on further development for the next synod meeting in 2026.

7. "Go with us!" campaign

In a time, full of crises, conflict and discouragement, we can trust God's promise that he is coming with us, that he is close to us and that he wants to give us hope. That is why we can and should be people of hope. That is why we can and should be people of hope. As Christians, as members of our Moravian Church, we carry this hope into people's lives.

For this reason, Synod supports the proposal for the "Go with us!" campaign: each congregation is asked to initiate and implement a project within one year with which it consciously reaches out to those who do not (yet) belong to the congregation; a project with which it offers help to those who live nearby.

Our goal is:

- that people feel that the Moravian Church supports them locally and takes responsibility,
- that people who are not part of our church and congregation feel something of God's love through our members and
- that people experience the encounter with the Moravian Church as a benefit for their lives.

The Synod asks "Haltestelle Cottbus" to provide an impulse for the launching and design of the "Go with us!" campaign.

The Synod asks Provincial Board to support and accompany the campaign in a publicity-effective manner and to create opportunities for participation and communication in its public media.

8. International voluntary service on Herrnhag

Synod is grateful and enthusiastic about the initiative of the Herrnhag fellowship to revitalise Herrnhag's legacy, by establishing an international voluntary service. It sees this as an opportunity to strengthen relationships within our international church and enable future generations to play an active part in building a joint future.

The synod advises a concept plan to be prepared by the Herrnhag fellowship. Such a plan may include:

- a clear vision and objective,
- discussion of sustainability (and integrity of creation),
- expected results,
- activities (for instance, volunteer service over flexible periods; seasonal workshops),
- a timeline and
- financing from internal and external sources.

Synod also advises the Herrnhag fellowship to liaise within the European Region of the Moravian Church to find out about framework conditions for possible volunteers and to take their information into account in its planning.

9. Family-compatible committee work

Synod welcomes young members who engage in our church. Therefore, the active participation of church members with children should be encouraged through family-friendly conditions. With the support of the family pastor and in cooperation with the congregations, committee work should be organised in such a way that participation with children is made possible and encouraged.

Synod provides the congregations and supra-regional committees with impulses for implementation:

- Invitations/registrations for (multi-day) meetings should - where possible and appropriate - include the option "Participating with children".
- If children are brought along, any costs incurred should be covered by the organiser, where possible.
- Suggestions for family-friendly organisation: active participation via video conference, devices with a connection to the conference room in a separate room with play facilities, etc.
- For events lasting several days at locations with day-care centres, children can be registered as guest children if applicable.

III. Theology and Liturgics

10. Theological Commission

Synod thanks the Theological Commission for its work and the report presented.

It asks the newly elected Theological Commission to devote its work in particular to the following topics:

1. Continuation of the process of the healing reconciliation with the history of slavery in the Moravian Church, in which answers are sought above all to the following questions, which are mentioned in the report:
 - How do we as Moravian Church stand with the bright and dark sides of our history before God?
 - What has prevented us from addressing the injustices that have occurred? Do these conditions still have an effect?
 - How do we distinguish between missionary history and colonial history and how are they intertwined?
 - How could it happen that missionaries saw enslaved people as brothers and sisters without standing up for their freedom?
 - How can we become less Eurocentric in our theology, liturgy and spirituality?
 - What do we need to heal traumata and injustice?

Synod recommends to the Theological Commission – also against the background of Resolution 23 of Unity Synod – to continue this discussion and to initiate discussions between congregations in the Netherlands and Germany, e.g. within the framework of existing partnerships.

2. Continuation of engaging in the topic of "Interreligious Dialogue", in particular by working on Resolution 2022/8
3. Working together with the Provincial Board on the overarching theological issues of training and forms of ministry (see resolution 23).

11. Report of the Liturgical Committees

Synod thanks the Liturgical Committees of the Netherlands and of the German-speaking region. In particular, it notes with great pleasure the work on the two handbooks for assemblies in the Moravian Church, which update the liturgical tradition of the Moravian Church for the present day. This is especially important because the Dutch Handbook describes the Surinamese-Dutch tradition. We ask both committees to continue working on both handbooks and to be in contact with each other on this task and on other tasks. This can happen through exchanging minutes and results, but also through meeting in person.

Synod notes with interest the first results of the inventory of hymns used in the congregations in the Netherlands. It asks the Dutch committee to examine whether the creation of a hymnal (in whatever form) is useful. In the event of a positive outcome, the committee should contact the Provincial Board about the possibilities of realisation.

Synod encourages the committee in the Netherlands in its attempt to find lectionary readings for the commemoration days of the Moravian Church. Co-operation with the committee in German-speaking region should also be investigated in this endeavour.

Synod encourages the committees to produce or collect and share liturgical material on topics that are currently of particular interest to our church. This could be membership development, the recruitment of staff, the reconciling process in regard of the history of slavery.

As this provides sufficient work, Synod asks the Provincial Board to reassign and reconstitute the committees.

12. Reports from the working groups on theological training/staff shortages

Synod thanks the “Working Group on Training Netherlands (WGO)” and the “Working Group on theological training/staff shortages” (Germany) for their work and the two reports submitted. Synod is particularly grateful for the concrete, practical ideas, results and projects that the Dutch working group has already implemented.

Synod encourages the Dutch working group to continue its work and asks the Provincial Board to set up a new working group for the German-speaking region. Cooperation between the two working groups is important.

