

An open letter on behalf of Inclusive Evangelicals in the Church of England
November 2023

AN INCLUSIVE EVANGELICAL PERSPECTIVE ON LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH

As we approach the November Synod, as evangelical members of the Church of England with an inclusive perspective, we continue to pray for all involved in the church at this crucial time. We gratefully acknowledge the enormous amount of hard work on all sides that this lengthy process has involved, and we now urge that genuine progress towards a more inclusive church be made at the November Synod. We are aware this process goes back 6 years to an original decision to discover in the words of Archbishop Justin a radical new Christian inclusion of LGBTQ+ people. This is still the vision we are looking to see implemented.

We believe the outcomes of LLF as supported at the February General Synod reflect the mind of the majority in the church, particularly that:

- 1. The majority want to see affirmation of same-sex relationships through the prayers for God's blessing of same-sex couples that are part of the suite of prayers and services offered by the Prayers of Love and Faith. Many would wish that we were going further than this.
- 2. There is a strong desire across all traditions and perspectives within the church to be more welcoming and inclusive.
- 3. There is a willingness to accept a diversity of views and a desire to keep the church together.
- 4. The church looks to our bishops to provide clear leadership working with Synod in advancing these convictions.

As evangelicals whose prayerful reading of scripture has led us to an inclusive position on same-sex relationships, we urge that there be no further changes to the proposals of the House of Bishops (GS2289), which were welcomed by a vote in all three Houses of the General Synod in February 2023. We believe that the full suite of prayers, including the standalone service of blessing, should now be commended for immediate use in line with the February Synod position, and we look forward to being able to give thanks in prayer before God for faithful, loving same-sex relationships. We also believe that pastoral guidance should be issued by the House of Bishops, as a matter of urgency, which will permit clergy to enter same-sex civil marriage, in accordance with Article 32, which states that clergy may marry at their own discretion.

As evangelical Christians we celebrate the diversity of the Church of England, and are committed to joyfully working, worshipping and ministering alongside Anglicans of different theological traditions and views on this issue. We believe that the choice to use the Prayers of Love and Faith should be a decision left to the conscience of the minister concerned and this needs to be protected for either decision, but we do not feel the need for any structural differentiation to accommodate different opinions. We oppose any approach which would divide the church, including alternative episcopal structures. We are one church, with a breadth of convictions, united in Christ. We recognise that same sex relationships is an area of disagreement, but we believe it is not one over which Christians should divide. In the individual churches and networks within which we worship there are sometimes diverse opinions on sexuality, so structural differentiation would only serve to divide those churches and networks.

After this long, careful process of biblical, theological and pastoral discernment we believe it is essential that significant progress is made at the November Synod to affirm the dignity and relationships of LGBTQIA+ Christians before God and in the full life of the Church of England. Affirming that we are evangelicals who are part of the Church of England we therefore sign this letter, acknowledging that sadly for some of us that has to be anonymously in the positions we find ourselves.

Signed...

REVD	DAVID RUNCORN	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
REVD	JODY STOWELL	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
REVD CANON	SIMON BUTLER	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
REVD	MARCUS GREEN	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
REVD	CHARLES READ	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
REVD DR	NICHOLAS BUNDOCK	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
REVD	STEVE HOLLINGHURST	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
VEN.	MALCOLM CHAMBERLAIN	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS
REVD CANON	KATE MASSEY	CONVENOR OF INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS

RT REVD ARUN ARORA
RT REVD IAN BISHOP

RT REVD GAVIN COLLINS

RT REVD DAVID GILLETT

RT REVD KAREN GORHAM

ALISON COULTER (VICE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE OF LAITY, GENERAL SYNOD)

REVD RUTHI GIBBONS

REVD CATRIN HUBBARD

MRS KATE BIDDLESTONE

REVD ROSE JONES

MRS LIZ MUNDAY

REVD SARAH WATSON

REVD [ANONYMISED]

VEN MIKE MCGURK

VEN ELWIN COCKETT

VICKY BRETT

SIMON BURROWS (LLF REFERENCE GROUP MEMBER)

REVD LAURA FATUROTI

REVD ELLIOT GEORGE

REVD CAROLINE ARMITAGE

REVD RICHARD SHERRATT

REVD KATRYN LECLEZIO

REVD ANGELA BRYAN

REVD ALI OXBORROW

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED] (LLM)

BRIAN PALMER

DR KAT GARDNER

HELEN HALSON (LLM, ORDINAND)

REVD KT TUPLING

LAURINA RUSHWORTH

MRS ALEX BROOKS

REVD EILEEN CONNOLLY

REVD ALI MIDDLETON

REVD SISTER [ANONYMISED]

