



**The Uniting Church in Australia  
Western Australia**

**The Minutes  
of  
The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting  
of the  
Synod of Western Australia**

**13 – 15 September 2019**

**“DEEP AND WIDE”**  
Ephesians 3:17 - 18

These Minutes record events and the business of those commissions and bodies which relate to the Synod of Western Australia.

The Opening Worship was conducted at Mt Pleasant Uniting Church | Coomoora Road Mt Pleasant at 7.00pm on Friday, 13 September 2019 and the business sessions of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Synod were conducted at Scotch College on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September 2019.

## **PART I CONSTITUTION**

### **CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING OF SYNOD**

#### Opening Worship

The Synod meeting was constituted by an act of public worship led by the Moderator Rev Steve Francis at 7.00pm on Friday 13 September, 2019.

Mitchell Garlett from the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) WA Regional Committee welcomed the Synod to country on behalf of the Wadjuk people of the Noongar nation.

Rev Andrew Broadbent, Busselton Uniting Church preached at the Opening Worship.

The musicians for the Opening Worship were provided by Rich Read and members of Mt Pleasant Uniting Church choir. The Korean Praise Team Choir from the Korean Uniting Church Congregation in Kardinya performed.

### **SYNOD BUSINESS MEETING – SATURDAY 14 AND SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2019**

## **PART 2 WELCOME AND DEVOTIONS**

### **RESOLUTION 2/2019 OPENING PRAYER**

Rev Andrew Broadbent of the Busselton Congregation provided the Opening Prayer for the meeting.

### **WELCOME TO COUNTRY**

Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress WA Regional Committee Chair, Rev Robert Jetta and Reubin Westermann (Scotch College Year 11 student) welcomed the Synod to the country of the Wadjuk people of the Noongar nation. He explained the privilege of knowing his language as it gives an identity to this place and culture.

### **WELCOME TO SCOTCH COLLEGE**

Dr Alec O'Connell, Headmaster of Scotch College welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided a brief summary on Scotch College.

### **MODERATOR'S WELCOME**

At the first business session, introductions and preliminary comments were made by the Moderator, Rev Steve Francis. He welcomed all members to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Synod of Western Australia held at Scotch College.

The Moderator welcomed the following guests:

- Assembly President, Dr Deidre Palmer
- Associate General Secretary, Rob Floyd
- Congress Chair, Rev Robert Jetta
- Robert Watson, representing Rev Ken Williams as Acting Moderator
- Two nominees for the position of Moderator Elect, Rev Don Dowling and Susy Thomas.

### **NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION**

A video presentation prepared by the Media and Communications Unit was shown

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA**

Rev Ken Devereux provided a short introduction/overview to the operation of this particular Synod meeting, drawing attention to some of the key steps, events or issues that were coming up on the agenda.

### **DEVOTIONS AND BIBLE STUDY**

#### **Devotions**

Rev Sophia Lizares led devotions following lunch on Saturday 14 September 2019.

Rev Sonny Rajamoney led devotions following dinner on Saturday 14 September 2019.

Pastor John Tomkins from the Carnarvon Congregation led the Closing Devotions.

#### **Bible Studies**

Rev Alison Gilchrist, Presbyterian Minister (Mission) led Bible Studies on Saturday 14 September and Sunday 15

September 2019. She explained how she came to be a minister in the Uniting Church. She said getting to know congregations and the people in mostly smaller congregations has helped her understand how to respect the past and renew the present. Rev Gilchrist invited members to participate in a 15 minute questionnaire.

### **Remote Area Ministry**

Rev John Dihm provided a presentation on his work in the remote area of the Pilbara region on Saturday 14 September 2019.

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

Holy Communion was led by the Moderator, Rev Steve Francis and Beldon Uniting Church minister, Rev Lesley De Grussa. The music was provided by Dr Elaine Ledgerwood and Rev Narelle Collas.

## **INTRODUCTIONS AND HOUSEKEEPING**

Rev David de Kock, General Secretary of the Uniting Church in Western Australia welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an update on housekeeping matters. He acknowledged the following people:

- All staff for their diligence in the preparation of the meeting
- The Moderator's Chaplains, Pastor Julie Ridden (Saturday) and Rev Lesley De Grussa (Sunday)
- Synod Chaplains, Rev Sophia Lizares, Rev Sonny Rajamoney, Rev John Dihm and Ps John Tomkins
- Robert Watson, Past Moderator for his availability to stand in as Chair of the Synod Meeting when required
- Margaret Martin, Convenor of the Nominating Committee, and the Nominating Committee members
- Bruce Wilson, Timekeeper
- Cindy Gorton, Culture of Safety Officer as Screen Manager
- Kale Tatum and the Scotch College AV team for the management of the screens and sound system
- Janine McDonald and Dr Elaine Ledgerwood as First Aid Officers and Geoff Bice as Fire Warden for duration of the Synod Meeting.

## **PART 3 REPORTS AND PRESENTATION**

### **MODERATOR'S REPORT (REPORT 12)**

Robert Watson, the past Moderator, took the chair while Rev Steve Francis presented the Moderator's Report. Rev Steve Francis presented his report. He spoke about the strength of the Uniting Church including the Agencies, UnitingCare West, Juniper and Good Samaritan Industries, who have grown rapidly and are well appreciated in the wider community. The schools also are growing closer to the Uniting Church through the work of Rev Andrew Syme, a former school headmaster who was appointed early this year. Rev Syme has helped in building stronger relationships with the Church and the schools.

Rev Francis expressed his concerns for our ageing congregations. He said they have slowly declined. He urged congregations to look for opportunities to connect with each other and grow and learn better ways of sharing and promoting our faith. He talked about the life of the church and the rapid change. Times are changing faster than it ever has before and we need to keep up with the changes.

Rev Francis said he was impressed by the amount of people at the Synod and thanked all those who continue to come along and be part of the Uniting Church.

### **MODERATORIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE (MNC) REPORT (Report 13)**

Robert Watson and Rev John Dunn presented the Moderatorial Nominating Committee (MNC) Report and summarised the work of the committee. It was noted that in accordance with the By-Laws and Rules, the Synod Standing Committee prepared advice for the Moderatorial Nominating Committee (MNC) concerning its assessment of needs and issues for the Church during the 2020 - 2023 Triennium, to be considered alongside the gifts and skills of nominees.

Nominations were declared open on 11 April 2019 to all ordained ministers, lay appointees to the ministry of pastor, regional pastors, secretaries of church councils and secretaries of councils and boards of the Church in Western

Australia. Nominations closed on 28 June 2019 with two nominees submitting the required profiles and both properly nominated.

The MNC met several times and communicated electronically as was necessary to prepare its documentation and timetable; review nominee profiles; met with the General Secretary and Moderator separately to listen to their wisdom on the role of moderator into the future; met for conversations with nominees; received referee reports; and finalised its recommendations to Synod.

The MNC is required to submit to Synod the names of all nominees “who have demonstrated they can work within the visions and needs of the church for the relevant triennium” (By-Laws and Rules 6.5.4(f)(i).

The nominations of Rev Don Dowling and Mrs Susy Thomas were received and placed before Synod 2019 for consideration. The profile statements prepared by the nominees were appended to the MNC Report and available for viewing on the Uniting Church Synod website.

### **RESOLUTION 10/2019 The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the following proposals:**

**That the Synod:**

- 1. Receives the nominations of Rev Don Dowling and Mrs Susy Thomas for election as Moderator for 2020-2023 Triennium**
- 2. Thank and discharge the Moderatorial Nominating Committee**

### **MODERATORIAL NOMINEES PRESENTATION**

The Moderatorial nominees, Rev Don Dowling and Mrs Susy Thomas each presented a review of their journey and thoughts about being the Moderator.

### **MODERATORIAL QUESTION TIME**

The nominees, Rev Don Dowling and Mrs Susy Thomas were excused from the meeting during this period. Robert Watson and Rev John Dunn opened up the meeting for questions which had been raised during the tea break.

A question was raised regarding the elected Moderator living in the country. Robert Watson responded and noted that the matter was previously discussed with the MNC and they believed this would not pose a problem. It was noted that any nominee living in the country would be the same as any other person or minister living in the country.

### **MODERATORIAL BALLOT**

The ballot was conducted and Mrs Susy Thomas was duly elected by the Synod as Moderator-Elect. She will take up the position of Moderator at Synod 2020 to serve for a three year term.

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT (Report 14)**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the final Nominating Committee Report.*

### **UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA ASSEMBLY REPORT (Report 1)**

The Moderator introduced Dr Deidre Palmer, President of the Uniting Church in Australia Assembly, and Rob Floyd, the Associate General Secretary of Assembly to present the Assembly Report.

Dr Palmer acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which the meeting was being held, the Wadjuk people of the Noongar nation, and paid respect to their elders past, present and emerging. She also paid respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are with us today and said she continues to pray for justice and reconciliation in our land.

Dr Palmer referred to the National Young Adult Leaders Conference (NYALC) which was held in January this year in Adelaide. 120 young leaders from across the Uniting Church in Australia, including leaders from WA, came together to share their faith, gifts and their hopes for the church and its future. Some of the group began the conference walking on the Ngarrindjeri country for 3 days which covers 2,500 kilometres. The Ngarrindjeri leaders met the group and showed generous hospitality. The covenanting relationship between the Uniting Church and the Uniting Aboriginal Annual Synod 2019 Minutes

Christian Congress was deepened.

Dr Palmer spoke about the Presidents Round Table which involves conversations with young adults in the Uniting Church. A Listening Tour has been developed for youth and young adults regarding their journey with Christ and their Christian discipleship. She said there will be a series of 12 workshops over the last 2 years of her role as President. The first Roundtable will be held in July 2020 in Canberra and 2 workshops will be held in Western Australia. A report of all the gatherings during the 2 years will be brought to the next Assembly meeting.

The President's Conference in Nadi Fiji was held in July over 5 days with 60 Uniting Church delegates who attended with leaders of the Methodist Church. The conference focused on girls and women in leadership and Christian education, and formation in discipleship. Dr Palmer said the conference in Fiji addressed the concerns and missional themes of the Church and shared key common areas. She said a statement was released with the Uniting Church's Pacific neighbours acknowledging the islands that are connected and sustained by ocean currents, and the need to listen to the voices of sisters and brothers and those most affected by climate change. The statement is available on the Assembly website. <https://assembly.uca.org.au/news/messages>

Dr Palmer concluded with hopes for the future of the church: The Gospel of Christ is good for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Australians; the formation and growth in Christian discipleship for all age groups; focus on the development of younger leaders; continuing to build intergenerational Christian community; to continue to emphasise a great strength for the Uniting Church to act for justice in the world; hope that in the coming years the Uniting Church explores Jesus' Gospel calls. Dr Palmer hoped for good news to the poor and efforts to alleviate poverty. The Uniting Church's participation in a global communion of churches remains a key area by praying for the reconciliation, renewal and unity that is Christ's call to us.