Synod sees the following three priorities for further work on the topic of “training/staff shortages”:

1. continuing to work on concrete implementable ideas and projects that serve to recruit staff.
2. the Provincial Board and the Theological Commission are asked to discuss and clarify the overarching theological issues of training and forms of ministry in order to make them more flexible (see attachment „From the report of the German Working Group“).
3. the Provincial Board must give top priority to the issue of personnel recruitment in its work.

13. Revision of the Holy Week Readings

Through God's covenant, the Moravian Church as part of the Body of Christ is connected to the People of Israel (Church Order [KO] § 1100.1). We are concerned about the growing anti-Semitism of our time. We also recognize the danger of anti-Semitic tendencies in our own tradition. Special vigilance is required here in our church life.

With this in mind, the Synod commissions the committees for liturgical questions in the Netherlands and in the German-speaking region to review and revise the Readings for Holy Week in order to avoid stereotypical images and to counteract potential anti-Semitic misunderstandings.

Other concerns regarding text selection, translations and the selection of hymns should also be taken into consideration during the editing process.

To maintain unity in the province, it is important that the committees of both language areas work closely together on this task.

IV. Responsibility within society

14. Report of the working group on justice, peace and integrity of creation

Synod thanks the Working Group for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation for its work. Based on the feedback from the various congregations, we see what has already been done for justice, peace and integrity of creation. We are very pleased and thank the working group and ask that they continue to work on this important topic.

Synod instructs the Provincial Board to allow the Working Group for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation to continue working on these topics.

15. Climate Protection Working Group

Synod thanks the Climate Protection Working Group for its work. Based on the feedback from the various congregations, we can see what has already been done in the field of climate protection. We are very pleased and thank the working group and ask that they continue to work on this important topic.

Synod instructs the Provincial Board to allow the Climate Protection Working Group to continue working on these topics.

16. Climate change worldwide

Synod welcomes the call for sharing experiences and measures to counteract climate change.

Synod recognises the valuable work done by the working group on justice, peace and sustainability for creation and encourages them to make their material (for example, the checklist) easily accessible, at least in English, German and Dutch.

Synod requests all the congregations in the ECP to communicate and publish success stories on measures taken for climate protection through their already available newsletters. These newsletters may contain a recurring section about sustainability and climate measures.

Synod further requests such material from the congregation to be forwarded to the Provincial Board for further dissemination to all regions of our province through their usual channels.

Synod also suggests that the intersynodal committee for liturgical questions introduces a common liturgy (at least in English, German, and Dutch) that focusses on the creation.

17. Climate neutrality by 2045

The goal set in Resolutions and Reports 11/2022 that the ECP will become a climate-neutral church by 2030 is revised. Climate neutrality is the goal by 2045 at the latest.

All congregations, institutions and administrations of the ECP are called upon to make every effort to advance climate protection. The appropriate measures for this should be given high priority. The recommendations listed in the climate protection report under point 5 (Perspectives), which are already being worked on in the congregations, should continue to be pushed forward.

The other components of the Resolutions and Reports 11/2022 remain in place.

18. Goals for climate protection

The ECP supports the goals and projects listed in the report of the Climate Protection Working Group under point 5. These are in particular: taking into account the "Checklist for sustainability in congregations" as well as promoting the use of public transport. All ECP congregations and institutions are invited to adopt these goals and work together to achieve them. The progress of the measures taken in the congregations for climate protection should be monitored and documented on an ongoing basis (at least once a year) by a designated person.

19. Sustainable catering

For food and beverage offered at events of the Moravian Church, it is recommended - depending on financial possibilities - to offer preferably vegetarian food from regional, seasonal and organic production. As has already been implemented in most congregations, reusable tableware and as little packaging as possible should be used.

20. Democracy and right-wing extremism

Our Church Order § 1635 says:

(1) The Moravian Church recognises – also in light of its recent history – that it is being called to vigilance in the area of public life against all forces of hatred, contempt for humanity, violence, and destruction.

(2) The Moravian Church sees its task in working for concrete signs of justice (§§ 1600,5. 1617). In particular, it sees itself called to stand by those who suffer discrimination of any kind.

1. Synod recognises the increasing support for right-wing extremist groups and parties in Europe as a threat to democracy. The open, tolerant, and democratic society is a valuable achievement that must be actively preserved, defended, and further improved. That is why the Moravian Church supports the commitment of many citizens to democracy.

2. The Moravian Church is committed to the biblical witness and the Church Order. What is propagated in right-wing extremist groups and parties - especially anti-Semitic and Islamophobic slogans and actions - is often contradicting with the values that are important to us. The Synod therefore considers membership in extreme right-wing parties and involvement in extreme right-wing movements to be incompatible with holding an elective or executive office in the Moravian Church.
3. Synod recognises that "seeking the peace and prosperity for the city" (Jer. 29:7) also means engaging in the conversation about democratic values and improving democratic participation in our countries. We call on the Provincial Board and the congregations to initiate dialogue processes in this regard and to perceive this as an educational and proclamation mandate. Synod sees this as an opportunity to enable the members of our church to stand their ground against right-wing slogans.
4. Synod adopts the election appeal published by the Provincial Board for the 2024 European elections as its own and also sees it as a guide for further elections. The document provides valid criteria for assessing the election programmes of parties. This election appeal is attached to the resolution.

21. Report of the schools to the Synod

Synod is delighted with the 300-year history of school development in the Moravian Church thanks to the hard work of employees in a wide variety of positions in the schools – for which Synod is grateful. Synod is taking this anniversary as an opportunity to obtain an up-to-date picture of the diverse school landscape in order to continue to support developments in a positive way.

