



## General Council News June 2016

Tuesday 21 June 2016  
Ph: 1300 736 692

On the evening of Monday 13 June, General Council gathered with devotions, and shared pastoral concerns and joys.

### *Deputy General Secretary*

General Council agreed by consensus to appoint Rev Dr Ian Tozer to the new position of Deputy General Secretary from Friday 1 July 2016. Ian will take responsibility for ministry across the congregation base of the church involving community engagement and support; faith formation, faith sharing and pastoral placements; and education, training and leadership development.

### *General Council and Standing Committee Responsibilities Review*

The Task Team, under the leadership of the General Secretary, will continue to move towards a revised structure, creating a Standing Committee for Synod, as well as one for Presbytery. Once established, General Council will cease. The revised structure will follow existing Uniting Church regulations and see some changes in the way in which Boards, Commissions, Committees and Working Groups relate to the Synod and Presbytery.

### *Congress Presbytery*

General Council were advised that the decision regarding National Congress' recommendation that the establishment of a Congress WA Presbytery be postponed was taken at the Standing Committee meeting held on Wednesday 18 May.

General Council agreed by consensus to refer the process for the development of a Congress WA Presbytery to the Covenanting Commission. Their tasks will be to address the matters in the National Congress review undertaken in January.

### *Beanang Kwuurt Institute*

Following a review of Beanang Kwuurt Institute by the National Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (National Congress) from 8 to 10 June, General Council agreed by consensus that the General Secretary will assist the Beanang Kwuurt Institute Board in the implementation of the proposals developed jointly by the Board and National Congress.

The Resources Unit of the Uniting Church Centre will

administer finance, payroll, human resources and statutory requirements on behalf of the Institute.

### *Moderatorial Nominating Committee*

Nominations to the Moderatorial Nominating Committee close this Friday 24 June. The moderator-elect will be a lay or ordained person equipped to provide pastoral and visionary leadership to the Uniting Church WA when they take-up their three-year moderatorial term in September 2017.

### *Resources Board*

General Council will join with the Resources Board for a workshop to be held on Saturday 13 August to examine the relationship between governance and management responsibilities, and how these impact on the implementation of strategy.

General Council agreed by consensus that the proceeds of the sale of Westminster House (the former Uniting Church Centre) be transferred into the Westminster Trust Fund which will be used as the vehicle to purchase the current Uniting Church Centre at 85-89 Edward Street, Perth from the Uniting Church Investment Fund.

### *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse*

General Council agreed by consensus to adopt the National Framework for Interim Redress Measures. The moderator, Rev Steve Francis and Royal Commission WA Synod Task Group chairperson, Robert Watson will work with the agencies and schools to implement.

### *Theological Education in WA*

General Council agreed by consensus to approve the position description of the Lecturer in Systematic Theology at Perth Theological Hall and to submit it to the Perth College of Divinity, within Murdoch University, to begin the process of filling the position.

General Council appointed the Deputy General Secretary; Interim Director of Education and Formation or alternate appointed by the General Secretary; and Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL) chairperson, as the Uniting Church members of the Selection Panel, together with an appointee of the Perth College of Divinity.

General Council also agreed by consensus that the lecturer in Systematic Theology and any future lecturer positions be remunerated by the Synod at the Level B lecturer rate paid by Murdoch University.

General Council approved the general secretary, Rev David de Kock to appoint as soon as possible an Interim Director of Education and Formation to achieve goals outlined in the 'Preliminary vision for Theological education in Western Australia' by 30 December 2016. The vision embraces candidates for ministry and lay people; seeks to improve the working relationship between Perth Theological Hall (PTH), Perth College of Divinity (PCD), Murdoch University and the Uniting Church WA; and educates people for effective ministry in a changing and challenging world.

General Council agreed by consensus to appoint as sessional staff for second semester 2016 Rev Dr Geof Lilburne to teach Christology and Rev Dr Gregory Seach to teach Church, Ministry and Sacraments.

## *Nominating Committee*

General Council noted the resignation of David Singleton from Methodist Ladies' College (MLC) Council effective 28 April.

General Council approved the nominations of Rev Dr Alison Longworth and Rev Ruth Vertigan to the Candidates for the Ministries Commission. The resignations of Rev Dr Ian Tozer, Rev Zac Cronje and Rev Emma Matthews were noted.