REVD LISA SHEMILT

VEN. PETE SPIERS

REVD SIMON ELLIOTT

REVD DR HELEN WILLIAMS

REVD RACHEL HARTLAND

MR DAN OLIVER

DANIEL MANTELL-ROBERTS

DR JO WHITEHEAD

REVD DAN CROUCH

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

JEREMY TREW

REVD MIKEY FERGUSON

MEGAN FINDLEY

[ANONYMISED]

JANE DUCKITT (CHURCH ARMY)

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD LIZZY FERGUSON

REVD [ANONYMISED]

DR SARAH MATTHEWS

[ANONYMISED]

REVD JANE WILLIS

REVD KATHARINE MCBRIDE

REVD STROMA MCDERMOTT

[ANONYMISED]

DR CARRIE LUCAS-MOUAT

MR KEITH BERESFORD

[ANONYMISED]

MATT BERRY

JO WADE

REVD PAULINE SCOTT

REVD MARK CLOSE

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD ALEX HUZZEY

REVD DR ELIZABETH COPE

REVD LISA HOLLAND

[ANONYMISED]

REVD CRYSTAL MCALLISTER

REVD LYNDA DAVIES

JAMES LAZARUS

COLIN TOWNSEND (LLM IN TRAINING)

REVD DENISE MAUD

GRAHAM BOUGH

EMILY HILL

REVD ANIKA GARDINER

REVD ANITA RAGGETT

REVD MERRY SMITH

REVD IAN FELLOWS

REVD PAUL SEYMOUR

REVD ALISON TAYLOR

SARAH CROUCH

REVD DR STUART MOUSIR-HARRISON

REVD BUFF FORBES STONE

REVD CANON CATHERINE BUTT

REVD ADAM BEAUMONT

REVD

REVD SAMANTHA TREDWELL

[ANONYMISED]

ALICIA DRING

[ANONYMISED]

REVD EMMA SWARBRICK

REVD STEVE TAYLOR

REVD FRANCES SHOESMITH

REVD DR MIKE FIRBANK (AREA DEAN)

REVD LIZZY HOLLAND

REVD ADRIAN JONES

BETH WEEDON

[ANONYMISED]

VEN. RICKY PANTER (RETD)

MR BENJAMIN WAYMARK

[ANONYMISED] (ORDINAND)

PAUL WADDELL

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED]

RICHARD HOLLAND

MRS BETH BUCKLEY

CRAIG GILES (ORDINAND)

REVD ROGER FARNWORTH

REVD PAULINE HART

REVD ALAN BROOKS

SHERYL HERBERT

REVD SAM NICHOLSON

[ANONYMISED]

REVD CANON MALCOLM HERBERT

ALISTAIR LANGTON (LLM)

REVD [ANONYMISED]

KATH LEIGH

REVD LESLEY GREENWOOD-HAIG

REVD SARAH GUINNESS

DAN EDWARDSON

[ANONYMISED] (ORDINAND) MS **MARY DEANS** REVD KIRSTINE BUCHAN REVD [ANONYMISED] **CARLY HUBBARD ESTHER COOK REVD CANON** JONATHAN TRIFFITT DR JOHANNA RUSSELL **REVD** JOY FRENCH **GRAHAM POTTER REVD** VEN. [ANONYMISED] **ELAINE JONES REVD** HELENE ROE **BECKY HANCOCK REVD** JANE BURR **HELEN GANNEY** DR PETER MILNE JAMES PITKIN REVD DAVID DUCKITT **COLIN TERRY** (PTO) **REVD** [ANONYMISED] MR **GAVIN NETHERTON** (LLM) **REVD SOPHIE COWAN EDWARD ROBINSON** TRACY HIGGINS RICHARD BRINCK JOHNSEN **REVD** [ANONYMISED] **ANNE JOYCE** (LLM) MARK VERMES **REVD ELIS MATTHEWS** HAZEL LANCEFIELD **CAROL ATKINS REVD REVD** [ANONYMISED] **ANDREW WOODING**