Synod therefore requests that the schools of the Moravian Church in the ECP area (Zinzendorf Schulen & Internat Königsfeld, Zinzendorfschulen Herrnhut und Zinzendorfschulen Tossens, Johann-Amos-Comenius-Schule Herrnhut, Evang. Berufsfachschule der Diakonissenanstalt EMMAUS Niesky, Christian-David-Schule in Latvia and the schools of the Moravian Church in the Netherlands Basisschool Crescendo Amsterdam and Comeniusschool Zeist) will submit a report on the development of the schools, the exchange between them and their integration into the life of the Moravian Church by the next Synod meeting in 2026.

This report will also serve as an opportunity at the next Synod meeting to take a closer look at the schools in the ECP and thus take into account the position of education/vocational training of young people through and in our church.

22. Strengthening occupational participation

The different enterprises of the ECP are already doing a lot to enable people with severe disabilities to participate in the job market:

(1) Church Order § 1483 (1), (2) states:

- 1 "The enterprises belonging to the Moravian Church or associated with it in various ways serve the purpose to provide employment, to support the Moravian Church financially in the fulfilment of its tasks and to provide services for other churches.
- 2 The Moravian Church sees in these enterprises an opportunity to apply and prove the principles of Christian social ethics in economic life as well."

The Synod substantiates this with the following statement:

"The Moravian Church endeavours to ensure that these commercial enterprises do their utmost to promote the participation of people with severe disabilities in working life."

- (2) As the institutions and administrations of the ECP are also employers, they, as well as the management of the enterprises, exchange information at their regular meetings on their efforts to achieve greater occupational participation for people with severe disabilities.

The following measures will be discussed:

- Adjustments to organisation and buildings to meet the needs of employees with physical and/or mental disabilities
- Utilisation of funding opportunities from public sources
- Filling jobs subject to social insurance contributions with people with severe disabilities,
- Creation of external jobs for employees of workshops for disabled people or so-called other service providers

To start this process, a one-off, joint meeting of the management of the ECP's enterprises, administration and facilities is suggested, to which the Provincial Board invites.

V. Synod, Provincial Board, Church Order, Policies

23. Report of the Provincial Board

Synod appreciates the report as a whole, for instance the following parts of it.

Synod supports and is looking forward to the report of the research project on the role of the Moravian Church and the history of slavery in the period from 1828 to 1873.

Synod shares concerns about the war in Ukraine and appreciates the efforts done by the congregations and reported on by the Provincial Board, to alleviate the suffering of refugees from that war. Synod takes the opportunity to express its concern on the human, material and environmental cost of this war.

Synod prays for a resolution of the armed conflict between Israel and Hamas. The work at Star Mountain has been severely impaired through the conflict, but was able to continue after a brief interruption. In the face of great suffering and fear for the future, the Star Mountain is a sign of hope and peace for many people.

24. Legal review of contracts signed by the Provincial Board

Synod is aware of the Provincial Board's difficult task of concluding contracts with high financial volumes in many different areas of our church. Synod recommends that the Provincial Board have contracts with high financial consequences legally reviewed internally or externally in advance and that the Intersynodal Financial Committee's advice be sought. In doing so, it should be considered in advance whether the costs of external advice or review are adequate to the volume.

25. Position in Human Resources Management

To further develop personnel management, three measures will be implemented:

- An anonymized employee survey for employees in congregations and at the administrative locations in Germany and the Netherlands is to be carried out promptly with the aim of evaluating employee satisfaction and professional expectations. The Provincial Board will discuss the results and evaluate the need for action. The Intersynodal Financial Committee and the synod will be informed of the results and the actions to be derived.
- New members of the Provincial Board should take part in training programmes in personnel leadership and personnel management at an early stage.
- In the event of a restructuring of the congregations in Germany, a concept for personnel development is to be developed and consideration should be given to how any newly created positions will be filled.

26. Allocation of seats in the Synod of the ECP

The Provincial Board is instructed to set up a working group until next synod meeting to develop proposals on how a fairer distribution of synod seats can be achieved among the regions, congregations, work areas and organisations. All regions, congregations, work areas and organizations should be explicitly involved and asked what form of representation they consider appropriate and desirable.

The following should be noted:

- it must be prevented that the different systems of church contribution lead to imbalances
- the possibility of future regionalisation should be considered
- the objective of proposal 8 (synod seats for Cottbus and Forst) should also be considered
- Synod should not be enlarged

27. Quorum of the Board of Elders

§ 1460 No. 8 Church order (KO) is amended as follows:

§ 1460

The following applies to the meetings of the Board of Elders:

...

8. *The quorum of the Board of Elders is not affected if the Board of Elders has fewer members than the number of elders agreed with the Provincial Board (§ 1454.6; § 32.3 WO).*

The Board of Elders has a quorum if two thirds of its members are present or connected via video link. Unfilled positions on the Board of Elders are not taken into account as long as there are not less than three people (§ 1453.6).

If a quorum is not reached, another meeting must be called in writing within three days; ...

28. Eligibility for election to the Provincial Board

§ 1436, 2 KO is amended as follows:

Eligible are all members of the ECP who are eligible for election to the synod (§§ 1409. 1408, 3 and 4). The synod can deviate from this rule in exceptional cases. Members of the Provincial Board, whose term is finished, can be re-elected.

29. Written election of a head for Department III

The election of a head for department III (Finance, Real Estate, Law, Human Resources) to succeed Sister Weber will be conducted in writing.