## *Penrhos College*

General Council noted and referred proposed changes to the Penrhos College Constitution to the Church Law Committee.

## *Staffing Matters*

Rev Neville Campbell will retire as Beananging Kwuurt Institute general manager at the end of June.

Interim First Third co-ordinator, Paul Montague has resigned effective 30 June 2016. Janine McDonald, First Third project officer will continue in her role and is the first point of contact in the Uniting Church Centre for this work.

Pastoral care worker, Rev Mark Illingworth's current contract was increased from 0.5FTE to 1FTE and extended from 1 July to 31 December 2016 to continue his existing work and to enable him to journey alongside our Congress WA ordained ministers.

## *Reports Received*

In line with its regular reporting arrangements, General Council also received reports from: the general secretary, Rev David de Kock; moderator, Rev Steve Francis; Church Law; Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL); Congregational Community Services Commission; and Covenanting Commission.



## Congregations

- **About 50 people were present** at the Sunday morning worship service at Rowethorpe Uniting Church on 15 May, to celebrate the day of Pentecost, together with holy communion and two adult baptisms. Many of the congregation wore red in special recognition of Pentecost. To read more visit <https://revivemagazine.org.au/2016/06/14/rowethorpe-celebrates-baptisms-and-pentecost/>.
- **A Dealing with Grief seminar** will be held on Wednesday 29 June, 7.00pm at Leeming Uniting Church, 66 Farrington Rd, Leeming. Cost is \$10. Space is limited; RSVP to 0412 243 677.
- **Gingin Uniting Church** will be celebrating 162 years of worship on Saturday 10 July, 10.00am. For more info email Marian at [crewcm28@bigpond.com](mailto:crewcm28@bigpond.com).

## Presbytery & Synod of WA

- **Perth's annual Sorry Day event** was held at Wellington Square, East Perth, on Thursday 26 May, and aims to tell the stories of the Stolen Generations. The Uniting Church WA, through the work of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) WA and the Justice and Mission Unit, has supported the organisation of Sorry Day events for a number of years, through its involvement in the Bringing Them Home Committee WA. To read more and view the photos visit <https://revivemagazine.org.au/2016/06/02/sorry-day-truth-justice-and-healing/>.
- **Rev David de Kock, general secretary of the Uniting Church WA** has announced that Rev Dr Ian Tozer has been appointed to the new position of deputy general secretary of the Uniting Church WA from Friday 1 July. Ian will be working with the general secretary to ensure that the core areas of worship, witness and service support the ministry, mission and planning directions of the whole church.
- **A Metro East Regional Gathering** will be held on Saturday 9 July, 9.00am until lunch-time with a sausage sizzle. It will be held at Mundijong Heritage Uniting Church, 18 Paterson St Mundijong. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet folk from the Byford and Mundijong congregations and to hear their story. Members from all metro east congregations are very welcome to attend. For more info contact Margaret Johnston at [Margaret.johnston@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:Margaret.johnston@wa.uca.org.au).

- **The moderator-elect** will be someone, lay or ordained, who is equipped to provide pastoral and visionary faith leadership to the Uniting Church WA when they take-up their moderatorial term in 2017. The closing date for nominations to the Moderatorial Nomination Committee is Friday 24 June. For more info visit <https://revivemagazine.org.au/2016/06/12/a-discernment-process-for-all/>.

## From the National Church

- **Rev Dr Apwee Ting, national director for Multicultural and Cross-cultural Ministry with the Uniting Church in Australia**, has recently returned from a trip to Indonesia where he shared with ministers, pastors and lay leaders on cross-cultural ministry and mission. He has written about the trip on his blog at <https://makingspaceforgrace.wordpress.com/2016/06/02/grace-transforming-communities-in-indonesia/>.
- **Travel subsidies** of up to \$300 are available for select people who plan to attend Uniting Leaders (UL16). The general criteria for granting subsidies are: rural delegates; multiple delegates from one congregation; and special circumstances, which includes extreme travel requirements. Applications for travel subsidies will be open until 5.00pm on Thursday 30 June. Email [gensec@sa.uca.org.au](mailto:gensec@sa.uca.org.au). UL16 will be held from Tuesday 30 August–Thursday 1 September with an additional Senior Leaders Intensive which concludes on Friday 2 September. Further information and registration details are available at [www.unitingleaders.com.au](http://www.unitingleaders.com.au).
- **Stuart McMillan, president of the Uniting Church in Australia**, has issued a statement, in the wake of the recent shooting in a gay club in Orlando, USA. "For our own part, Uniting Church members must reflect on our commitment to accept LGBTIQ people as full members of our church; confess and repent our own failures to accept people equally; and recommit ourselves to rejecting homophobia in all its forms," he wrote. To read more visit <https://revivemagazine.org.au/2016/06/15/uca-president-speaks-out-on-orlando-hate-attacks/>.
- **A national appeal to assist communities hit by recent storms** has been launched by Stuart McMillan, president of the Uniting Church in Australia. An intense low pressure system off Australia's east coast has led to a number of deaths and widespread damage to property. Residents across New South Wales are