#### Rob Floyd, Associate General Secretary of the Uniting Church Assembly

Rob Floyd paid respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. He spoke about the commitment of the Assembly to making a difference in the country, the world and in faith. He referred to the Uniting Justice project earlier this year which brought together all people from across the Church and agencies including staff in Western Australia to develop a statement on "Our vision for a Just Australia". The statement expresses a Uniting Church vision in seven foundational areas. It calls people to come together to work towards fulfilment. The appointment of Stuart McMillan last year as Assembly Consultant Covenanting supports our commitment to the covenant and the resolution that was made at the 15<sup>th</sup> Assembly regarding sovereignty.

Rob Floyd referred to Uniting Church Assembly's inaugural statement made in 1977 as follows: "We are concerned with basic human rights of future generations and urge the wise use of energy, protection of the environment and replenishment of the earth's resources for their use and enjoyment". The Assembly is working towards preparing a national climate action plan and a reporting framework accompanied by supporting educational and theological material. It urges congregations, synods, presbyteries, schools and agencies to take action on climate change. Uniting World has recently launched a new resource for collaboration with partner churches in the Pacific. Remote areas in Australia are also struggling with the impacts of climate change, through drought, extreme heat, bushfires, torrential rains and floods. Support is provided in Australia by the Disaster Response Chaplaincy Networks and Frontier Services.

The Assembly made a statement at the 15<sup>th</sup> Assembly to respond to the issues of domestic and family violence. A statement was also made to affirm access and welcome to all, particularly people with disability. The statement acknowledges that Christ is most fully present when all people in the body are unconditionally accepted. The Assembly is currently developing disability guidelines that will be shared across the church next year.

Rob Floyd spoke about Circles of Interest. People can join any or all of the circles of interest by going online at [www.unitingchurch/circle](http://www.unitingchurch/circle). This allows people to contribute and receive updates on areas of work interest. It is proving to be an excellent way to discover people with gifts, expertise or passion for areas in ministry that may not have been known in the past. He encouraged people to have a look and join one or more circle.

The Assembly has begun a consultation for the next Assembly Strategic Plan that comes into effect from July 2020. He asked people to take a look at the survey and complete.

#### **SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT (Report 21)**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Synod Standing Committee Report*

### Discussion

Rev David de Kock presented the Synod Standing Committee Report including the following sub reports:

- Synod Standing Committee Advice to Moderatorial Nominating Committee (Attachment 1)
- Synod Organisation Chart (Attachment 2)
- Appendix A Resolutions Synod Standing Committee
- Culture of Safety Report
- Disaster Relief & Community Recovery Working Group Report
- Uniting Church Archives Research Centre Report

He reported on the National Safe Church Unit (NSCU) as a joint co-operation between the Assembly and the synods to guide the requirements as set down by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. It has determined a National Policy for the Uniting Church in Australia. Rev John Cox is the director of NSCU and Rev David de Kock is on the governance group. WA Synod contributes 6.7% of the cost of unit which is based on the number of congregations in each synod.

Rev David de Kock spoke about the National Redress Scheme and the provision of counselling and therapeutic service and that \$5000 pertains to WA. All redress claims received by the National Redress Scheme relating to any Uniting Church entity is referred to the relevant Synod as a request for information. Each Synod Standing Committee is a member of the UCA Redress Ltd and each General Secretary is the member representative at regular meetings. The Synod contributes \$42,000 pa to the running of the UCA Redress Ltd.

Rev de Kock acknowledged the work of Robert Watson, who was the Chair of the Synod Task Group before the establishment of the National Safe Church Unit. He highlighted the work of the Culture of Safety team who have been providing outstanding work to ensure that the Uniting Church helps those who have been victims of abuse in the past have experienced historical child sexual abuse.

Rev de Kock reported on property. He advised that a property review had been carried out. Many of the Uniting Church buildings have been in disrepair to the tune of \$6 million dollars. Rev Mark Illingworth has been working with the Property Review Task Group and the Presbytery to address all the most urgent issues.

Rev de Kock reported on the finances of the Uniting Church in WA. He said that budget costs had declined from \$7 million to \$5 million. The Synod Standing Committee instructed the Finance Committee in 2015 to have balanced budget with a three year forecast. This has been achieved with the Budget surplus of \$573,000 for 2020 and \$3,462 for 2021 and \$3,702 for 2022. He noted that the Uniting Church does not have any form of income and interest rates are on the decline, investments rates are low.

Revive Magazine has been revamped and is back in circulation. The costs have been reviewed and reduced for print publication. The magazine is widely distributed and reaches those in remote areas.

Remote Area Ministry is currently running with three placements: Rev John Dihm in the Pilbara, Rev Mitch Fialkowski in the Murchison and Ps John Tomkins in the Gascoyne. Two of these are funded by Frontier Services and one by the Synod. The General Secretary is on the Assembly's Remote Area Ministry Working Group which assesses potential new Remote Area Placements and makes recommendations for funding to Frontier Services. Funding has been approved by Frontier Services for a Bush Chaplain placement in the Goldfields Patrol and a Joint Nominating Committee has been established. The goal is to have five fully funded Remote Area Placements by 2021 adding funding for the Gascoyne role and a new Bush Chaplain in Port Hedland to the existing placements in the Pilbara, Murchison and Goldfields.

### **PRESBYTERY REPORT (Report 17)**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Presbytery Report*

### Discussion

Bob Hunt, Chair of Presbytery presented his report and outlined some of the problems the Presbytery had faced. He spoke of future closures of some congregations and faith communities. Bob Hunt reported that approximately \$6 million is required for building maintenance next year along with over \$2.5 million a year from congregations for future

maintenance. Presbytery will have to make some difficult decisions in the future to some of the congregations and faith communities. The Presbytery will work through any decisions with congregations. He said the Presbytery Standing Committee is currently reviewing their strategic plans and goals. He urged congregations to review through following three questions:

- (1) Why does your congregation exist?
- (2) How does your congregation intend not only to survive but thrive?
- (3) What are your congregation's long term and short term goals?

Several questions were raised and discussed.

## **PART 4 BUSINESS SESSION**

### **RESOLUTION 18/2019**

#### **REPORTS SYNOD COMMISSIONS**

*Synod agreed by consensus to approve the Consent Agenda and to approve all reports in one action rather than filling motions on each item separately.*

*It was noted the following reports have been taken out of this category for specific reasons:*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Report 2  | Beananging Kwuurt Institute (BKI)  |
| Report 6  | Committee for Counselling  |
| Report 23 | WA Regional Committee of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress Report |

The following reports have been taken as read and presented en bloc.

***The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the following reports:***

- Business Committee (4)
- Nominating Committee (14)
- Bridging Entities (3)
- Church Law (5)
- Committee for Discipline (7)
- Ministerial Benefits Committee (11)
- Pastoral Network of Evangelicals Uniting Mission Action (PNEUMA) (15)
- Placement Commission (16)
- Property Trust (17)
- Synod Standing Committee – Sub Committees (21)
  - 21.1 Synod Standing Committee Advice to Moderatorial Nominating Committee (Attachment 1)
  - 21.2 Synod Organisation Chart (Attachment 2)
  - 21.3 Appendix A Resolutions Synod Standing Committee
  - 21.4 Culture of Safety
  - 21.5 Disaster Relief & Community Recovery Working Group
  - 21.6 Uniting Church Archives Research Centre
- Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (22)

## **RESOURCES COMMISSION AND BUDGET REPORT**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Resources Commission and Budget Report*

### Discussion

#### **Resources Commission**

Chris Walker, Chairperson of the Resources Commission, presented the report. He noted that the Resources Commission has five sub committees that report to the Resources Commission. He thanked these committees for their voluntary work and acknowledged that members meet outside working hours in a voluntary capacity. Chris Walker said the synod fund has been audited with a clean report. The Foundation has moved all properties to the

balance sheet of the Property Trust. He highlighted the ongoing work on the operating expenditure and the Investment & Corporate Finance Services. The Uniting Church Investment Fund is now only available to congregations. Chris Walker noted that for the first time in 20 years, the Uniting Church has a full run down of all the properties in Western Australia. A property manager was appointed to oversee and plan for maintenance and a sinking fund was created. It was suggested that the sinking fund could be named Future Maintenance Fund.

## **Budget**

Rev David De Kock referred to the Budget Report. He advised he had taken on the responsibility for the Resources Division since the retirement of Robert Locke as General Manager Resources. He acknowledged the work of the Property Manager, Richard Paterson, Chief Financial Officer, Michael Patchell, Insurance and Risk Manager, Muralee Nair and Manager Investments, Lyn Boorn in preparing the budget this year. Rev de Kock introduced Chief Financial Officer, Michael Patchell, to present the budget report. Michael Patchell provided a summary and explained that the reports are now separate from the Presbytery budget.

He referred to the Financial Report and explained the detail as follows:

- Results Summary for the year ended 31 December 2018
- Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2018
- Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 December 2018

Michael Patchell provided a detailed report of the Income and Expenditure Budget and advised that the Synod has provided a very different report this year. He said there would be very little change for the next 3 years providing there were no major catastrophes. He noted that a reserve had been set aside for Redress payments. Michael Patchell reported an increase in Culture of Safety budget due to the Royal Commission investigations and an increase in insurance cover.

Some questions were raised regarding staffing costs. It was acknowledged that the report presented to Synod this year was much clearer. Michael Patchell advised that presentations of the report are available on request.

## **ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS NETWORK REPORT AND AWARDS PRESENTATION**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Ecumenical Affairs Network Report.*

### Discussion

Rev Justine Wall presented the Ecumenical and Inter-Faith Awards for 2019 to the following congregations:

- (1) The Billabong Uniting Church – Rev Luke Williams
- (2) Floreat Uniting Church – Marie Yuncken

## **COVENANTING COMMISSION REPORT AND UAICC REPORT**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Covenanting Commission Report.*

Rev Robert Jetta presented the Covenanting Commission Report.