30. New version of the Constitution of the Moravian Church

CONSTITUTION

of the

Moravian Church **- European Continental Province -**



Version 2024

Preamble

In accordance with Section 1477.3 of the Church Order of the Moravian Church – European Continental Province (hereinafter: CO), the Synod of the Moravian Church – European Continental Province has adopted the following constitution as an extract from the CO.

I. General information

Section 1

1. The European Continental Province of the Moravian Church (Moravian Church) is one province of the worldwide Moravian Church.
2. The Moravian Church is a Protestant church that regulates its affairs independently within the framework of its Church Order (Section 1000 CO).
3. It is an association of congregations, congregational groups, societies, diaconal works, schools and missionary organizations in Albania, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, the Netherlands, Sweden and in Switzerland (Section 1001 CO).
4. German version: The Moravian Church and its congregations in Germany are affiliated to the “Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland” (Church Law of 12 January 1949). It is a member of the “Arbeitsgemeinschaft Christlicher Kirchen in Deutschland” and a guest member of the “Vereinigung Evangelischer Freikirchen” (Section 1200,2a CO).
Dutch version: The Moravian Church in the Netherlands is a founding member of the “Raad van Kerken in Nederland”. It is a founding member of “Samen Kerk in Nederland (SKIN)” (Section 1200,2b CO).

II. Membership

Section 2

1. Membership of the Moravian Church is acquired either through baptism or through admission to a congregation (Sections 1003; 1005 CO).
2. Entry into the Moravian Church does not require disaffiliation from another Protestant church (dual membership) (Section 1006 CO).
3. A member resigns by submitting a written declaration of resignation or by being removed from the congregation's lists by the Board of Elders (Section 1008 CO).

Section 3

The adult members are obliged to make a regular financial contribution (community contribution) to the tasks of the congregation and the entire Moravian Church (Section 1482,1 CO).

III. The Synod

Section 4

1. The Synod of the Moravian Church is the constitutional representation of the Moravian Church and has legislative power over the ecclesiastical institutions and the worship regulations of the entirety of the Moravian Church and the congregations; it establishes the Church Order and a possible Constitution of the Moravian Church (Sections 1400,1; 1417 No. 1 CO).

2. It elects the Provincial Board, entrusts it with the management, administration and representation of the Moravian Church and grants it discharge (Section 1417 Nos. 8,15 CO).
3. It elects the persons for the office of Bishops for the worldwide Moravian Church and the deputies to the Unity. Synods of the worldwide Moravian Church (Section 1417 Nos. 6 and 7 CO).

Section 5

1. The Synod consists of elected representatives of the congregations, elected representatives of the ministers, official members and members appointed by the Provincial Board (Section 1402 CO).
2. The exercise of the congregation's right to vote presupposes the regular payment of a contribution to the Moravian Church (Section 1406,3 CO).
3. The delegates are representatives of the Moravian Church and are not bound by orders from the electorate (Section 403 CO).

Section 6

1. The delegates are elected in accordance with the provisions of the Church Order on the basis of universal and equal suffrage by secret ballot in person or by postal vote (Section 1408,1 CO).
2. All members of the Moravian Church entered in the official membership register of a congregation who have reached the age of 16 and have fulfilled their obligation to pay contributions upon reaching the age of majority are eligible to vote (Section 1408,2 CO).
3. All members of the Moravian Church who have reached the age of 18, who have been members of the Moravian Church for two years and who have assumed full rights and obligations as confirmed members are eligible for election. The Provincial Board decides on exceptions (Section 1409 CO).

Section 7

1. The Synod is elected for six years and usually meets every two years (Section 1413,1 CO).
2. The Provincial Board may convene an extraordinary synod meeting at any time. It must do so if the majority of the voting members of the synod or the Finance Committee or one third of the councils of elders of the congregations request it (Section 1413,3 CO).

Section 8

1. The Synod examines the election credentials of the delegates and decides on the validity of the election (Section 1412 CO).
2. It elects a board for each meeting (Section 1415 CO).
3. It decides on its rules of procedure and the agenda (Section 1414 CO).

Section 9

1. Generally the Synod passes resolutions by simple majority of the participating members with full voting rights (Section 1419,2 CO).
2. A two-thirds majority is required for resolutions to amend the Constitution and the Church Order. In elections, an absolute majority is required in the first two ballots (Section 1419,3 CO).
3. The resolutions of the Synod are summarised in the "Resolutions and Declarations of the Synod" and enter into force upon their publication by the Provincial Board, unless the Synod expressly decides otherwise (Section 1420,2 CO).

IV. The Provincial Board of the Moravian Church

Section 10

1. The Provincial Board is the highest administrative authority of the Moravian Church elected by the Synod and responsible to it. It consists of at least three members (Section 1435 CO).
2. The members of the Provincial Board are elected for a term of six years. All members of the Moravian Church who are eligible to vote for the Synod are eligible for election¹. The Synod may deviate from this regulation in exceptional cases (Section 1436,2 CO).
3. If a member of the Provincial Board resigns before the end of his or her term of office, the position may remain vacant if a meeting of the Synod begins within six months; otherwise the Synodal Board shall elect a replacement in writing (Section 1436,3 CO).
4. The Provincial Board elects its own chairperson and deputy chairperson. The respective extract from the minutes of the board meeting serves as authentication (Section 1438,1 CO).

