

# P1 INTRODUCTION

## **AUTHORITY**

- P1.1 These Rules are made in the exercise of the powers of the Presbytery of Western Australia as provided for in the Uniting Church in Australia Act 1976 (WA) and in the Constitution of the Uniting Church in Australia paragraphs 64, 65, 66, 68 and 69.

## **PRIORITY**

- P1.2 The Act, the Constitution and the Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia have priority over these Rules and, to the extent that there is any inconsistency with the said Act, Constitution and Regulations, the Act, the Constitution and the Regulations shall prevail.

## **SCOPE**

- P1.3 These Rules are to be read in conjunction with the Act, the Constitution and the Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia. In accordance with the Constitution, paragraph 64, these Rules are limited to those matters which the Constitution and Regulations require or permit the Presbytery to prescribe, or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed, for the carrying out or giving effect to the Constitution or the Regulations or for the better ordering of the life of the Church within the Presbytery of Western Australia.

## **LAW IN THE CHURCH**

- P1.4 These Rules are to be read and used in the spirit of paragraph 17 of the Basis of Union, as an expression of the Church's response to the Gospel and to assist the Church in its service of God and humanity.

## **DEFINITIONS**

- P1.5 In these Rules, unless the context or subject matter otherwise indicates or requires:

"the Act" means the Uniting Church in Australia Act 1976 (WA).

"the Assembly" means the national Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia.

"the Basis of Union" means the Basis of Union (1971 text) approved by the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches.

"By-Law" or "By-Laws" refers to or means the By-Laws of the Synod of Western Australia.

"church" means the Christian church generally.

"churches" means denominations of the Christian church and may include the Uniting Church.

“the Church” means the Uniting Church in Australia.

“minister” means and includes a Minister of the Word, Deacon or Deaconess recognised as such by the Uniting Church in Australia.

“ministry agent” means and includes a Minister of the Word, Deacon, Deaconess, Lay Pastor, Community Minister or Pastor recognised as such by the Uniting Church in Australia.

“the Presbytery” means the Presbytery of Western Australia of the Uniting Church in Australia.

“Presbytery meeting” means an ordinary meeting or a special meeting of the Presbytery.

“Regulation” or “Regulations” refers to or means the Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia.

“Rule” or “Rules” refers to or means the Rules of the Presbytery of Western Australia.

“the Synod” means the Synod of Western Australia of the Uniting Church in Australia.