

## Presbytery

Progress towards achieving a clear distinction between Presbytery and Synod has continued in 2016 with separated meetings. Presbytery will hold an Annual General Meeting in May and a second Meeting in November, while Synod meets in September.

(For information, it might be worth noting that Presbytery basically has care of ministers

(including other forms of formal ministry), congregations, candidates for ministry and most forms of training. Synod is responsible for the mission of the church, ministerial education and property, plus agencies and schools).

### 1. THE MEETING OF PRESBYTERY TOOK PLACE AT BILLABONG UNITING CHURCH/COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 14 MAY 2016.

At the meeting the following ministry milestones were noted:

- 20 years    Rev Kira Jamieson  
              Rev Alan McKenzie
- 25 years    Rev Allan MacKenzie  
              Rev Robert Dummermuth  
              Rev Trevor Waters  
              Rev Hollis Wilson  
              Rev Gordon Scantlebury  
              Rev John Myles
- 30 years    Rev Geof Lilburne  
              Rev Dr Gemmel Sherwood
- 40 years    Rev Bev Fabb
- 50 years    Rev Ian MacPherson

60 years

- Rev Don Pederick
- Rev Dave Robinson
- Rev David Woodroffe
- Rev Harry Lucas
- Rev Ken Melville
- Rev Ruth Nelson

Each person was presented with a small wooden palm cross.

The following members who had passed away were also remembered:

- Rev Bryan King
- Mr Denis Scarf

### 2. PRESENTATIONS

1. Strategy & Mission Planning Commission on the National Church Life Survey.
2. Theological Education in WA – the General Secretary, Rev David de Kock, presented a review of the current situation and Rev Bev Fabb, Commission for Education for Discipleship & Leadership chairperson presented a picture of what theological training could look like, in a presentation titled 'I have a Dream'. This was followed by table group discussions.
3. Craig Bailey, Director of Leadership at the Uniting College of Divinity in Adelaide led 'Leadership in a Changing World'.
4. Moderatorial Nominating Committee – information on the nomination process.
5. Beth Shalom – Tongan choir and dance.

### 3. REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OF THE UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS.

Rev Dr Chris Budden and Rev Dennis Corowa reported that a review had been undertaken with regard to the formation of a Congress Presbytery in WA. The National Committee recommended that

there be a postponement of the plans to make the regional Committee into a Presbytery in WA. They urged that there be more joint retreats and partnerships between the Synod and Congress. The National Committee was committed to building relationships and enabling Aboriginal people to be self-governing.



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## 4. AGREED PROPOSALS

### 4.1 Strategy and Planning Commission

The Presbytery of Western Australia notes that the Strategy and Mission Planning Commission will apply, through the budgetary process, for mission project grants to be raised from \$140,000 to \$200,000.

The Presbytery of Western Australia

- affirms the importance of the Uniting Church in WA participating in the 2016 National Church Life Survey (NCLS) for the benefit of the whole church, so that data may represent the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) and the Australian church as fully as possible;
- requests all congregations to participate in the 2016 NCLS as a matter of priority; and

- reminds all congregations that funding is available to cover costs of participation for those who do not have funds of their own.

### 4.2 Candidates for Ministries Commission

- The Presbytery of Western Australia agreed by ballot to:
- Recognise Moira Mathie as an Accredited Lay Preacher having completed all the requirements for accreditation.
- The next meeting of the Presbytery of Western Australia will take place on 5 November 2016.

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## 5. RECOGNITION OF THE SAMOAN CONGREGATION

Having gone through a process of preparation, the Samoan congregation meeting in Forrestfield have applied for recognition as a congregation of the Uniting Church. This needs to take place at a meeting of the Presbytery and a Special

Presbytery Meeting will be held during the meeting of Synod on 10 September to recognise them as a congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia.

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