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE REPORT**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Social Justice Report.*

### Discussion

Mark Brisbane, Chair of the Social Justice Commission, presented the report and included a summary on the following:

- Aboriginal Justice /Covenanting First People
- Refugees and people seeking asylum
- Global Climate Strike, Environment and Climate Change and Renewable Energy Transition
- Peace Conference
- Surrender Conference



## **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REPORT**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the International Partnership and Development Commission Report.*

### Discussion

Mrs Susy Thomas, Chairperson of the International Partnerships and Development Commission (IPDC) acknowledged the work of the commission and its members. Geoff Bice, Social Justice Consultant presented the report and highlighted the following:

- Planning and the Federal Government's repeated cuts to the Australian Aid budget
- The international partnerships with Sri Lanka, West Papua, West Timor, Timor Leste
- Governance and risk management
- Country specific sub groups
- UnitingWorld
- Key challenges in risk management and compliance as required by the new ACNC Standards review of the commission's operations.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT FINAL**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Nominating Committee Report.*

### Discussion

Margaret Martin, Convener of the Nominating Committee, presented the final report and advised that there would be no ballots. She thanked the members of the Nominating Committee for their work and commitment and to Maureen Bourke for her administrative support.

## **BEANANGING KWUURT INSTITUTE (BKI) REPORT**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the Beananging Kwuurt Institute Report*

### Discussion

Rev David de Kock presented the BKI Report on behalf of the Chair and members of the Institute. He spoke about the action plan of BKI, its commitment to work with Uniting Care Agencies, and developing a business plan in the future. BKI are currently reviewing their constitution.

## **SCHOOLS/COLLEGES REPORT**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the following School/Colleges Reports:*

1. National Schools Education Charter 2019 (Revised)
2. Penrhos College
3. PLC
4. MLC
5. St Stephen's School
6. Scotch College
7. Trinity Residential College
8. Tranby College
9. Wesley College

### Discussion

Rev Andrew Syme presented the revised edition of the Schools' National Education Charter 2019 and continued with the reports. Questions were welcomed and representatives from each school and or college were available for responses.

## **CARE AGENCIES REPORTS**

*The Synod agreed by consensus to receive the following Care Agencies Reports:*

1. UnitingCare WA Forum
2. Good Samaritan Industries (GSI)

3. Juniper
4. UnitingCare West

#### Discussion

#### **UnitingCare WA Forum**

Robert Watson acknowledged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of this country throughout Australia, and their connection to the land and community paying respects to them and their cultures, and to the elders both past and present.

Robert Watson presented the care agencies reports. Questions were raised and responses were received from the agency representatives, Amanda Hunt, CEO UnitingCare West, Chris Hall, CEO Juniper and Melanie Kiely, CEO of Good Samaritan Industries.

#### **Good Samaritan Industries (GSI)**

Melanie Kiely, Chief Executive Officer of Good Samaritan Industries (GSI), responded to a question regarding the Royal Commission. Robert Watson added that the Uniting Care WA Forum is currently in the formation of a response to the Royal Commission. Melanie Kiely also responded to a question regarding disabilities and people working within the community. She reported that GSI want to reach out to all congregations and the community. She advised that GSI is currently working with Rev Alison Gilchrist to enhance this area.

#### **UnitingCare West (UCW)**

Amanda Hunt, Chief Executive Officer UnitingCare West paid respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as traditional owners of the land on which we meet. She responded to questions regarding rebranding of UnitingCare West to Uniting and advised UCW have currently worked very closely with Vic/Tas and Queensland Synods in developing a branding framework that is both national and state specific, which includes foundational statement and a purpose statement, and deepening our sense of identity. Amanda Hunt also responded to questions regarding working with schools. She advised that one of the strategic plans is to work with congregations and schools. She also responded to questions about those who end up homeless and in the justice system. She advised that UCW had changed the way it works and is now focusing on a more person-centred system. Amanda Hunt also advised that UCW is committed to working with the church in building relationships. She mentioned her work with Rev Alison Gilchrist. She encouraged ideas to come forward.

#### **Juniper**

Chris Hall, Chief Executive Officer of Juniper responded to questions relating to the partnership with the WA Uniting Church. He also responded to questions regarding staff and the impacts relating to Voluntary Assisted Dying. He said Juniper is waiting on the WA Synod to make a decision.

### **PROPOSALS**

#### **PROPOSAL I BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

##### ***The Synod agreed by consensus to:***

1. Adopt the Order of Business and the timetable, noting that decisions to vary the order of business and timetable can be taken by the Synod at any time
2. Approve the roll of members (See 2019 Synod Membership List)
3. Approve the following persons as members of the Business Committee for the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Synod of Western Australia: Rev Steve Francis (Moderator), Rev David de Kock (General Secretary), Rev Mark Illingworth, Rev Ken Devereux, Margaret Martin, Bob Hunt, Rev Andrew Syme and Maggie Johns
4. Appoint Ms Maree Kemp as Minute Secretary
5. Appoint Mr Bruce Wilson as Time Keeper
6. Appoint Mrs Cindy Gorton as Screen Manager
7. Authorise the following persons to confirm the minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Synod: Rev David de Kock, Mrs Margaret Johnston and Mrs Maggie Johns.

8. Appoint Mrs Margaret Martin as Returning Officer and Ms Maureen Bourke as Assistant Returning Officer;
  - a. appoint the following persons as scrutineers: Rev Mark Illingworth, Rev Elizabeth Burns, Maureen Bourke and Ian Passmore; and
  - b. determine that the closing time for nominations is 1.30pm Saturday 14 September.
9. Appoint Rev Sophie Lizares, Rev Sonny Rajamoney, Rev John Dihm and Ps John Tomkins as Chaplains for the Synod meeting
10. Appoint Geoff Bice as Fire Warden and Janine McDonald as First Aider for the Synod meeting  
*Mover: Rev David de Kock*

## PROPOSAL 2 NOMINATING COMMITTEE BEYOND TEN YEARS

### *The Synod passed by agreement*

1. *To extend the following list of nominations beyond 10 years for eligibility for election to the next term.*

Name	Committee	Continuous From	Election Due
Bruce Wilson	Bridging Entities	2005	2020
Bruce Wilson	Church Law Committee	2004	2020
Lynette Clayton	Committee for Counselling	1991	2020
Ted Johnston	Committee for Counselling	1991	2020
Neville Barber	Committee for Discipline	2007	2020
Uto Fotu	Covenanting Commission	2006	2020
Rev Marie Wilson	Ecumenical Affairs Network	2007	2020
Lee-Anne Burnett	International Partnership and Development Commission (Uniting World)	2008	2020
Ian Passmore	Nominating Committee	2005	2020
Margaret Martin	Nominating Committee	2003	2020
Anne Steed	Uniting Church Adult Fellowship	2006	2020

### Discussion

There was some discussion regarding members on the Committee for Counselling and their length of term. There was suggestion that voting be delayed until the Nominating Committee had time to find new members. It was noted that the Committee for Counselling had recommended to keep the following two people, Lynette Clayton and Ted Johnston on for a further year to maintain continuity.

## PROPOSAL 3 BUDGET 2020 PROJECTION 2021-2022

*The Synod agreed by consensus to adopt the budget for 2020 and notes the projections for 2021-2022.*

## PROPOSAL 4 STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

### *The Synod agreed by consensus:*

1. To support the 2017 Statement from the Heart made at Uluru as a consensus position of 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders from across Australia as the preferred pathway towards reconciliation, and urge the Commonwealth Government to implement:
  - 1.1 The establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution to empower First Peoples to have a greater say in policy and legislation which governs their affairs and, in so doing, improve their autonomy and prosperity;
  - 1.2 The establishment of a *Makarrata* Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations, and provide a means for truth-telling about the history of Australia's First Peoples.
2. To urge the Western Australian State Government to establish an independent Commission to advance the development of treaty making with Western Australian Aboriginal Nations;

3. To commend the Statement from the Heart to congregations, presbyteries and agencies for prayerful engagement and discussion.

## **PROPOSAL 5 REFORM OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & CASHLESS DEBIT CARD PROGRAM**

### ***The Synod agreed by consensus:***

1. To acknowledge the discriminatory nature of the Community Development Program, which sees higher requirements placed mainly on First Australians seeking employment in remote areas than on people elsewhere in Australia.
2. To call on the Commonwealth Government to work with First Peoples organisations to develop a new program to assist First Peoples in remote Australia who are looking for work, such as the proposal put forward by the Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory in May 2017. This should include reforming the program to move from a punitive, attendance-focused approach towards one which rewards participation in activities that are selected and valued by the community and, in turn, provide skills and experiences which improve the quality of life of all participants and their future employment prospects.
3. To acknowledge the discriminatory nature of the Cashless Debit Card which mandatorily restricts purchasing choices of people who are unemployed, with up to 78% of whom identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.
4. To call on the Commonwealth Government not to expand the Cashless Debit Card trials and instead work with communities on transitioning to a voluntary scheme co-designed with communities that includes holistic and co-ordinated support services.

## **PROPOSAL 6 COMMUNITY REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**

### ***The Synod agreed by consensus to:***

1. note the long-standing commitment of the Uniting Church to seek justice for refugees and people seeking asylum; most notably the ***Shelter from the Storm*** statement and associated resolutions adopted by the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly in July 2015, and
2. recognise the ongoing dedicated efforts of Uniting Church congregations and members who continue to offer direct support and advocacy for people seeking asylum in our community
  - (a) Write to the Federal Government expressing our support for a new Community Refugee Sponsorship model, and
  - (b) Encourage congregations to express their interest in supporting a new Community Refugee Sponsorship model, and
  - (c) Provide resources and information to those congregations expressing interest in supporting a new Community Refugee Sponsorship model.

## **PROPOSAL 7 A GENEROUS AUSTRALIAN AID COMMITMENT PROPOSAL**

### ***The Synod agreed by consensus to:***

1. affirm that Australian development aid, funded by government, church and individuals, is an effective and powerful way of combating poverty and injustice throughout the world, thereby addressing the root causes of conflict, instability, people displacement and disease;
2. express profound concern regarding recent cuts to Australian aid, reducing it to the lowest levels in our history;
3. call on the Federal Government to
  - 3.1 begin restoration of overseas aid cuts from the budgets of the past six years; and
  - 3.2 commit to achieving the internationally agreed aid target of 0.7% Gross National Income (GNI) by 2030, beginning with a return to the top half of rich country aid donors by the end of next parliamentary term.

**VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING** *(This was an intro to the subject as a matter of community interest at the moment, so was not necessarily related to whether or not there was a proposal)*

#### Discussion

Rev Steve Francis introduced the discussion of Voluntary Assisted Dying and explained the process. The first segment (10 minutes discussion) around the table groups followed by a second segment of synod discussion.

He introduced Chaplains Rev Sophia Lizares, Rev John Dihm and Rev Sonny Rajamoney who would be available for pastoral support for any member who may require support during this discussion.

#### **PROPOSAL 8 VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING**

The proposal was presented by Rev Ken Devereux with many short comments, observations and concerns by members.

#### ***After lengthy discussion it was agreed by consensus that the Synod:***

(1) Affirms that:

- (a) life is a gift of God, and all human life, regardless of circumstance, is precious to and has dignity before God;
- (b) 'neither death nor life, neither suffering nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord' (see Romans 8:38-39);
- (c) as followers of Christ and through God's accompanying grace, gifts of fresh wisdom, peace, courage and compassion can be birthed in the midst of suffering, which is a deep and abiding mystery;
- (d) 'while death is the end of mortal life it marks a new beginning in our relationship with God' (see Uniting in Worship 2; Funeral Liturgy);
- (e) as followers of Christ we are called to spiritual discernment and responsibility as we journey through life and death;
- (f) as the body of Christ we are called to be a loving and supportive community around people in need of care as they or their loved ones move closer to the end of mortal life;
- (g) as citizens in a pluralistic culture we also seek to care for and respect our neighbours who may not hold to our faith in God yet may experience fear, uncertainty, pain, grief or sometimes, extreme and extended suffering, as they prepare for their own death or that of their loved ones; and
- (h) multi-disciplinary palliative care is a vital service that can optimise the quality of life for someone who has an active, progressive, advanced disease, with little or no prospect of cure even as they move closer to their death;

(2) Recognises that within the Church there is a diversity of faithful Christian understandings and responses to dying and to voluntary assisted dying which are consistent with the affirmations in clause (1);

(3) Requests the Synod Standing Committee to develop a process for consultation with congregations, faith communities and agencies about the issue of Voluntary Assisted Dying, ensuring that this is appropriately resourced and with the hope that a proposal be brought to Synod 2020.

- (4) (a) Commends the WA Government for its commitment to increased financial allocations to Palliative care services; and
- (b) Urges the WA Government to live up to, and in future years extend, its commitment to increased support for quality palliative care services with better access across the state; and

(5) Communicates these decisions to the Premier, the Minister for Health and the Leader of the Opposition.

Following the decision, the Moderator drew attention to an ecumenical gathering to pray for all involved in the current parliamentary and community deliberations around voluntary assisted dying.

## **MOTIONS OF APPRECIATION**

### **1. COMMITTEE FOR COUNSELLING**

#### **Rev Harry Lucas**

Rev Harry Lucas has been chair of the Synod Committee for Counselling over the past 14 years, a position he has held with distinction, a role he has exercised with integrity and with a wisdom gained over more than 60 years of ordained ministry. Harry's ministerial experience, deep commitment to the mission of God through the uniqueness of the Uniting Church, and his capacity to pastorally listen and counsel has been of immense value to the Synod of WA. This Synod acknowledges the compassionate, thoughtful and prayerful contribution of Harry's work as Chair of Synod Committee for Counselling.

#### **Rev Dr Dianne Bertilino**

Rev Dr Dianne Bertilino has been a valued member of the Synod Committee for Counselling for the past 18 years. Dianne approached her role out of her deep understanding of ministry and her professional experience as a minister and pastoral counsellor. Her experience of pastoral ministry has enabled Dianne to offer valued insight over the many years of her commitment. Dianne's experience and professionalism will be missed. The Committee for Counselling, and the WA Synod, has been fortunate to have Dianne serve for so long. This Synod acknowledged with deep gratitude her commitment to the work of this committee.

### **2. RESOURCES COMMISSION**

#### **Marie Yuncken**

Marie was an inaugural member of the Resources Board (now Commission) in 2010. Marie brought to the Resources Commission a social justice and mission experience that has been invaluable in its judgement processes.

Marie's contribution to the Uniting Church has been many, varied and consistent. Her generous commitment with the congregation, commission and mission has been greatly appreciated.

#### **Greg Howlett**

Greg was also an inaugural member of the Resources Board in 2010 having already served as a member of the Uniting Church Investment Fund Board. Greg brought a vast business background, and has been extremely generous to the Church with his time and experience. Greg retires as Chair of the Investment and Corporate Finance Committee knowing that the Church's financial position is in a sound state and having implemented many improvements in the management of the investments of the Uniting Church Investment Fund.

#### **Robert Locke**

Robert retired from the Uniting Church Centre office in July as General Manager (Resources). He joined the team responsible for managing the resources of the Church in October 2000 as Business Services Manager with an initial focus on investments, utilising his background in banking and stock-broking. Over time he took overall management responsibility for the Resources Division as Associate General Secretary (Resources). He was later appointed as General Manager (Resources), with oversight of the Financial Services Unit, the Property Services Unit, Insurance Services and Investments. Over the past 19 years he has guided the development of the Resources Division and enabled the Resources Commission to provide a co-ordinated approach to managing the governance of the resources needs of the WA Synod.

Having given many years to the service of the Church we wish him well in his retirement to the golf course, his darts team and his grandchildren.

### **3. CARING AGENCIES**

#### **JUNIPER**

#### **Mr Fred Boshart**

That the Synod record its appreciation for the commendable service to the Church from Fred Boshart over 13 years.

The Uniting Church is deeply indebted to Fred Boshart for the huge contribution that he has made to the life of the WA Synod's largest agency as a member since 2006, and chair from 2015, of the Juniper Board.

Fred is a humble and engaging person with a wonderfully welcoming and friendly disposition. His personal values are inextricably aligned to Juniper's core values. He has led Juniper with a strong sense of integrity and a respect for all people with whom he has come in contact.

Fred's love of learning has helped Juniper meet the challenges and grasp the opportunities associated with constant change for more than a decade. This has been both at a governance level in the conduct of a large organisation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and operationally, with the changing expectations of our community and meeting expanding regulatory requirements in aged care. He has led the Board in its deliberations over strategy, the organisation's key objectives and the key decisions that have been reflected in Juniper's growth and success. He has always demonstrated fairness and engagement in decision making at the Board level. In the life of a Church agency to have a leader who deeply understands the role of delivering on mission in an increasingly competitive market place, Fred has assisted Juniper to remain true to its vision, mission and values during tumultuous times. His common sense business and finance skills in decision making will be sorely missed. Fred has also been the primary conduit to assist Juniper to transition from the leadership of its former long serving Chief Executive, Vaughan Harding, to its new CEO in Chris Hall. The importance of having Fred's presence during this transition cannot be underestimated.

We give thanks for Fred's passionate commitment to the aged care sector and recognise his faithful contribution to the Uniting Church in Western Australia through Juniper, and to the wider Uniting Church through UnitingCare Australia.

### **Mr John Jeffreys**

That the Synod record its appreciation for the commendable service to the Church from John Jeffreys over 11 years.

John initially joined the Juniper Board to give voice to the extensive country services provided by Juniper. This theme, together with constant questioning concerning how Juniper was responding to the accommodation, care and service needs of people who did not have choice, was an important prompt to ensure that Juniper remained on mission.

John's very grounded approach to decision making and need to find ways to express his deep faith has assisted Juniper to also remain well-grounded and to reflect the higher aspirations of a faith based organisation. John's support was a key component in Juniper taking responsibility for a number of Aboriginal services in the East Kimberley, a role that knowingly would present significant ongoing challenges.

John also provided very practical guidance concerning Juniper's approach to financial management and its enviable occupational health and safety performance.

John has always been a very welcoming Board Director to his colleagues, open to sharing his knowledge and extending a hand of friendship and support.

We give thanks for John's passionate commitment to the aged care sector and recognise his faithful contribution to the Uniting Church in Western Australia through Juniper.

### **UNITINGCARE WEST**

#### **Peter Fitzpatrick AO**

UnitingCare West (UCW) sincerely thanks Peter Fitzpatrick AO for his contribution in chairing the UCW Board for the past four years, and for chairing the Board's Governance Committee. Peter is widely respected and recognised for the outstanding contributions made during his professional life at the helm of two peak bodies as the Chief Executive Officer for the legal profession and the motor industry. Prior to this, Peter had a distinguished twenty year military career, including service with the elite Special Air Service (SASR) Regiment. He has extensive experience as a director and chair on both for-profit and not-for-profit boards, including the Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention and the Bravery Trust. Peter's experience as an AICD facilitator has strengthened the governance of UCW, and he has led the organisation through a period of sustained change in the not-for-profit community services sector.

#### **Deborah Marshall**

UnitingCare West sincerely thanks Deborah Marshall who has been a member of the UCW Board for the past six years. During that time, Deborah has been a member of the Human Resources Committee (2014-2015), Strategic Property and Asset Committee (2016-2017) and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee (2018-2019). Deborah qualified as a Chartered Accountant in the UK and migrated to Australia in 1988. The Marshall family joined Floreat Uniting Church in 1996. In the time since, Deborah has been the congregation's treasurer, and active in the establishment of the "Creative Living Centre" (CLC) which runs outreach programmes, mainly with an Indigenous community in the Kimberley and students at the Ottow Giessler University in West Papua. Deborah joined the board of UnitingCare Crossroads as the Treasurer. With the transition of the Crossroads Services to UnitingCare West, the opportunity to continue an involvement in the wider service and mission of the Church via the UCW Board was offered and happily accepted. A strong commitment to a community

based on equality of opportunity has been a driving force behind Deborah's involvement in various local groups and she brought that passionate engagement to her role as a UCW Board member.

#### **Michael Brady**

UnitingCare West is grateful to Michael Brady for seven years' service as a member of the UCW Board from August 2011 to October 2018. During that time, Michael was a valued member of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee. Michael's knowledge gained through his qualifications in Psychology and Law, coupled with his commercial experience, provided valuable expertise to the UCW Board and his attention to detail, curiosity and commitment to the mission, vision and values of UCW were deeply appreciated.

#### **Dr Hannah McGlade**

UnitingCare West thanks Dr Hannah McGlade for sharing her insights and experience as a member of the UCW Board from November 2018 to June 2019. Dr McGlade is an experienced legal academic and practitioner with special interest in Indigenous human rights. She has focused on justice for Aboriginal people, race discrimination law and practice, Aboriginal women and children, family violence and sexual assault.