facing a massive clean-up while Tasmanians have experienced the worst floods in 90 years. For more info visit <https://revivemagazine.org.au/2016/06/09/president-launches-storm-relief-appeal/>.

- **Stuart McMillan, president of the Uniting Church in Australia**, has released a video celebrating the 39th anniversary of the Uniting Church, which will be held on Wednesday 22 June. To view his video go to <https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/item/2405-now-it-springs-up-do-you-perceive-it>.
- **UnitingJustice Australia's Refugee Week Resource**, 'Searching for Freedom', is online now. This resource is a reminder of what people are doing when they flee situations of persecution and grave danger. To download the resource visit <http://www.unitingjustice.org.au/refugees-and-asylum-seekers/information-and-action-resources/item/1200-refugee-week-2016>.

## *UnitingCare and Congregational Community Services*

- **Joan Stevenson, multi-skilled carer with Juniper**, has been named WA's top aged care employee in this year's prestigious Excellence in Care Awards announced by the sector's peak body, Aged and Community Services WA. Juniper is an agency of the Uniting Church WA providing community and residential aged care. To read more visit <https://revivemagazine.org.au/2016/06/15/joans-dedication-rewarded-as-aged-cares-finest/>.
- **UnitingCare Australia** has joined other community service providers in a campaign for the development of a national homelessness strategy that will halve Australia's homelessness by 2025. They invite you to read and sign their petition at <https://www.change.org/p/homelessness-has-no-place-in-australia-i-votehome>.

## *Ecumenical & International*

- **The Christian Meditation Community in WA** will hold a community day on Saturday 25 June, 10.00am–3.30pm in the Mary McKillop Room in St Joseph's Convent, 16 York St, North Perth. The day will include time for meditation, discussion, feedback and conversation. Cost \$12. BYO lunch. For more information go to [www.christianmeditationaustralia.org](http://www.christianmeditationaustralia.org).

- **Forty years after the Soweto uprising**, leaders of churches in conflict-torn countries gathered in South Africa to study the ways of peace and reconciliation. The World Council of Churches (WCC) reports, at <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/gathering-envisions-new-day-of-truth-and-reconciliation-in-south-africa-and-beyond>.

## *Community*

- **The Less is More Festival** will have a Plastic Free July flavour this year. Learn new skills, gain practical knowledge, connect with your community, and get your Plastic Free July knowhow and kit. Cost is free. The Less is More Festival will be held on Saturday 25 June, 10.00am–4.00pm, at The Grove Library, Peppermint Grove. For more info visit <http://www.lessismorefestival.com/about-less-is-more.html>.
- **The 6th Annual Fremantle Refugee Week Fiesta** will be held on Saturday 25 June at Pioneer Reserve, Fremantle, 12noon–2.30pm. The event will include a solidarity walk.
- **NAIDOC Week celebrations** are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC is celebrated not only in Indigenous communities, but by Australians from all walks of life. The week is a great opportunity to participate in a range of activities and to support your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. To follow the celebrations visit <http://www.naidoc.org.au/>.
- **Campaign for Australian Aid** is calling on the Australian Government to reverse recent cuts to Australian aid and to do its fair share in building a fairer world for all. Join 3300 Australians and pledge your vote at <http://australianaid.org/pledge/>.