Section 11

The Provincial Board represents the Moravian Church externally. Documents and other legally significant declarations require the signature of the chairman or his deputy and another member in addition to the church seal in order to be legally valid. This does not apply to declarations based on a power of attorney issued in the form of sentence 2. The Provincial Board may authorise individual members to sign individually. Members of the Provincial Board who are authorised to sign on their own are entitled to grant sub-authorisations (Section 1439,1 CO).

The Provincial Board bears the seal of the Moravian Church (Section 1439,2 CO).

Section 12

1. The Provincial Board has the right to issue administrative regulations (Section 1439,21 CO).
2. In cases where provisions of the Constitution and the Church Order appear incomplete or doubtful in their interpretation, it shall decide until the next synodal meeting (Section 1439,16 CO).

¹ Amendment of section 1436.2 CO required

V. The Intersynodal Committees

Section 13

1. The Synod elects an Intersynodal Finance Committee with regard to the finances and assets of the Moravian Church (Section 1422,1 CO). The Finance Committee advises, supports and monitors the Provincial Board in financial and economic matters. The Provincial Board is obliged to consult the Finance Committee before making important economic and financial decisions (Section 1422,2 CO).
2. It passes resolutions on the business plan and the annual financial statements (Sections 1439,14; 1494 CO). It applies to the Synod for the discharge of the Provincial Board. (Section 1425,7 CO).
3. The Finance Committee is responsible to the Synod and is discharged by it (Section 1426 CO).
4. On the basis of the Finance Committee's report, the Synod can grant discharge to the Provincial Board without having to take note of all the details itself (Section 1422,3 CO).
5. The Finance Committee elects a chairperson and a deputy chairperson. These are also the rapporteurs (Section 1424,1 CO).
6. The members of the Provincial Board participate in the meetings of the Finance Committee without voting rights, unless the Finance Committee decides otherwise (Section 1424, 3 CO).

Section 14

1. The Synod establishes a Theological Commission as an intersynodal committee for in-depth consultation on theological issues (Section 1428,1 CO).
2. The Synod may refer certain topics to the Theological Commission for consideration. In addition, the Theological Commission may, on its own initiative, take up issues which it considers important for the life and witness of the Moravian Church (Section 1428,5 CO).
3. The Provincial Board is obliged to consult the Theological Commission before making important theological decisions (Section 1439,23 CO).

Section 15

Other intersynodal committees are the Intersynodal Nomination Committee (Section 1417 No. 24 CO) and the Intersynodal Committee for Appeals (Section 1550 CO).

VI. The church offices

Section 16

1. The constitutional orders of spiritual ministry in the worldwide Moravian Church are those of deacon, presbyter and bishop. Those who are ordained deacons are authorised to administer the sacraments of the Moravian Church (Sections 685-687 CO).

2. The bishop performs the ordination as deacon and the consecration as presbyter on request of the Provincial Board (Sections 688; 1671 CO). Ordination as a bishop takes place in a special way on behalf of the synod (Section 689 CO).
3. The office of bishop does not confer any administrative powers.

VII. The Congregations

Section 17

1. The congregations receive their ecclesiastical rights by resolution of the Synod (Sections 1417 No. 5; 1450,1 CO).
2. Councils of Elders and pastors are jointly responsible for the buildup, care, leadership and administration of the congregations (Sections 1450,2; 1674,2 CO).
3. The leadership and administration of the congregations are subject to the supervision of the Provincial Board. The Council of Elders and ministers are responsible to it (Sections 1439 No. 3; 1450,4 CO).

A. The Council of Elders

Section 18

1. The Council of Elders is the representation and leadership of the congregation (Section 1451,1 CO).
2. The Council of Elders consists of elected and official members. The number of elected members is agreed with the Provincial Board for each congregation. The number of elected members must be greater than the number of the official members (Section 1453 CO).
3. In accordance with the provisions of the Church Order, the elders are elected by the eligible members of the congregation by secret ballot for a term of six years by personal or postal vote on the basis of universal and equal suffrage (Sections 1454; 1455 CO).
4. All members of the Moravian Church entered in the official membership register of a congregation who have reached the age of 16 and have fulfilled their obligation to pay contributions upon reaching the age of majority are eligible to vote (Sections 1455,1; 1408,2 CO).
5. All members of the Moravian Church who have reached the age of 18, who have been members of the Moravian Church for two years and who have assumed full rights and obligations as confirmed members are eligible for election. The Provincial Board decides on exceptions (Sections 1455,1; 1409 CO).

Section 19

1. The Council of Elders elects its chairperson and deputy chairperson after each new election (Section 1459,1 CO).
2. The Council of Elders generally meets once a month, but at least four times a year. It must be convened if at least one third of the members request it, stating the reason (Section 1460,1 CO).

3. Resolutions are passed by a majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the resolution is deemed not to have been passed (Section 1460,6 CO).

Section 20

1. The Council of Elders decides on the admission of new members to the Moravian Church and confirms the full assumption of rights and obligations by the members in accordance with Section 1004,2 CO (Section 1461, 6 CO).
2. It decides on the business plan, approves the annual accounts and grants discharge to the church accountant or rector after the Provincial Board has approved the annual accounts (Section 1439,3; 1486-1491 CO). It manages the assets of the congregation and requires the approval of the Provincial Board in the event of important changes to the assets after prior consultation (Section 1485,1 CO). It ensures the payment of church dues (Section 1482; 1461,9 CO).

