

22.5 REPORT 3: DEPUTIES LITURGICAL MATTERS – SUBGROUP AFRIKAANS SONGS NUMBERING AND CLASSIFICATION (Art 193)

- A. Rev JL van der Schyff tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

1. Matters that the Synod take note of

- 1.1 *Instruction: Acta 2012:425, 2.5:* Attending to the classification of all Scriptural Hymns, Confessional Hymns and Scripturally sound songs approved by the Synod.
- 1.2 The Deputies made the following decisions and forwarded them to the churches:
 - 1.2.1 The existing numbering of the approved Scripturally sound songs in the Song book will be used in the interim volume.
 - 1.2.2 The new Scriptural Hymn: *Die Heilige Gees werk* – will be hymn 8-3.
 - 1.2.3 The new Scriptural Hymn: *Driemaal heilig* – will be hymn 1-5.
 - 1.2.4 The new Scriptural Hymn: *Eer aan Hom nou!* – will be hymn 1-6.
 - 1.2.5 The new Scriptural Hymn: *Getsemane* – will be hymn 5-5.
 - 1.2.6 The new Scriptural Hymn: *God spreek deur sy Seun* – will be hymn 3-6.
 - 1.2.7 The new Scriptural Hymn: *My enigste troos* – will be hymn 12-6.
 - 1.2.8 The new Messianic versification of Psalm 110 will be added to the “green” Psalm book as Psalm 110-3, while in the “black” Psalm book it will be added as second versification.
- 1.3 The Deputies are also, in contacting the Deputies Publications, to consider the numbering and classification of the revised editions of the black Psalm book and the green Psalm book as follows:
 - 1.3.1 A uniform method of numbering is to be established for the black Psalm book and the green Psalm book, for the sake of uniformity in the church and as cost-saving measure.
 - 1.3.2 Should a uniform method of numbering be implemented, how should the hymns be numbered – like that of the black Psalm book or that of the green Psalm book.
 - 1.3.3 The arguments for keeping the numbering of the hymns as it is currently in the black Psalm book are the following:
 - 1.3.3.1 It is easy to simply add hymns after the last number.
 - 1.3.3.2 There is a degree of subjectivity in the classification of songs.
 - 1.3.3.3 Some songs can fall under more than one classification.
 - 1.3.3.4 Classification can be done by means of a list that gives the numbers of Psalms and Scriptural Hymns according to the different classifications, as is presently the case in the black Psalm book.
 - 1.3.4 The arguments for numbering the hymns as it is in the green Psalm book at the moment are as follows:
 - 1.3.4.1 There is a certain logic to the classification in the green Psalm book in that it divides songs into the correct groups.
 - 1.3.4.2 The numbering of the black Psalm book is somewhat random, just adding numbers doesn’t make sense.
 - 1.3.4.3 There is a degree of classification to the first 50 Scriptural Hymns (black Psalm book) that was overlooked in the hymns following hymn 50.
 - 1.3.4.4 Dividing songs into categories saves time and makes the Psalm book more userfriendly. First looking up the different songs in the classifications of a separate list is tedious and time consuming.

- 1.3.4.5 There could still be a list that indicates the additional classifications of a hymn.
- 1.3.4.6 Classification of songs is international practice and there is also international interest in different song volumes.
- 1.3.5 If numbering occurs according to categories, now after 12 years would be a good time to review the categories and classification.
- 1.3.6 A general category could also be added to keep songs from being forced into certain categories.

Decision: Points 1.1 to 1.3.6 noted.

2. Matters that the Synod decide on

- 2.1 A uniform method of numbering is to be implemented in the black Psalm book and the green Psalm book.
- 2.2 The numbering is to be done according to categories.
- 2.3 The categories and classification of categories are to be revised.
- 2.4 In addition to the above, a list of categories is to be added that indicate the additional categories into which Psalms and hymns can be classified.

Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.4 approved.