## *Jobs: Paid and Volunteer*

*([unitingchurchwa.org.au/jobs](http://unitingchurchwa.org.au/jobs))*

The Pastoral Relations and Placements Commission (PR&PC) webpage is available to view all vacant placements, by-laws, ministry changes and pastoral and placement updates. Visit <http://unitingchurchwa.org.au/pastoral-relations-and-placements-commission>.

- **The Mount Louisa House of Praise Uniting Church in Townsville, QLD**, is looking for a Pastoral Leader/

Minister of Religion to lead it into an exciting new season of ministry. The Pastoral Leader will team with the Administration Manager and the Outreach Pastor to lead the church in the areas of strategic planning, missional strategies and vision. The church is a member of the Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church. Applications close 30 June. For more info visit [http://ucaqld.com.au/th\\_event/pastoral-leader/](http://ucaqld.com.au/th_event/pastoral-leader/).

- **The Joondalup Health Campus Human Research Ethics Committee (JHC HREC)** is seeking two new members: a male lay member, and a pastoral care member. The role of the HREC is to consider all applications to carry out research projects at JHC in order to ensure that the proposed research meets relevant standards. Meetings are scheduled at 6.00pm on the second Thursday of every month. For more info contact Ann Hammer on 94006404 or at JHC-Ethics@ramsayhealth.com.au.
- **Nedlands Uniting Church** is seeking a 0.6 FTE English as a Second Language (ESL) Co-ordinator to work within an ESL environment, in particular with Mandarin speaking individuals, at Nedlands Uniting Church. The purpose of this role is to equip and train Mandarin speaking leaders and new Christians, provide pastoral care and to promote and lead small group Bible studies. Applications close 4 July. For more information call Rev Stephen Larkin on 0417 930 257.

## Ministry Resourcing Centre

The Ministry Resourcing Centre is located in the Uniting Church Centre, 85–89 Edward Street, Perth and is open Monday – Friday, 8.30am – 5.00pm. Contact Margaret Johnston on 9260 9800 or email [resource@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:resource@wa.uca.org.au).

***Built For Change: A practical theology of innovation and collaboration in leadership***, by Rev Dr Steve Taylor.

“Innovation is not the mysterious pursuit of what is new and hip by a heroic leader. Rather, innovation grows out of a set of collaborative, practical actions shaped by the Biblical story and Christian traditions of innovation.” **\$23.75**

***A Faith for the Future: Church’s teachings for a changing world, Volume 3***, by Jesse Zink. Written for the Episcopal Church, but relevant ecumenically, this compact publication introduces the essentials of theology: what’s the story of God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, creation and humanity, church, Eucharist, mission and the life after death. For the individual or group, the points ‘to ponder’ in each chapter encourage deeper thought, discussion and prayer. **\$24.75**

***Grounded: Finding God in the world***, by Diana Butler Bass. “‘Where is God?’ is one of the most consequential questions of our time. People believe, but they believe differently than they once did. The theological ground is moving; a spiritual revolution is afoot.” People are finding new spiritual ground through a God who resides in the world with us – in the soil, the water, the sky, in our homes and neighbourhoods, and in the global commons. **\$45.00**

***Messy Togetherness: Being intergenerational in Messy Church***, by Martyn Payne. Messy Church as an intergenerational expression of church is discussed, highlighting the benefits to the church community. Current thinking about faith development and a biblical rationale for the all-age approach is explored. Three complete outlines for Messy Church sessions based on the Old Testament, the Gospels and the Epistles, are included. **\$18.95**

All items plus postage.

## Prayer Calendar

For the week commencing Sunday 26 June: Methodist Ladies’ College, Presbyterian Ladies’ College, Scotch College, Scarborough and Waterman’s Bay congregations. Please also pray for UnitingJustice Australia, Evangelical Christian Church in Minahasa and Evangelical Christian Church in Halmahera.

For the week commencing Sunday 3 July: Central Wheatbelt Group (Bencubbin, Kellerberrin, Tammin and Trayning), Dowerin and Kalgoorlie–Boulder congregations. Please also pray for the Uniting Aboriginal & Islander Christian Congress.