Section 21

1. The Council of Elders represents the congregation in all legal matters (Section 1461,11 CO) and bears the official seal of the congregation (Section 1461,13 CO).
2. Documents and other legally significant declarations require the signature of the chairman or his deputy and of two members of the Council of Elders in addition to the church seal in order to be legally effective. This does not apply to declarations based on a power of attorney issued in the form of sentence 1 (Section 1461,12 CO).
3. The Council of Elders receives an official certificate from the Provincial Board (Section 1461,18 CO).

Section 22

If the Council of Elders or individual members persistently violate or neglect their duties, or if it is no longer possible for the Council of Elders to function properly or if the congregation is threatened with damage, the Provincial Board may dissolve the Council of Elders or dismiss individual members and appoint a provisional congregational leadership (Section 1457 CO).

B. The Congregational Council

Section 23

1. The Congregational Council is the assembly of members of a congregation over the age of 14 (Section 1465,1 CO).
2. It is usually convened by the Council of Elders twice a year, otherwise as required or at the written request of at least one tenth of the members of the Congregational Council (Section 1466,4 CO).

VIII. The working areas of the Moravian Church

Section 24

The co-operation of the Moravian Church with other churches serves the inner unity of the Church of Christ and the witness it is called to bear in the world (Section 1101; 1102 CO).

Section 25

1. The Moravian Church recognises participation in God's mission as an essential feature of the Church and thus as one of its important tasks (Section 1700 CO).
2. The missionary task is carried out by the entire Moravian Church and its congregations, but in particular by its mission organisations (Section 1702,1 CO):
 - a) Brødremenighedens Danske Mission (BDM), based in Christiansfeld, Denmark
 - b) Föreningen Evang. Brödrakyrkans Vänner (FEBS), based in Stockholm, Sweden
 - c) Herrnhuter Missionshilfe e.V. (HMH), based in Bad Boll, Germany
 - d) Herrnhuter Mission Schweiz (HM), based in Basel, Switzerland
 - e) Zeister Zendingsgenootschap (ZZg), based in Zeist, The Netherlands
3. There is no pecuniary liability between the aforementioned bodies or between them and the Moravian Church (Section 1702,1 CO).

Section 26

1. Christian diaconia is also a task of the Moravian Church. It is supported by the congregations and the entire Moravian Church (Section 1615 -1619 CO).
2. The “Diakonissenanstalt EMMAUS” in Niesky and the “Herrnhuter Diakonie” are non-profit ecclesiastical foundations under civil law within the Moravian Church. There is no pecuniary liability between the aforementioned foundations or between them and the Moravian Church (Section 1620 CO).

Section 27

The Moravian Church maintains an educational organisation consisting of day care centres, schools, boarding schools and homes. Organisations responsible of such institutions are the Moravian Church, its congregations, church foundations within the Moravian Church or special organisations associated with a congregation or the Moravian Church (Section 1631,1 CO).

IX. The assets of the Moravian Church and its congregations

Section 28

There is no mutual liability between the assets of the Moravian Church and the individual congregations (Section 1481,1 CO)

Section 29

The funds of the Moravian Church and its congregations serve exclusively ecclesiastical, non-profit and charitable purposes (Section 1480,2 KO). This asset commitment also applies in the event of the dissolution of a church legal entity. The synod decides on the specific utilisation (Section 1417,11; 1485,2 KO).

Herrnhut, June 2024

VI. Finances

31. Distribution of Unity contributions in the Netherlands

As of 2025, the distribution of Unity contributions among the congregations and the diaspora in the Netherlands will be reorganised. The basic amount will still be distributed in accordance with resolution 20/2016. The personnel costs remaining after deduction of the basic amount (the apportionment) will be distributed based on full-time employees in the ministry, whereby the personnel costs of the national youth workers will be distributed evenly across all congregations. In 2025, half of the changes (increase or reduction in the apportionment) will be implemented. From 2026, the new distribution of the Unity contribution will apply to the entire apportionment amount.

32. Central accounting

The Provincial Board is instructed to consider a central accounting system in Germany in order to relieve the burden on congregations.

VII. Discharges

33. Discharge Provincial Board

On the recommendation of the Financial Committee in accordance with § 1425.7 of the Church Order, the Synod approves the actions of the Provincial Board for the financial years 2021 and 2022. Synod also approves the actions of the individual members of the Provincial Board in their respective departments for which they are responsible as well as for their joint decisions during the reporting period.

34. Discharge Intersynodal Financial Committee

Synod discharges the Intersynodal Financial Committee according §1426,2 of the Church Order, for the period from the 2022 synod to the last meeting in April 2024.

VIII. Elections

35. Members of the Provincial Board

Synod elects according to § 1436, 1 CO for a term of six years the members of the Provincial Board

Erdmute D. Frank
Lilian Stuger-Kembel

36. Presiding Committee

Synod elects according to § 1415 CO und § 1 Rules of Procedures the Presiding Committee for the next meeting of synod:

Peter Vogt, Chairman
Jacqueline Helstone
Johannes Näumann

37. Theological Committee

Synod elects according to § 1428 CO for a term of six years members for the Theological Committee:

Tobias Buchholz
Damaris Enkelmann
Ulrike Keller
Winelle Kirton-Roberts
Christoph Levin
Sandra Oosterwolde
Johann Waas
Vivian Winter

38. Intersynodal Nominating Committee

Synod elects according to § 1417, 24 CO for a term of six years members for the Intersynodal Nominating Committee:

Gerda Codrington
Friedemann Hasting
Claudia Mai
Volker Schulz
Marcia Weidum

Deputies: Katharina Kronbach, Barbara Reeb

39. Intersynodal Finance Committee

Synod elects according to § 1423 CO for a term of six years members for the Intersynodal Finance Committee:

Members of Synod:	Dietlinde-Bettina Peters Lydia Pont Astrid van van de Vijver
	Deputies: Clayton Babel, Albrecht Kittler
Representative of ministers:	Niels Gärtner
	Deputy: Albrecht Stammler
Four independent specialists:	Patrick Blümel Volker Krolzik Alexander Künzel Jan-Thomas Walther

40. Intersynodal Appeals Committee

Synod elects according to §§ 1550 und 1437,1 CO for a term of six years members for the Intersynodal Appeals Committee:

Representative of Jurists:	Barbara Groß
	Deputy: Ulrike Beck
Representative of Ministers:	Markus Gill
	Deputy: Annerose Klingner-Huss
Members:	Nelly Cambridge Christoph Carstensen Brigitte Lenz-van Wageningen
	Deputy: Hanna Molly

IX. Appendix

1. Extract from the report of the Working Group on Theological Education and Staff Shortage (Germany) for resolution 12

(2) Making the field of pastoral ministry and theological training more flexible

In order to enable as many interested people as possible to engage in pastoral ministry, we propose that the framework and regulations for ministry, including available paths for theological training, be further developed in such a way that the greatest possible degree of flexibility is achieved.

For the ordained ministry, consideration should be given to how in addition to classical theological studies other paths of theological training (possibly in connection with another academic degree or existing professional training) could be recognized. Important here is a clear definition which academic skills and other qualifications are required for ordination in such cases and what the procedure is that leads to ordination.

The following aspects should also be considered:

- What are core tasks for pastoral ministry, and what things are not part of this?
- What are our expectations that pastoral ministry is carried out in a professional manner?

In addition, we need to consider how other ministries and forms of spiritual offices can be made fruitful for congregational work, e.g. deacon, pastoral worker, acceptance as an acolyte, as well as the offices of lay pastor, lay preacher and lector from the Protestant state church context. The inclusion of youth workers, church musicians, people working in Christian education etc. should also be considered here. It must be clarified which qualifications are required for each of these ministries and forms of service, which rights and areas of responsibility are associated with them and how they can be appointed and supervised.

It is important that the model of different forms of ministry outlined here includes a high degree of permeability so that non-ordained church workers have access to the ordained ministry once they have gained sufficient experience and completed the necessary further training. Important aspects here are efficient and practicable paths for theological training, the consideration of the personal life situation and individual gifts and experiences.

(3) The spiritual dimension of the personnel issue

When discussing staff shortages and recruitment, the focus is often on practical and organizational issues. We would like to encourage you to also recognize the spiritual dimension of this topic.

The Biblical testimony points out that it is God who calls people to his service (Exod. 3-4; 1 Sam. 3; Jer. 1). Jesus asked his disciples to pray that God would send laborers into his harvest (Matt. 9:35-37). According to Paul, there are many gifts and callings in the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12). This raises far-reaching questions:

- What significance does the idea of an "inner" calling have for us in understanding and practicing pastoral ministry?
- How can we in our church, in congregations, in youth work, and in schools have a better conversation about the topic of inner calling?
- How can we help people to discover their vocation?
- How can we support the search for pastors with our prayers?
- How can the diversity of spiritual gifts be expressed in the design of various forms of ministry?

2. Extract from the report of the Climate Protection Working Group for resolution 17 and 18

5. Perspectives

The working group believes it makes sense to formulate a few principles and goals for climate protection instead of a comprehensive climate protection concept. We would like Synod and the congregations to stand united behind these goals. We propose the following goals:

1. We consider the impact of all decisions on the climate and the environment. We take the following questions into consideration, in this order:
 - a. How can greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions be avoided? (A)
 - b. How can GHG emissions be reduced? (R)
 - c. How can GHG emissions be compensated? (C)
2. With regard to the real estate owned by the ECP and the congregations, we pursue the following objectives:
 - All congregations, the ECP, HMM and other institutions in the unity undergo an energy consultation for their properties as a basis for all future building repair and refurbishment measures. In terms of a holistic approach, structural measures on the building shell and house-technical measures should be coordinated. (A)
 - By 2025 at the latest, we will introduce a form of energy management in all congregations and institutions of the ECP, which we will use to continuously monitor energy consumption. (R)
 - We are consistently pursuing the goal of switching to renewable energy for our buildings in all congregations and facilities of the ECP. The installation of photovoltaic systems is being promoted and supported. Where possible, we cooperate with other church and non-church partners. Old heating systems are being renewed and replaced with efficient systems that are as sustainable as possible. All congregations and institutions of the ECP only purchase electricity from green electricity providers. (R+A)
 - By the 2026 Synodal meeting, the Provincial Board and the congregations will draw up a plan as to which of their properties the ECP and the congregations want to and can renovate in terms of energy efficiency and by when. A financing plan will be drawn up. The possibility of selling buildings will also be considered in order to secure the financing of the necessary measures. Sections 31-40 of the Verwaltungsordnung (Administrative Order) will be adapted to current requirements. (R+A)
 - A model is being developed through which members and others can participate in the financing of photovoltaic systems and other climate protection measures (capital fund, energy cooperative, etc.)
3. The Moravian Church is widely dispersed and lives from the networking of its members. The area of mobility is therefore strongly affected. The goal of sustainable mobility is laid down in the ECP's business travel regulations. In principle, the most environmentally friendly means of transportation should be used. As a rule, this is public transport. Employees are offered the Deutschlandticket as a job ticket and JobRad bicycle leasing. The congregations are also requested to adopt a guideline for environmentally friendly mobility and to pursue the following objectives:
 - For all meetings, conferences, etc., we check whether they are possible in digital form or whether a meeting is necessary. (A)
 - We promote and support the use of local and long-distance public transportation and the use of bicycles. (A+R)
 - We encourage and support participation in car sharing and support local car sharing initiatives. (R)
 - Electric mobility is promoted for the purchase of vehicles used primarily for business purposes in rural regions. (R)