REVD

MIKE PEATMAN

[ANONYMISED] **REVD REVD** HILS CORCORAN **REVD** SUSIE TEMPLETON **ALISON ABBOTT REVD IRENA GRUGULIS** PROF. NAOMI HEYWOOD **REVD** [ANONYMISED] [ANONYMISED] (CHURCH ARMY EVANGELIST, CHURCH PLANT LEADER) **REVD** [ANONYMISED] [ANONYMISED MR **DANNY TAYLOR CATHERINE MAYES REVD SUE JONES** MR SAM WILSON **CAT DUNCAN-REES REVD GAIL MINTER** REVD **RACHEL COLLINS** MARTA BROTHERS **REVD** ALAN BEARDSLEY MAGGIE TATE-DRUIFF **REVD REVD BECKY ALLEN** MESHA KNEEN **KATE SRAHA JAMES WILSON REVD TONY VIGARS** [ANONYMISED] **REVD CANON** ANDREW DOTCHIN (MEMBER OF GENERAL SYNOD, EDS.&IPS.) **NATASHA ANDREW HELEN DENHAM REVD LOUISE CASTLE SUE BISHOP ELLIE CLACK REVD**

RACHEL SMITH

STEPHANIE WADDELL

ANNE-MARIE TUCK

REVD BENJAMIN HUDD

CHLOE REYNOLDS

[ANONYMISED]

REVD RACHEL JOHNSON

BOB BAKER (FORMER PROLOCUTOR AND CHURCH COMMISSIONER)

SAM WILLACY

REVD DR ANDREW KNIGHT

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD NAOMI BARRACLOUGH

MRS REBECCA SANDLAND

REVD SHARON MURPHY

REVD PAUL SWANN

CAZ HEATH

REVD DAVID MAKEPEACE (RETD)

TIM HIND (FORMERLY VICE CHAIR HOUSE OF LAITY GENERAL

SYNOD. BATH & WELLS)

[ANONYMISED]

MRS [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

MISS VICKI LONG

REVD BUFFY LANGDOWN

REVD ANDY ATKINS

NATHALIE MARSHALL

JUDITH RENTON

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD PHILIP DOBSON

VEN. ANDREW BEANE

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD DR [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED] (LLM)

KAREN OPENSHAW

REVD PREB. STEPHEN COOK

REVD DAWN JEWSON

[ANONYMISED]

LAURA DALTON

REVD MARK WADE

TONI WADE

REVD CLAIRE WILLIAMS

REVD REBECCA TUCK

REVD DANIEL COOKE

REVD WENDY MARTIN

REVD CANON

ELLEN LOUDON

DR

REVD DAVID ALEXANDER

SU PARKER

REVD REBECCA YATES

REVD MARGARET BRIGHTON

MR BARRIE STEPHENSON

PAUL BESWICK

CHRIS BAINBRIDGE

REVD CANON LISA BATTYE

REVD [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED]

CANON MARGARET JOHNSON

REVD [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED] (ORDINAND)

ANDREW JYOTHIS ISAAC (ORDINAND)

REVD DR JOSEPH MOTTRAM

CAROLINE SPEED

KEITH BRETT (LAY PIONEER)

REVD SARAH CORNICK

ANN GATE

REVD JOHN KEELEY

KATE PATTERSON

REVD GRACE THOMAS

REVD ALISON REDSHAW

CHAMUNORWA TITUS

VERITY-ROSE WEBB

WILLIAM BENSON

RUTH PENFOLD

[ANONYMISED]

SAMUEL CHAPMAN

REVD CANON

GEORGE LANE

RICHARD BENNETT

STEPHEN ARGENT (LLM)

REVD PAUL MELLARS

REVD [ANONYMISED]

MRS TAMARA BENNETT

REVD SAM LEES

[ANONYMISED] (YOUTH WORKER)

REVD JAN FULLER

[ANONYMISED]

REVD DIANE BUSSEY

MRS VICTORIA MARSLAND

REV OLI PRESTON

LAURA EDWARDS (ORDINAND)

REVD [ANONYMISED]

MARIE LEWIS (LLM)

[ANONYMISED] (ORDINAND)

MRS CLAIRE MAUCHLINE

REVD CATHERINE PATTERSON

EMILY SPEED

REVD JOANNA PARKER

LIZ JONES

PETER ROBERTS

NADINE DANIEL (GS HOUSE OF LAITY. 347 LIVERPOOL)

LORNA THEOPHILUS (ORDINAND)

ERIC FOXFORD

NEVRYE DENNIS

MO TRUDEL

LAUREN BELLE

HOPE LAWRENCE

ANNE MUSSON

REVD PHILIP SWAN

VEN. TREVOR LLOYD

REVD TREVOR WYATT (VICAR OF CHRIST CHURCH BEXLEYHEATH, CHAIR OF

MOSAIC)

VEN. DAVID NEWMAN

[ANONYMISED]

REVD JULES MIDDLETON

CONNOR HANSFORD (ORDINAND)

[ANONYMISED]

ALI DAVIES-MARSH

[ANONYMISED]