### **GOOD SAMARITAN INDUSTRIES**

#### **John Knowles**

Good Samaritan Industries (GSI) is grateful to John Knowles for his 10 years' service as Chief Executive Officer of GSI from June 2008 to February 2019. During this time John worked tirelessly with successive Patrons, Boards, executive teams, staff, volunteers, congregations, sponsor and donors throughout Western Australia to strengthen and grow Good Samaritan Industries in his time.

#### **Rev Craig Collas**

Good Samaritan Industries is grateful to Rev Craig Collas for his service as a devoted Board Member, from February 2016 to April 2019, and for his support and guidance to the Board to strengthen the bond between the Uniting Church and Good Samaritan Industries as well as promoting the mission of GSI in the Uniting Church community.

## **4. SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES**

### **TRANBY COLLEGE**

#### **Ms Lynne Woolfenden**

The Board and College express their appreciation for Ms Lynne Woolfenden's support, guidance and leadership of the Tranby College Board between 2015 and 2019. A Board member since 2011, Ms Woolfenden worked tirelessly during her tenure as both a Director and Chair, with a singular interest in advancing the college community.

### **METHODIST LADIES COLLEGE (MLC)**

#### **Craig Colvin**

In early 2018, MLC farewelled our long-serving and valued Council member Mr Craig Colvin, whose contribution to the college, council and foundation has been significant. Craig had been a member of the College Council and various committees for seven years. Craig is missed for his quiet insight, calm reasoning, sense of humour and recognition of the core values of the College.

#### **Prue Honey**

Prue Honey retired as a member of the MLC Council in June after just over 10 years and served as the Deputy Chair, Treasurer and Chair of the Audit Risk and Compliance Committee. Prue has been a valuable and committed member to the MLC Council and Community. Her gentle and polite manner has held her in high regard with her council colleagues, and her professional and diligent oversight and questioning of council matters has contributed to the success of the college. We wish Prue and Barry the very best for the future.

#### **Dr Penny Flett**

Council Chair, Dr Flett retired from the MLC Council in 2018 after seven years in 2018. During her tenure as Chair, the college witnessed many significant achievements including record enrolments; our Boarding House



transformation; the redevelopment of the Junior Years' learning community; and, a smooth Principal transition to Dr Marie Perry. Dr Flett continues to be an inspiration to both our girls and the wider college community for her commitment to education and the professional and dignified health care for our older community members.

## **ST STEPHEN'S SCHOOL**

### **Michael Charteris**

Michael Charteris has been a member of the School Council for 12 years. As a Quantity Surveyor, Michael has brought his expertise to the development of the School's Masterplan and the capital works programs, including development plans for new builds and refurbishments. Michael has chaired the Planning Committee and has worked collaboratively with fellow council members and the school to build on the future development needs of the School's facilities for our students, staff, parents and more broadly the community beyond. His commitment and loyalty to the school will be greatly missed.

## **SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND TRIBUTE**

### Discussion

Rev Steve Francis led the Service of Thanksgiving and Tribute in prayers and hymns. Julie Ridden, the Moderator's Chaplain spoke about the ministry and lives of Rev Emanuel Audisho and Rev Ruth Vertigan. Julie Ridden shared the life of Rev Dr Douglas McAdam, member of the Nedlands Uniting Church and paid tribute to him and honoured his life.

## **RETIREMENTS**

### **Rev Dr Emanuel Audisho**

- Ordained in 30 November 2002
- Pastor of the Iraqi Congregation in Amman-Jordan (1999-2003)
- Founder of the Iraqi Methodist Church in Amman-Jordan (2000-2003)
- Founder of the Assyrian & Arabic Holiness Church in Perth WA (2004)
- Founder of the Marhaba Multicultural Community Centre WA (2011)
- Multicultural Ministry Co-ordinator – Uniting Church Centre (2010 – 2019)
- Retired 31 March 2019

Emanuel was born in Iraq into a family who held to the tradition of one of the early branches of Christianity. In his Christian discipleship he faced many challenges with the increasing sectarian violence in Iraq and was eventually forced to leave the country in 1997.

He fled to Amman, Jordan, as a refugee where he founded a church amongst Iraqi refugees in 2000 and subsequently a related sister church in Baghdad in 2003. He was ordained as a Minister of the Free Methodist Church while in Jordan. Later in 2003 he came with his family to Perth where a brother had settled some years before.

On arriving in Perth he founded the Assyrian and Arabic Holiness Church which continues to offer worship services and pastoral ministry to people from the Middle East.

Emanuel is fluent in five languages which has proved most helpful in the development of cross cultural Christian ministry in Perth and beyond. He holds a Master of Divinity Degree from The Jordan Evangelical Seminary and a PhD in Arabic Literature from Mosul University in Iraq. He has been a lecturer and was Principal of a College in Iraq for many years. Emanuel has brought with him a unique experience of life and Christian tradition. He has physically walked the roads that Abraham walked and lived in areas where much of the Biblical tradition was formed.

He knows also the pain of the refugee and the cost of bringing a family to a vastly different culture.

His lived experience in areas of world conflict and his clear vision to foster unity and peace as a Christian Minister offers us the opportunity to appreciate some of the contemporary challenges of our day. Emanuel has generously shared his experience, faith, and knowledge and made a significant contribution to our Church and the wider community as we all seek to live purposefully in a world where there is a clash of religion and culture and large numbers of people have been displaced from their homelands.

On behalf of the Synod of WA, I want to say well done and many thanks to Emanuel for his pioneering and faith stretching ministry of Christocentric love. May God continue to guide your journey as you have helped guide ours.

## **Rev Ruth Vertigan**

BEd B Theol, Grad Dip in Spiritual Direction

- Ordained in January 2012
- (2007-2008) Principal of Australian Christian College Southlands
- (2011) Graduated from Murdoch University Theological Hall
- (2006-2007) Completed CPE
- (2009) Member of the All Saints Floreat Uniting Church
- (2010) Served in the Social Justice Unit
- (2010) Rural Ministry Team Special Project in Pingelly
- (2011) Graylands Hospital Chaplaincy
- (2012) Took up Placement as Rural Ministry Team Co-ordinator
- Retired July 2019 – Moved to Albany to enjoy retirement.

Rev Ruth Vertigan was ordained as a Minister of the Word in January 2012. It formalised a vocation that had been ongoing for most of her life, throughout many other occupations. Her first placement was with the Applecross St Stephens Uniting Church congregation.

Ruth moved from there to Rural Ministry at a time when there were was one community minister based at Trayning, a pastor at Warren Blackwood and other ordained ministers only at Northam, Merredin and Wagin across all of inland rural WA. Over time, rural ministry has evolved from only being concerned with congregations who 'opted in' to including some regional centres and remote places like Carnarvon and Esperance as well. More recently the WA Church as a whole has become more openly aware of our interconnectedness.

Ruth is grateful for the years at Murdoch University and Perth Theological Hall, which helped reshape her theological understandings. She values the deep connections formed with fellow students of other denominations who are continuing friends and sources of insight into how their churches face similar issues to ours.

She chose to serve on the Synod Ecumenical Affairs Committee because of her belief that the UCA needs to continue its commitment to work with other Christians, and also nowadays with other faiths. That led to serving on the executive of the WA Council of Churches and the national Christian Working Group. Ruth was also a member of the Social Justice Commission for about nine years. She was delighted when the church afforded her a platform for her God-given passion to heed the teachings of Jesus and the ancient prophets to care for all people, welcome the stranger, care for all creation, seek first the 'kingdom' ...

Ruth indicated her main area of continuing education was in the study of spirituality, leading to an international qualification as a Spiritual Director/ Companion and an interest in offering spiritual retreats.

As Ruth retires from formal ministry, she said it feels like her vocation of offering God's grace to all is simply finding another location.

## **RECOGNITION OF MINISTRY FOR THOSE DECEASED**

### **Rev Dr Douglas Brebner MacAdam**

- Ordained in 1959 in the United Kingdom
- Associate Minister at Headingley Hill Congregation Church, Leeds UK (1959)
- Associate Minister at HH United Reformed Church in St Columbia (1973)
- Associate Minister and Member at Nedlands Uniting Church, Nedlands WA (1987-2018)

We recognise the passing of Dr Douglas McAdam who was a pioneer of palliative care medicine in Western Australia. Dr MacAdam died on 17 October 2018.

Douglas Macadam was a remarkable Yorkshire man. He was a general practitioner, a university lecturer, innovator and pioneer. He did theological training concurrently with his medical degree, and was an ordained minister in the Uniting Church and a graduate from Cambridge and London University.

He migrated to Perth from England, bringing with him experience in palliative care, which was a very new concept at the time. He was one of the driving forces behind the construction of the Cottage Hospice in Shenton Park, and the Silver Chain Hospice Care Service. He started the first home care service in the Claremont region. It was so successful that it rapidly spread to cover the whole of Metropolitan Perth, divided into eight teams.

In 1983, Douglas assisted in providing an inpatient backup service in Fremantle hospital, for patients receiving homecare who required hospital admission. He was responsible for the creation of the position of Senior Lecturer in Palliative Care, which we believe was the first academic position in the southern hemisphere. He also provided medical services at the Cottage Hospice, which opened in 1987.

In 1992 he was WA citizen of the Year. In 2001 Douglas received a Centenary Medal. He was a gracious, gentle and gifted man, a humble, helpful disciple of Christ. God gave him an outstanding intellect, a warm heart and an eagerness to serve Christ and people. Douglas passed away peacefully at Juniper St Andrews. Much loved by Clare and Richard, Hugh and Regina, Bruce and Trina, Jana, Zoe, Alysha, Selima, James, Lucy, Henry, Max and Arthur and all the family in the UK. At peace with his wife, Ruth.

### **MIC MINUTE**

Some of the following were noted:

- Heather Dowling, Media and Communications Officer won a Gold Award for her article in REVIVE. The Awards were held in New Zealand. A new look REVIVE has been re-launch publishing quarterly with the next edition in December.
- Margaret Johnston, Forest Lakes Uniting Church announced that over 100 Boomerang bags, which were placed on all the chairs, were the work of volunteers from the congregation and community centre in which they worship.
- Rev Alison Gilchrist urged members to invite non church community members to church or to events.
- Dr Deidre Palmer said we need to take those ideas on board and encourage the non-church community into the Uniting Church.