**The Uniting Church  
in Australia is 39  
today - 22 June.**

***Congratulations  
and Happy Birthday!***



Watch Uniting Church president, Stuart McMillan's 39th anniversary message at <https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/item/2405-now-it-springs-up-do-you-perceive-it>

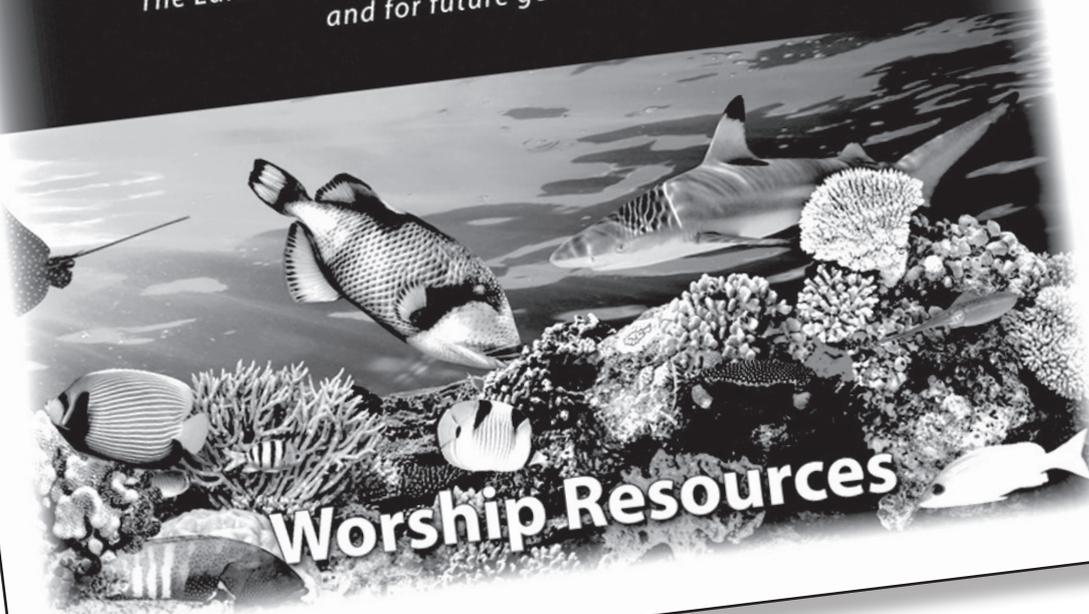
## Sustainable September 2016



Social Justice Board  
Uniting Church in Western Australia

### Time to Act

*God's creation—the Earth and all the life it supports, is precious.  
The Earth's resources exist for the good of all both now  
and for future generations.*



**Worship Resources**

Keep an eye out for the Sustainable September Worship Resources.

# Calendar of Events

For more information on these events visit [www.unitingchurchwa.org.au](http://www.unitingchurchwa.org.au)

Day/Date	Time	Details
Sunday 26 June	10.45am	Classical Piano Concert at Willetton Uniting Church.
Monday 27 June and Monday 4 July	7.00–9.30pm	Safe Church Awareness Workshop at All Saints Floreat Uniting Church.
Tuesday 28 June	12.30–1.30pm	Alpha in the City at Uniting Church in the City, Trinity Perth.
Wednesday 29 June	7.00pm	Dealing with Grief seminar at Leeming Uniting Church.
Thursday 30 June		Mission Grants Application deadline.
Friday 1 July		UnitingCare West's 10th Anniversary.
Friday 1 July	1.00pm	Free music recital at Uniting Church in the City, Wesley Perth.
Sunday 3–Sunday 10 July		NAIDOC Week.
Sunday 3 July	2.30–3.30pm	UnitingCare West 10th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service at Uniting Church in the City, Ross Memorial West Perth.
Tuesday 5 July	9.30am–12.00noon	Kids' Mandala Workshop at Margaret River Uniting Church.
Wednesday 6–Friday 8 July		Uniting Church Studies Intensive.
Friday 8–Wednesday 13 July		National Young Adult Leaders Conference 'Join the Movement', on the Gold Coast.
Saturday 9 July	9.00am–1.00pm	Metro East Regional Gathering at Mundijong Uniting Church.
Sunday 10 July	10.00am	Celebrating 162 years of worship at Gingin Uniting Church.
Wednesday 13 July		August 'Revive' contribution deadline.

If you are planning an event that you think would be of interest to other people in the Uniting Church community, let us know so we can put it in our calendar. We would also encourage you to contact us during your planning so you can check what other people are doing to avoid diary conflicts.