REVD EMILY TIDBALL

PETER TIDBALL

MR CHRISTOPHER ROBERTS

REBECCA KLASSEN

MRS MARCELLA KING

REVD KATHERINE WELBORN VAN SANTEN

SAMANTHA WILLIAMS

CLARE BUCHANAN

REVD RUTH STRADLING

REVD MATTHEW GOUGH

REVD PHILLIP PARKER

VEN. NIKKI GROARKE

GABRIELLA RUSSO

MR CHRISTOPHER SIMS

[ANONYMISED]

ALEX MASTERS

REVD ROB DENTON

REVD CLAIRE MCILROY

[ANONYMISED]

REVD LAURA HNATIUK

JOSH CARLSEN

REVD IAN WEBB

MR DAVID FLORENCE

CANON PETER WALLEY

DR ANDREW HICKS (LLM)

REVD ANDREW DOWSETT

[ANONYMISED]

REVD MICHELLE PARKMAN

REV JENNY PETERSEN

JONATHAN MASTERS

PROF. LYNN NICHOL

JOHN PLAYLE

DR PENNY PULLAN (LLM)

REVD JOE MOORE

DAVID WHEELER

REVD SHAWN TOMLINSON

MICHAEL STOKES (ORDINAND)

REVD JOHANNA CLARE

REVD JULES WALKER

REVD DR AUGUSTINE TANNER-IHM

CAITLIN EDMONDSON

WILLIAM R JOHN HOYLAND

[ANONYMISED]

REVD PHILIP J NOTT

REVD GILLIAN WELLS

NIC TALL

[ANONYMISED]

REVD SARA-JANE STEVENS

REVD DR BEREN HARTLESS

KATHRYN OGDEN (ORDINAND)

KIRSTIE HUTCHINSON

REVD TRACEY MORRIS

BEVERLEY PLAYLE (LLM)

REVD ALEXA RUSSELL

REVD FRAN SMETTEM

KARA GANDER (ORDINAND)

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD BOB BAILEY

[ANONYMISED]

JILL PATTERSON

REVD JOY ATKINS REVD

ANDREW HOWORTH

LOUISE HOLLAND

DANIEL BROOKS MR

ELAINE GRANT

(ORDINAND)

REVD ALI WILLIAMS

REVD RICH CLARKSON

REVD ELIZABETH BURREN

REVD REBECCA COTTRELL

MARTIN POOLE REVD (MEMBER OF GENERAL SYNOD)

ANGUS GOUDIE DR (MEMBER OF GENERAL SYNOD)

> ANDREW MITCHELL (EMPLOYED CHILDREN & YOUTH WORKER)

JOSHUA ASKWITH **REVD**

REVD ANDREW GUBBINS

REVD MINA MUNNS

REVD WENDY WALE

REVD AIAN MACPHERSON

REVD DREW WALKER

ALISON FIRTH

[ANONYMISED]

REVD REBECCA BELL

EMMA CANE

PETE CLARK (ORDINAND)

REV [ANONYMISED]

REVD SONIA FALASCHI

TIM PACKER

NICK STEPHENS (LLM)

AMY SHAW

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD JOHN MACKENZIE

REVD ANNA ALLS

REVD DOMINIC HUBBUCK

MRS **VICKY MCQUARRIE** WENDY LEE YOUNG

JO YOUNG

MRS CARLY TAYLOR (ORDINAND)

PAUL LANGLEY

JEN BEARDSLEY

MRS SARAH HILL

REVD CANON LISA BARNETT

REVD DAVID EDMONDSON

KIA MACPHERSON (C.A.)

DEBORAH FOUCH

REVD ALISON BENNETT

DR RACHEL HARRISON-FRENCH

REVD STEVE WILKINSON

JOANNE HOBSON

[ANONYMISED]

REVD CHRIS HILL

HEATHER WHICKER

REVD SEAN BEAGLEY

REVD GRAHAM JOYCE

DR SIMEON WHITING

NEIL BENNETTS

MRS EMMA WINGROVE

[ANONYMISED]