### **PRAYERS FOR THE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT AND THE ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARY**

Rev Steve Francis presented a prayer for Dr Deidre Palmer and Rob Floyd.

### **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Rev Ken Williams (Ex Moderator) has retired from the role due to an ongoing illness.
- The sister of Rev Ivan Clark (Noranda Uniting Church) has passed away and it was acknowledged that the funeral was being held today.
- The wife of Rev Don Pederick had passed away and the funeral would be held on Monday.
- Prayers and Ideas Board located in the foyer was to encourage members to write up their thoughts.

### **THANK YOU TO THE MODERATOR**

Dr Alec O'Connell, Headmaster of Scotch College and Meg Melville, Principal of Penrhos College thanked the Moderator, Rev Steve Francis, and acknowledged his support to their schools.

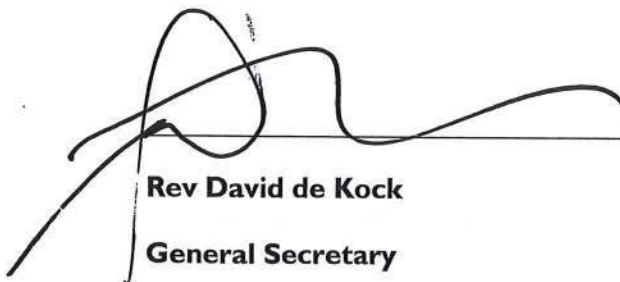
### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Rev David de Kock thanked and acknowledged those connected with the running of Synod.

### **CLOSE**

The meeting closed at 3pm


Signed



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**Rev David de Kock**  
**General Secretary**

Signed



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**Margaret Johnston**  
**Research Officer Culture of Safety**

Signed



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**Heather Dowling**  
**on behalf of Maggie Johns**  
**Media and Communications Manager**

# Roll of Synod

As at 2 September 2019

## A. VOTING MEMBERS

### Ex-officio members

Per Reg 3.3.7 (a)(i)

President Dr Deidre Palmer  
General Secretary Rob Floyd (nominee)

Per Reg 3.3.7 (a)(ii)

Moderator: Rev Steve Francis  
Past Moderator: Robert Watson  
Secretary of Synod: Rev David de Kock

### Appointed by the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (By Law 2.1.2)

Len Yarran Did not attend  
Cheryl Lawson Attending

### Appointed by Schools (Reg 3.3.7 (a) (v) & By Law 2.1.2)

St Stephens School	Donnella Beare (Principal)	Attended
Methodist Ladies College	Dr Marie Perry (Principal)	Attended
	Dr Livia Hool (Board Member)	Attended
	Nick Henry (Board Chair)	Did not attend
Penrhos Ladies College	Meg Melville (Principal)	Attended
Presbyterian Ladies College	Cate Begbie (Principal)	Attended
	Fiona Crowe	Did not attend
	Claire Poll	Attended
Wesley College	Ross Barron (Principal)	Attended
Scotch College	Dr Alex O'Connell (Headmaster)	Attended
	Mark Pananin (Board Chair)	Attended
Trinity Residential College	Mike Shearer (Principal)	Attended
Tranby College	Dr Clayton Massey (Principal)	Attended

### Appointed by Agencies (Reg 3.3.7 (a) (v) & By Law 2.1.2)

UnitingCare West	Amanda Hunt (CEO)	Attended
	Alison McCubbin (Board Member)	Attended
Good Samaritan Industries	Melanie Kiely (CEO)	Attended
	Trent Bartlett (Board Chair)	Did not attend
Juniper	Chris Hall (CEO)	Attended
	Fred Boshart (Board Chair)	Attended
	John Jeffreys (Board Member)	Attended
Beanangng Kwuurt Institute	Leon Wynne	Did not attend

### Candidates for Ministry (Reg 3.3.7 (a) (vi))

Sione Leaaetoa	Did not attend
Mitchell Garlett	Did not attend

### Appointed by Presbytery of Western Australia Per Reg 3.3.7 (a) (iii)

Rev Dr	Dianne	Bertolino	Not Attended
Rev	Andrew	Broadbent	Attended
Rev	Ivan	Clark	Attended
Rev	Narelle	Collas	Attended
Rev	Craig	Collas	Did not attend
Rev	Des	Cousins	Attended
Ps	Pamela	Crass	Did not attend
Rev	Lesley	de Grussa	Attended
Rev	David	de Kock	Attended
Rev	Lesley	deGrussa	Attended
Rev	Ken	Devereux	Attended
Rev	John	Dihm	Attended
Rev	Bev	Fabb	Attended
Rev	Mitch	Fialkowski	Attended
	Uto	Fotu	Attended
Rev	Kim	Francis	Attended
Rev	Steve	Francis	Attended
Rev	Caroline	Gepp	Did not attend
Rev	Alison	Gilchrist	Attended
Ps	Kristin	Grainger	Attended
Rev	Hannes	Halgryn	Attended
Rev	Michael	Hertz	Did not attend
Rev	Mark	Illingworth	Attended
Rev	Alan	Jeffrey	Attended
Rev	Robert	Jetta	Attended
Rev	Toby	Keva	Attended
	Valda	Knott	Did not attend
Rev	David	Kriel	Attended
Rev	Stephen	Larkin	Did not attend
Ps Dr	Elaine	Ledgerwood	Attended
Rev	Sophia	Lizares	Attended
Rev	Rod	Marsh	Did not attend
Rev	John	Marshall	Attended
Rev	Emma	Matthews	Did not attend
Rev	Anne	McAndrew	Attended
Rev	John	McKane	Attended
Rev	Andrew	Morris	Did not attend
Rev Dr	Herman	Nienaber	Attended
Rev	Jae Beom	Park	Did not attend
Ps	Jon	Paschke	Attended
Rev	Nalin	Perera	Attended
Rev	Claire	Pickering	Did not attend
Ps	Marilyn	Price	Attended
Rev Dr	M S Sonny	Rajamoney	Attended
Ps	Julie	Ridden	Attended
Rev	Greg	Ross	Attended
Rev	Judy	Sanderson	Attended
Rev	Gordon	Scantlebury	Attended
Ps	Karen	Sloan	Attended
Rev	Lorraine	Stokes	Did not attend
Rev	Manie	Strydom	Attended
Rev	Roy	Suryanegara	Attended
Rev	Andrew	Syme	Attended
Ps	John	Tomkins	Attended
Rev Dr	Ian	Tozer	Attended

Rev	David	Tressler	Did not attend
Rev	Margaret	Tyrer	Did not attend
Rev	Gary	van Heerden	Attended
Rev	Corina	van Oostende	Attended
Rev	Stephen	van Schalkwyk	Attended
Rev	Justine	Wall	Attended
Rev	Trevor	Waters	Attended
Rev	Luke	Williams	Attended
Rev	Hollis	Wilson	Attended
Rev	Marie	Wilson	Attended
Rev Dr	Anne	Wright	Attended

**Appointed by Presbytery of Western Australia Per Reg 3.3.7 (a) (iv)**

Denise	Adams	Attended
Bianca	Allen	Attended
Neville	Blesing	Attended
Elizabeth	Burns	Attended
Doug	Burtenshaw	Attended
Margaret	Donovan	Attended
Carolyn	Ebell-Taylor	Attended
Reuben	Edmonds	Attended
David	Foster	Attended
Shirley	Francis	Attended
Bob	French	Attended
Marg	Garrett	Attended
Heather	Hamblin	Attended
Ann	Hammer	Attended
Cameron	Harries	Attended
Jonathan	Haslam	Attended
Alan	Hortin	Attended
Bob	Hunt	Attended
Judy	Ives	Attended
Maggie	Johns	Attended
Margaret	Johnston	Attended
Kirt	Kirtsingham	Did not attend
Bernadette	Lhota	Attended
Clare	Ligtermoet	Attended
Erin	Lloyd	Attended
Bob	Lockley	Attended
Kay	Lockley	Attended
Margaret	Martin	Attended
Lyn	McLachlan	Attended
Alana	Moorman	Attended
Donald	Nicholas	Attended
Louise	Powell	Attended
Xiao Min (John)	QIU	Did not attend
Peter	Rankine	Attended
Vic	Richards	Attended
Mary	Riley	Attended
Yvonne	Robinson	Attended
Andrew	Sproul	Attended
Andrew	Stokes	Did not attend
Tom	Stokes	Did not attend
Trevor	Thomas	Attended

Rhondda	Tilbrook	Attended
Yuko	Tonai-Moore	Attended
Kevin	Trent	Did not attend
Hanamoia	Vaitogi	Attended
John	van den Berg	Attended
Ann-Britt	Wasley	Attended
Graham	Wasley	Attended
Glenys	White	Attended
Sue	Whitworth	Attended
Graham	Whitworth	Attended
David	Williams	Attended
Bruce	Wilson	Attended
Travis	Windsor	Attended
Elizabeth	Woods	Attended
Alison	Xamon	Attended
Marie	Yuncken	Attended

### Representing Bodies directly responsible to the Synod (Reg 3.3.7 (a) (v))

Business Committee	Maggie Johns	Attended
Church Law	Bruce Wilson	Attended
Committee for Counselling	Rev Harry Lucas	Attended
Disaster Relief	Rev David Jackson	Attended
Ecumenical Affairs	Dorothy Carey	Did not attend
Hope Community Services	Ian Passmore	Attended
International Partnership and Development Commission	Susy Thomas	Attended
Legal Reference Committee	Alison Xamon	Attended
Moderatorial Committee	Rev John Dunn	Attended
	Robert Watson	Attended
Nominating Committee	Ian Passmore	Attended
Property Trust	Lewis Bond	Attended
Resources Commission	Chris Walker	Attended
Royal Commission Task Group	Sue Thomas	Did not attend
Social Justice Commission	Mark Brisbane	Attended
Synod Standing Committee	Steve Higgins	Attended
UC Adult Fellowship	Helen McMillan	Attended

## B. NON-VOTING PARTICIPANTS

### 1. Guests from overseas churches

Rev. Yusuf Nakmofa, West Timor Methodist Church General Secretary

### 2. Guests from Australian churches and church bodies

### 3. Associated with Synod:

Persons who will assist in resourcing the Synod:

- (a) for the whole of the Synod:  
 Geoff Bice (Fire Warden)  
 Maureen Bourke (Nominations)



Heather Dowling (Revive)  
Cindy Gorton (Screen Control)  
Maree Kemp (Minutes)  
Janine McDonald (First Aid)  
James Miotti (Media)

(b) for specific business of the Synod:

Richard Patterson (Resources Commission, Property)  
Michael Patchell (Resources Commission, Budget)  
Geoff Bice (Social Justice Commission, International Partnership and Development Commission)  
Kate Leaney (Social Justice Commission, International Partnership and Development Commission)

**UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
INCLUDES NOMINATIONS 14 SEPTEMBER 2019**

- nominees will become firm appointees if they fill the available vacancy; or
- become candidates for election by members at the meeting if multiple nominations are received for any one position.
- a vacancy exists if there is no name next to nominee and shaded in yellow.

