

## Candidates for the Ministries Committee (CMC)

<i>Interim Chair</i>	Rev Anne McAndrew
<i>Principal Perth Theological Hall (PTH)</i>	Rev Dr John Squires
<i>Chair, Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL)</i>	Rev Bev Fabb
<i>Members</i>	Rev Dr Alison Longworth
	Mr Neil Warne
	Rev Alistair Melville
<i>Co-opted</i>	Rev Gary van Heerden

The Committee is pleased to welcome Rev Dr John Squires in his role as Principal of Perth Theological Hall. We thank Rev Craig Collas for his time as chair of CMC. At the time of writing we are searching for a new chairperson to be trained for the role.

### Culture of Call

As part of our responsibility for promoting the call to specified ministries, for the last two years we have held a service for the commencement of the academic year for PTH, with an open invitation to the whole church. This year it was combined with the induction service for Rev Dr John Squires. This service was well attended by the wider church and, hopefully, a greater awareness of ministry opportunities was gained. Whenever anyone feels a call or is tapped on the shoulder to explore a call, to a specified ministry, they enter a Period of Discernment (POD). CMC has responsibility for them from that moment. The process is outlined in the POD handbook which can be accessed on the website.

<http://unitingchurchwa.org.au/blog/2014/08/period-discernment-booklet-2014/>

### Period of Discernment (POD)

There are currently ten people participating in a Period of Discernment.

- Auya Auya (Owen) – Armadale-Kelmscott
- Pamela Crass – Busselton
- Reuben Edmonds – Perth Wesley
- Sione Leaaetoa – Scarborough
- Julie Ridden – Carramar
- Lois Schenk – Perth Wesley
- Moira Mathie – Beldon-Illuka
- Olivia Sina – Beth Shalom
- Laura Vertigan – Spearwood
- Trevor Thomas - Pinjarra

We had hoped to have a day retreat for those undertaking a POD and their mentors early in the year. However, this proved impossible. In the meantime, the members of CMC have received more thorough training in what is involved. It is now hoped to have a half-day retreat a little later in the year. Normally it takes 12-18 months to complete a POD which involves studies in ministry and mission, theology and Biblical studies, ministry practice, study of the theology and polity of

the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA), and deepening spirituality. It is anticipated that we will have applicants for Selection Panel in 2017. Applications for candidature close on Monday 31 July 2017.

### **Candidates for Ordained Ministries**

Currently the Presbytery of WA has two candidates in PTH. Paul Montague, Minister of the Word (MOW), is in second year, Sophie Lizares (Deacon) is in third year. There are two certificated candidates; that is, they have received their certificate of completion of studies but are awaiting ordination. Justine Wall (MOW) is on maternity leave and Claire Pickering (MOW), following her transfer from the oversight of the Presbytery of Port Phillip West is currently being oriented back into the Presbytery of WA. CMC maintains regular contact with all candidates, participates in their Formation Panels and regularly assesses their progress towards ordination.

### **Lay Preacher Candidates**

There are currently two candidates for Lay Preacher Accreditation, Traian Troaca (Beldon) and John van den Berg (Kardinya)

### **CMC Rules**

The reception of ministers from other denominations is no longer the responsibility of CMC. The rules are being amended accordingly.

**Rev Anne McAndrew**  
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