CORIN PILLING

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD FRANCES GRANT

CHRISTINE BURGESS

REVD JACQUELINE DOVE

REVD SIMON WILSON

REVD DR SUSIE COLLINGRIDGE

MRS GILLIAN CAIN

MRS TONNIE KEITH

REVD PAULETTE STUBBINGS

MRS SARAH HARRISON

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED] [ANONYMISED] JO CHAMBERLAIN **RUTH NOTT RACHEL HOLMAN** [ANONYMISED] [ANONYMISED] PETE SANDFORD (LLM) **ALAN STANLEY** (LLM) SIMON RULTON **REVD** [ANONYMISED] **RACHAEL BROOKS REVD** [ANONYMISED] [ANONYMISED] **REVD** [ANONYMISED] **CLAIRE JONES REVD CHARLOTTE GOMPERTZ REVD** MRS LYDIA JOINER JILL BRADLEY TOM DI GIOVANNI **REBECCA KLASSEN DAVID SLANEY REVD** FIONA KOUBLE **REVD FRANCES FINN** MR **COLIN WEBBER REVD LOTTIE JONES BEN MERRELL** (YOUTH & CHILDRENS MINISTER) **REVD** [ANONYMISED] **REVD LOUISE ELLIS** [ANONYMISED] **SARAH TILL REVD RICHARD BUBBERS**

REVD [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD JOHN HEREWARD

THE VERY REVD DAVID ISON

DR

MR SIMON FRIEND (GENERAL SYNOD LAY REP FOR EXETER DIOCESE & CO-

CONVENER EVANGELICAL FORUM ON GENERAL SYNOD)

REVD PREB ROSIE AUSTIN

REVD [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD DR SARAH MOON

CAROLINE PETHER

REVD [ANONYMISED]

MISS REBEKAH WAKEFIELD

MR ROBBIE JOINER

REVD BOB HORROCKS

PENNY WHEBLE (LLM)

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD DEBBIE NASH

MRS SAMANTHA AARVOLD

ALISON WHALE

MR DAVID LEWIS

MRS EMMA PEARSON (VOLUNTEER YOUTH WORKER)

LESLIE KING

REVD HANNAH GORDON

VEN . ALLIE KERR

GRAHAM HOLMES (RETD LPM)

CANON DEBRA WALKER

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD ALEXANDRA LILLEY

REVD GARETH WARDELL

REVD JUDIE HORROCKS

REVD JO JOYCE

REVD EMMA WEBBER

REVD [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

MICHAEL NEWEY

REVD LUCY HOLLINGSWORTH

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

PETER RUSSELL

REVD BEE BOYDE

LAURA KEELEY

MRS GEMMA ALEXANDER-BLOOMFIELD

JONATHAN PARKIN

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

KARL SINGLETON

REVD JO LAMBERTH

REVD LIZ LEAVER

REVD AMY ADENIRAN

REVD CANON SIMON WHITE

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD FI BUDDEN

[ANONYMISED]

JANE ROBINSON

REVD SALLY-ANNE BEECHAM

REVD DANIEL SCOTT

REVD ANDREW AVRAMENKO

SARAH SUTCLIFFE

MRS CHARLOTTE HARRISON

REVD CAROL HARRIS

REVD [ANONYMISED]

DEBBIE HILL (FORMER DEVT OFFICER CHILDREN & FAMILIES, ELY)

REVD JANE YEADON

CLAIRE LING

[ANONYMISED]

HELEN SHERFIELD (LLM IN TRAINING)

REVD CANON

DR

ELEANOR WILLIAMS

REVD DEBBIE POW

REVD NEIL WHITAKER

REVD CATHERINE DUFF

REVD MARC TERRY

MR DAVID MOORE (LLM)

ANDY WARD

REVD ANDREW LARGE

REVD [ANONYMISED]

REVD SIMON TILLOTSON

REVD CANON DAVID MAHER

JESSICA HARWOOD

REVD SHERINE ANGUS

[ANONYMISED] (ORDINAND)

HANNAH HADWEN-WRIGHT

KATIE GREEN

REVD SARAH MAUGHAN

MARIEKE DERRINGTON

TINA POWNALL

CHARLOTTE SWAN

DAVE POWNALL

JOE P STEVENSON

[ANONYMISED]

PREB. PHILIP SOURBUT

MS HANNAH LING

ERIC FOXFORD

HELEN BERRY

REBECCA PAIN

DAVE BUSH

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

[ANONYMISED]

REVD [ANONYMISED]

NATALIE BURNAPP

REVD HUW EVANS

JOYCE THOM

[ANONYMISED]

ANDY GREEN

CATHERINE PARKIN

TERRY EVANS

REVD JANET MACDUFF

REVD DANIE LINDLEY

REVD SAM MACKIE

JEANETTE ACE (LLM)

DR JUSTIN THACKER (ORDINAND)

[ANONYMISED] (ORDINAND)

PETER GRAYSTONE (LLM)

REVD CANON MICHAEL ROGERS

602 SIGNATORIES

THE 120 ANONYMISED SIGNATORIES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND NAMES WITHHELD AT THE SIGNATORY'S REQUEST BY INCLUSIVE EVANGELICALS