- We offset the GHG emissions caused by business car journeys by providing financial support for projects whose GHG-reducing effectiveness has been verified. The same applies to air travel if this is unavoidable. (C)
 - We reaffirm the concrete steps set out in Resolution 11/2022 in the sense of a voluntary commitment.
4. We are committed to filling the "Checklist for Sustainability in Congregations" with life and working with it not only in the congregations, but also in the institutions of the ECP. Every year, congregations and ECP formulate their own sustainability goals that they want to achieve. At the end of the year, they give an account of the steps they have taken as part of their annual report. The topics of climate protection and the integrity of creation are regularly discussed at Synod meetings, at congregation councils and in church services.

3. Election call of the Provincial Board for resolution 20

Before the 2024 elections to the European Parliament

Elections will be held in Europe from June 6-9, 2024. Does this concern us?

Yes, because §10 of our Church Order states:

Jesus Christ maintains in love and faithfulness His commitment to this fallen world. Therefore we must remain concerned for this world. We may not withdraw from it through indifference, pride or fear.

Participating in democratic elections is one way in which we can take care of our part of the world. We therefore ask you, if you have the opportunity, to take part in the elections to the European Parliament. The Church Order places us in the wider ecumenical context. Many other churches have also called on their members to assume their responsibility for social coexistence.

Together with the universal Christian Church, the Unitas Fratrum challenges humanity with the message of the love of God.

The message of God's love can be challenging. We should consider our actions in the light of this message: Let all that you do be done in love (annual motto 1 Corinthians 16:14). It is therefore also an election recommendation against parties in our countries that stir up hatred and exclusion. This also applies to parties that are unilaterally committed to securing the prosperity of the few, enforcing the rights of the (more) powerful and national or eurocentric egoism.

(The Moravian Church is) striving to promote the peace of the world and seeking to attain what is best for all.

There is a war, also in Europe. There are different answers among Christians as to how to end it. That is hard to bear. Our solidarity is with all victims of armed conflict and not with the aggressors.

Political responsibility should not be entrusted to parties whose behavior and language divide societies and prepare the ground for violent conflict resolution. In this election campaign, we are calling on all political forces and parties to support sustainable, civil conflict management.

And because we know that peace cannot be maintained without justice, striving for more justice in intra-european and global (economic) relations is an election criterion.

We also know that the climate catastrophe caused by humans is leading to ever greater injustice and violent conflicts. That is why working to limit global warming is one of our election criteria.

The call to “seek the best for all” (according to Jeremiah 29:7) refers to all people and can be heard as a reference to human rights. Where parties openly or covertly propagate discrimination or racism, exclusion of the weaker and those of other faiths, restriction of freedom of expression, etc., this is not compatible with the values of our church order.

For the sake of this world, the Unitas Fratrum hopes for and looks to the day when the victory of Christ will be manifest over sin and death and the new world will appear.

Our hope for the new heaven and the new earth, in which justice dwells (2 Peter 3:13), gives us the strength to make our voice heard today against injustice and powers that are hostile to life. Waiting includes our active participation in shaping a democratic, open society.

Dear brothers and sisters in Albania and Switzerland, we ask for your intercession in the coming elections in Europe. But not only in these, but in all elections in our countries in the near future, we must pay particular attention to what guidance the biblical message and our church order can give us in our election decisions.

4. Memorandum on refugee work

The situation for refugees and migrants in Europe has deteriorated significantly in recent years partly due to the new European regulation, partly due to national legislation and above all, the public social and political climate in many European countries is fuelling xenophobia and hatred.

The Synod therefore expressly reaffirms its support for the path that the Moravian Church has taken so far in its work with refugees.

In recent years, much has been achieved in the care, accommodation, integration and protection of refugees - by congregations, members of congregations, together with Stephan-Theo Reichel, who is responsible for working with refugees, and supported by the Provincial Board.

We see this work as a concrete testimony of faith and as a practice of following Jesus Christ in our time. It is a contribution to reconciliation in a divided society. More than ever, it takes courage to stand up for refugees.

Synod encourages congregations and individual church members not to grow weary in their commitment and

- to continue the dialogue on flight, the causes of flight, the fears and concerns of the population and work with refugees.
- to continue to plan your own activities or get involved in existing initiatives and groups that are committed to an open and diverse society
- to create accommodation for refugees
- to keep community spaces available for refugee work, such as language courses, meetings with refugees or integration-promoting measures, or to make offers themselves
- to apply for funding from donations received by the Moravian Church if required
- to sponsor free places on training and leisure programmes, in consultation with the youth officers

- to continue to grant church asylum in special emergencies, but also to support ongoing initiatives that are committed to eliminating the causes of flight.

Synod encourages the organisations of the Moravian Church to continue to promote the cooperation and, if necessary, the training of refugees. Synod also encourages the Provincial Board on its chosen path to maintain the EBU's existing and proven centre for refugee work, through which groups and congregations can continue to be advised and tasks coordinated in their work with refugees.