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2026 General Election Address

Proposed: Revd Canon Duncan Hill-Brown

Seconded: Revd Adrian Evans

About Me:

I was born and raised in Zimbabwe, moving to the UK in my teens, I studied Pharmacology as at university then trained as a teacher, before I felt the call to ordination and I am now ordained and serving my curacy at St. John's, Walmley. I have always been a part of a local church and have been involved in many different areas of church life, including working with students. I am advocate of promoting diversity within the Church and have been involved in producing resources for the wider church. These experiences have shaped my passion for the local church.

I believe the local church is where the life of the mission of the church flows from, it is a place of encountering Jesus, a place where community is formed and a place where people grown in discipleship and can serve the wider community.

Why I am standing for the General Synod:

The Church of England's vision has always been to have a Christian presence in every community, and I feel called to serve on General Synod because I believe that it important to be rooted in the local parish but also contribute to the life and direction of the wider church.

As a curate, I am seeing recognising both the challenges and opportunities facing our churches. Good leadership is important in a healthy Christian community as well as clear biblical teaching can make a difference to a community. I have seen the positive influence a local church that is committed to serving the local community can make. I also want to see a church that is confident in the Gospel and want to make Jesus known.

I am passionate about ensuring that the decisions made nationally strengthen and support the mission of CofE Birmingham and the local church. General Synod has an important role to play in ensuring that all communities especially those that are underfunded and under resourced are cared for and resourced.

Mission, Evangelism and Discipleship

General Synod also has a key role to play in mission, evangelism and discipleship. I want to see churches that welcome people as they are, create opportunities for people to encounter Christ, and then walk alongside them as they grow in faith.

A church that transforms its community.

I believe the Church has a significant role to play in the transformation of our communities. The gospel changes and transforms lives and it also transforms how we interact with the community around us. A church that is healthy is church that welcomes people in, listens to the issues and challenges faced in our communities. It also a church that can engage with community, build relationships through working with local businesses, schools and offering support.

What I bring

Passion for the local church and its mission. I would bring experience of working and serving in different churches and experience of being involved in different initiatives that promote mission and discipleship.

Perspective and representation: as a young priest from a UKME/GMH background, I represent an underrepresented group at General Synod, I bring a wealth of experience in engaging with constructive dialogue, working with and across different communities and listening to different perspectives.

What my colleagues say

Revd Canon Duncan Hill-Brown, "I wholeheartedly commend Tendi to you as a young Priest, who brings life and energy to ministry, and if we are serious about growing the church younger, we need to recognise and draw on the gifting of younger leaders like Tendi in our Church."

Thank you for taking time to read this address. Please do get in contact if you'd like to ask any further questions. I would be grateful for your prayers and support.

Tendi