KEY	
Elected	Usually indicates the Annual Synod if only the year is stated and if it says 2019 it is for this election
Election due	Date indicates when the person is due for re-election – usually at the Annual Meeting
Cross (X)	Ex-Officio member
#	Beyond 10 yrs 2019
+	Under delegation by the General Secretary to the Deputy General Secretary
<b>NOTE</b>	
Moderator	Appointed official visitor (Reg 3.7.4.7(e)(i); By-Law S6.2)
General Secretary	The Secretary of the Synod is a member ex officio of all Synod bodies - Reg 3.6.3.4(b)
Body composition	Refer to By-Law and/or Regulation for full membership details and criteria

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>PROPERTY TRUST S1.3</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex-officio - Moderator, Property Officer</li> <li>6 other members of the Church (Chairperson – Trust member)</li> </ul> Term: 2 years	Moderator	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Property Officer	Rev David de Kock	X	X
	Elected by Synod	Paula Harkness	2011	2020
	Nominee - Chair	Lewis Bond	2017	2021
	Nominee	Barry Honey	2019	2021
	Nominee	Robert (Bob) Hunt	2019	2021
	Nominee	Ian Watson	2019	2021
Nominee	Chris Walker	2019	2021	
<b>SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE S5.2</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex-officio - Moderator, Ex-Moderator, Moderator-Elect, General Secretary</li> <li>6 members elected by Synod</li> <li>2 Congress members (Synod members)</li> <li>1 appointed by the Presbytery Standing Committee</li> <li>1 rep UnitingCare Forum (Synod member)</li> <li>1 rep Schools Forum (Synod member)</li> </ul> Must be members of Synod (3.7.4.1). Lay members not fewer than Ministerial  Co-opt up to 2 Term: 1 year	Moderator	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Acting/Ex-Moderator	Rev Ken Williams	X	X
	Moderator-Elect	TBA	X	X
	General Secretary	Rev David de Kock	X	X
	Appointed by Presbytery	Robert (Bob) Hunt	X	X
	Appointed Congress	TBA		
	Appointed Congress	TBA		
	Schools & Residential	Rev Andrew Syme	X	X
	Uniting Care Forum Rep	Robert Watson	X	X
	Nominee	Steve Higgins	2016	2020
	Nominee	Margaret Martin	2017	2020
	Nominee	Alison Xamon	2016	2020
	Nominee	Rev Dr Ian Tozer	2018	2020
Nominee	Julie Ridden	2017	2020	
Nominee	Alison McCubbin	2019	2020	
<b>Disaster Relief &amp; Community Recovery Committee (Sub-Committee of Synod Standing Committee)</b>				
Appointed by SSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex-officio – General Secretary</li> <li>Convenor appointed annually by SSC;</li> <li>Staff person appointed by General Secretary (also acts as Minute Secretary)</li> <li>5 persons appointed annually by SSC</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 Term: annually	<b>Appointed annually by Synod Standing Committee</b>			
<b>Legal Advisory Group (Sub-Committee of</b>				
Appointed by SSC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex-officio – General Secretary</li> <li>Up to four other persons</li> </ul>	<b>Appointed annually by Synod Standing Committee</b>			
<b>Council for Mission</b>				
Approved SSC [February 2018 ] Appointed Annually by SSC	Synod Standing Committee	TBA		
	Resources Commission	Chris Walker	2018	
	Placements Commission	Rev Hannes Halgryn	2018	
	Presbytery Standing	Rev Greg Ross	2018	
	Thrive Mission Committee	Rev Narelle Collas	2018	
	General Manager (Property)	Richard Patterson	2018	

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>SYNOD SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS</b>				
Appointed by Synod Standing Committee. Refer Reg 5.6 for criteria. Term: Up to 3 years.	Chair	Rev Ann Drummond Chair SSMCC Vic/Tas	Feb-18	2021
	Member (Lay)	Sue Thomas (F)	Feb-18	2021
	Member (Lay)	Cindy Gorton (F)	Feb-18	2021
	Member (Lay)	Ann-Britt Wasley (F)	Feb-18	2021
	Member (Lay)	Dr Bob French (M)	Feb-18	2021
	Member (Lay)	Graham Wasley (M)	Feb-18	2021
		Rev Keith Truscott (M)	Feb-18	2021
		Rev Claire Pickering (F)	Feb-18	2021
		Rev Kim Francis (F)	Feb-18	2021
		Rev Marion Millin (F)	Feb-18	2021
		Ps Marilyn Price (F)	Feb-18	2021
		Rev Merv Anderson (M)	Feb-18	2021
		Rev Marie Wilson (F)	Feb-18	2021
	Rev John Marshall (M)	Feb-18	2021	
<b>BUSINESS COMMITTEE S5.3</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio - General Secretary as Convenor;</li> <li>• Moderator; Moderator- Elect</li> <li>• Up to 8 other persons</li> </ul> Term: each ordinary Synod meeting	Chair	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	General Sec (Convenor)	Rev David de Kock	X	X
	Moderator-Elect	TBA	X	X
	Nominee	Rev Ken Devereux	2018	2020
	Nominee	Rev Mark Illingworth	2018	2020
	Nominee	Margaret Martin	2018	2020
	Nominee	Bruce Wilson	2019	2020
	Nominee			
	Nominee			
	Nominee			
<b>COVENANTING COMMISSION S3.4</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio - General Secretary as Convenor;</li> <li>• Ex-officio - Moderator; Chairperson of WA Regional Committee of UAICC (Co-Chairpersons)</li> <li>• Up to 5 persons elected by WA Regional Committee of UAICC</li> <li>• Up to 5 persons elected by annually by Synod</li> <li>• 1 or 2 Church Office staff relating to work of Commission (selected by Gen Sec)</li> </ul> Term: annually	Moderator(Co Chair)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Chairperson of Congress	Robert Jetta	X	X
	Elected by Congress	TBA		
	Elected by Congress	TBA		
	Elected by Congress	TBA		
	Elected by Congress	TBA		
	Elected by Congress	TBA		
	Nominee	Uto Fotu #	2006	2020
	Nominee	Dr Richard Smith	2016	2020
	Nominee	Rev Dr Alison Longworth	2019	2020
	Nominee	Rev Mervyn Anderson	2017	2020
	Nominee	Dennis Doust	2011	2020
	Staff appointed by GS	Geoff Bice		
Staff appointed by GS	TBA			

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS NETWORK S2.4</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio - General Secretary</li> <li>• Convenor</li> <li>• Up to 8 other persons</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 Term: each ordinary Synod meeting	Dep General Secretary	Rev Mark Illingworth	X	X
	Nominee - Convenor	Dorothy Carey	2010	2020
	Nominee	Rev Dr Sonny Rajamoney	2017	2020
	Nominee	Rev Marie Wilson #	2007	2020
	Nominee	Bob (Robert) Lockley	2019	2020
	Nominee			
	Nominee			
	Nominee			
<b>MINISTERIAL BENEFITS COMMITTEE S3.5</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio - WA Director Benefund Fund; General Secretary</li> <li>• Chairperson – elected by Synod</li> <li>• Not more than 2 staff with responsibilities relating to work of Committee selected by Gen Sec.</li> <li>• Up to 6 other persons (not more than 2 ministers, 1 country and 1 metro and includes minister's spouse.</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 Term: annually	General Secretary	Rev David de Kock	X	X
	WA Benefund Rep	Robert Locke	X	Dec-20
	Staff appointed by GS	Rev Mark Illingworth	2019	2020
	Staff appointed by GS	Monica Pettersen	2019	2020
	Nominee - Chairperson			
	Nominee (Minister's Spouse)	Vicki Ross	2019	2020
	Nominee			
	Nominee			
<b>PLACEMENTS COMMISSION S3.1</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio - General Secretary</li> <li>• 2 members appointed by each Presbytery</li> <li>• Chairperson – appointed by Synod</li> <li>• 3 members elected on recommendation of SSC after advice from the Commission</li> <li>• All members must be members of the Church.</li> <li>• Moderator and Deputy General Secretary non-voting</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 3 Term: 3 years; 1 for Chairperson	General Secretary	Rev David de Kock	X	X
	Moderator	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Deputy General Secretary	Rev Mark Illingworth	X	X
	Elected by Presbytery	Rev Ivan Clark	2019	2022
	Elected by Presbytery	John Boon	2019	2022
	Elected by Synod	Rev Leslie de Grussa	2018	2021
	Elected by Synod	Rev Andrew Broadbent	Oct-17	2020
	Nominee - Chairperson	Rev Hannes Halgryn	2019	2020
<b>RESOURCES COMMISSION S2.8</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio - General Secretary, General Manager (Resources), Synod Property Officer;</li> <li>• 2 members of the UCAPT</li> <li>• Chairperson</li> <li>• 5-7 persons</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 3 Term: 3 years	Chairperson	Christopher Walker	2017	2020
	General Secretary	Rev David de Kock	X	X
	General Manager (Resources)	<i>By-Law to be amended</i>	X	X
	Appointed by Property Trust	TBA		
	Appointed by Property Trust	TBA		
	Member	Bruce Murdoch	2018	2021
	Member	Ian Harris	2013	2022
	Member	Fiona Bentley	2016	2022
	Member	David Beards	2016	2022
	Member	David Gray	2018	2021
Member	Barry Honey	2019		

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION S2.5</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio – General Secretary+</li> <li>• 1 staff appointed by General Secretary</li> <li>• Chairperson</li> <li>• Up to 9 Members</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 Term: annually	Dep General Secretary	Rev Mark Illingworth	X	X
	Staff appointed by GS	Geoff Bice	X	X
	Nominee Chairperson	Mark Brisbane	2018	2020
	Nominee	Dr Bob French	2018	2020
	Nominee	Rev Sophia Lizares	2018	2020
	Nominee	Rev Gordon Scantlebury	2019	2020
	Nominee	Mrs Mary Elton	2019	2020
	Nominee	Zaneta Mascarenhas	2018	2020
	Nominee	Cheryl Lawson	2018	2020
	Nominee			
	Nominee			
	Nominee			
<b>UNITING CHURCH ADULT FELLOWSHIP S4.3</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio: General Secretary<sup>†</sup></li> <li>• 1 office staff member designated by General Secretary</li> <li>• Chairperson</li> <li>• One rep of UC Mission Fellowship</li> <li>• Up to 10 other members</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 Term: 2 years Elected by Synod from nominations received from the Committee and Fellowship groups:	Dep General Secretary	Rev Mark Illingworth	X	X
	Staff appointed by GS	Maree Kemp	X	X
	UC Mission Fellowship	Anne Steed#	2006	2021
	Nominee - Chairperson	Helen McMillan	2016	2021
	Nominee	Dymphna Knight	2018	2021
	Nominee	Kay Lockley	2017	2021
	Nominee	Robert Nicholls (Tres)	2017	2021
	Nominee	Gillian Muir (Vice Pres)	2018	2021
	Nominee	Rev Ray Foster	2017	2021
	Nominee	Kerry Dunn	2012	2021
	Nominee	Aladina Foster	2016	2021
	Nominee	Marcia Nicholls	2017	2021
Nominee	Rev Lorna Atkins	2018	2021	
Nominee	Lynette Donald	2018	2021	
<b>UNITING CHURCH MISSION FELLOWSHIP</b>				
Open and Informal	Secretary	Kay Lockley		
	Secretary	Dulcie Hale		
<b>INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (formerly UnitingWorld WA Commission) S2.6</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex-officio – General Secretary<sup>†</sup></li> <li>• 1 staff person appointed by General Secretary</li> <li>• Convenor</li> <li>• Up to 8 other person</li> <li>•</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 Term: each ordinary Synod meeting	Dep General Secretary	Rev Mark Illingworth	X	X
	Staff appointed by GS	Geoff Bice	X	X
	Nominee - Convenor	Mrs Susy Thomas	2018	2019
	Nominee	Rev Brian Thorpe	2014	2020
	Nominee	Rev Alison Gilchrist	2019	2020
	Nominee	Kerry Povey	2016	2020
	Nominee	Lee-Anne Burnett#	2008	2020
	Nominee	Lynette Callaghan	2019	2020
	Nominee	Alison Dyll	2017	2020
	Nominee	Kelly Crothers	2019	2020
	Nominee			

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>COMMITTEE FOR COUNSELLING (Reg 5.5)</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson</li> <li>Members elected by Synod. (Moderator and GS not eligible)</li> </ul> Refer Reg 5.5 for criteria Term: 3 years	Elected by Synod	Rev Michael Hertz	2017	2020
	Elected by Synod	Mrs Margaret Banks	2018	2021
	Nominee - Chair	Rev John Dunn	2019	2022
	Nominee	Rev Narelle Collas	2019	2022
	Nominee	Lynette Clayton #	1991	2020
	Nominee	Ted Johnston #	1991	2020
	Nominee	Jean MacKenzie	2019	2022
	Nominee	Elizabeth Burns	2019	2022
	Nominee	Margaret Donovan	2019	2022
Nominee	Rev Anne McAndrew	2019	2022	
<b>COMMITTEE FOR DISCIPLINE (Reg 5.7)</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convenor (also acts as Secretary and not member of CSSMCC) appointed by Synod Standing Committee.</li> <li>Not less than 7 (not less than 2 Ministers and 2 lay persons) appointed by Synod.</li> <li>Committee elects Chairperson</li> </ul> Refer Reg 5.7 - exclusions apply. May include members outside Synod. Casual vacancies filled by SSC or Moderator. Term: 3 years	Convenor (Secretary) Elected by SSC	Rev Ruth Vertigan (Member from 2015)	2018	2021
	Chair (Elected by Ctee 3/2018)	Rev Ken Devereux	2017	2020
	Elected by Synod	Neville Barber #	2007	2021
	Elected by Synod	Rev John McKane	2017	2020
	Elected by Synod	Rev Alan Thompson (Vic/Tas)	2018	2021
	Nominee	Brian Gluestein	2019	2022
	Nominee			
<b>SYNOD STANDING APPEAL PANEL</b>				
All matters are now referred to NSW Synod.				
<b>SYNOD REPRESENTATION</b>				
<b>BRIDGING ENTITIES</b>				
Convenor appointed by Synod.	Convenor	Bruce Wilson #	2005	2020
<b>CHURCHES COMMISSION ON EDUCATION / YOUTHCARE</b>				
1 rep elected by Synod	Nominee -Rep	Rev Steve Francis	2009	2021
<b>COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF WA</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex-officio - Moderator, General Secretary +</li> <li>Up to 10 delegates.</li> </ul>	Moderator	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Dep General Secretary	Rev Mark Illingworth	X	X
	Nominee	Dorothy Carey	2012	2020
	Nominee	Rev Sonny Rajamoney	2018	2020
	Nominee	Rev Justine Wall	2018	2020
	Nominee	Rev Marie Wilson	2012	2020
	Nominee	Rev Ken Devereux	2012	2020
	Nominee	Rev Frances Hadfield	2012	2020
	Nominee	Rev Pearl McGill	2019	2020
Nominee	Helen McMillan	2019	2020	

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCIES</b>				
<b>UNITINGCARE WA FORUM S2.7</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson,</li> <li>CEO and rep from Good Samaritan Industries; UnitingCare West; Juniper</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 persons Term: each ordinary Synod Refer Constitution for criteria	Chairperson	Robert Watson	X	X
	CEO (GSI)	Melanie Kiely	X	X
	Board Rep (GSI)	Trent Bartlett	X	X
	CEO ( UCW)	Amanda Hunt	X	X
	Board Rep (UCW)	TBA	X	X
	CEO (Juniper)	Chris Hall	X	X
	Board Rep (Juniper)	TBA	X	X
<b>GOOD SAMARITAN INDUSTRIES (GSI) BOARD S8.2</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex officio - CEO</li> <li>Chairperson (refer to criteria)</li> <li>Not less than 6 nor more than 10 other persons</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 persons Term: Chairperson – annually Members – 3 years Refer Constitution for criteria	Chairperson	Trent Bartlett	2011	2020
	CEO	Ms Melanie Kiely	X	X
	Appointed by Synod	Michael Patchell	2013	2022
	Appointed by Synod	Stephen Price	2015	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Dr Sue Ulreich	2017	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Elisa Fear	2017	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Christopher Walker (Deputy Chair)	2016	2022
	Appointed by Synod	Tamsin Eldridge	2016	2022
	Appointed by Synod	Ian Thurbron	2017	2020
Appointed by Synod	Dom Del Borrello	2017	2020	
<b>UNITINGCARE WEST BOARD S8.4</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex officio - CEO</li> <li>Chairperson (refer to criteria)</li> <li>Not less than 6 nor more than 9 other persons</li> </ul> Term: Chairperson – annually Members – 3 years Refer Constitution for criteria	Chairperson	TBA by UCW		
	CEO	Amanda Hunt	X	X
	Appointed by Synod	Dr Ron Chalmers	2017	2020
	Appointed by SSC	Alison McCubbin	2017	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Chris Hunt	2013	2022
	Appointed by Synod	Lisa Fini	2015	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Mark Webb	2015	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Jane Barker	2019	2022
Appointed by Synod	David Kyle	2019	2022	
<b>JUNIPER (UNITING CHURCH HOMES) BOARD S8.3</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ex-officio – CEO</li> <li>Not more than 7 or less than 5</li> <li>Chairperson (refer to criteria)</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 persons Term: Chairperson – annually Members – 3 years Refer Constitution for criteria	CEO	Chris Hall	X	X
	Appointed by Synod	David de Kock	2018	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Mary-Ellen King	2015	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Arthur Criddle	2018	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Maree Arnason	2014	2022
	Appointed by Synod	Tony Iannello	2019	2022
	Appointed by Synod	Penny Knight	2017	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Grant Robinson	2019	2022



Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>BEANANGING KWUURT INSTITUTE BOARD S8.5</b>				
Appointed by Synod on recommendation of UAICC  • Chairperson (criteria applies) • BKI CEO • Not less than 6 nor more than 10 other persons  Co-opt up to 2 persons Term: Chairperson – 1 year Members 3 years  Refer By-Law for criteria	Chair	Leon Wynne	2017	2019
	CEO	TBA	X	X
	Elected by Synod	Helen Skiadas	2017	2020
	Elected by Synod	Rev Dennis Corowa (by	2016	2019
	Elected by Synod	Vince Ross (by teleconference)	2016	2019
	Elected by Synod	Geraldine Martin	2019	2022
<b>TRINITY RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE BOARD S9.9</b>				
Ex-officio - Head  Appointed by Synod on recommendation from Council  • Chairperson (criteria applies) • 1 member appointed by Senate • Up to 8 members  Co-opt: up to 2 persons Term: Chairperson – 1 year Members 3 years  Refer By-Law for criteria	Chairperson	Kate Wilson	Jun-19	Jun-20
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Head	Michael Shearer	X	X
	Elected by UWA Senate	Tricia Wylde	2014	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Adam Ebell	2013	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Dr Bruce Matthews	Feb-17	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Aaron Walker	Aug-17	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Melissa Adams	2017	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Prof Warrick Van Zyl	Aug-17	2020
	Appointed by Synod	James Millar	2009	Oct-19
	Co-opted	Sue Ash	Aug-18	Aug-19
<b>EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS</b>				
<b>METHODIST LADIES' COLLEGE S9.2</b>				
• Chairperson • Up to 13 members • Moderator as Visitor.  Co-opt up to 2  Term: 3 years	Principal	Dr Marie Perry	Dec-18	
	Chairperson	Nicholas Henry (1st term appt 2016)	2018	2021
	Deputy Chair	Diane Smith-Gander (co-opted Feb 2019)	Jun-19	2022
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Council Secretary	Diane Mony de Kerloy	2012	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Vicki Robinson	Jan-18	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Marie-Louise Martin	2018	2021
	Appointed by Synod	John Klepec	Jun-17	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Prof Jonathan Carapetis	Apr-18	Apr-21
	Appointed by Synod	Dan Minchin	Apr-16	2019
	Appointed by Synod	James McClements	2017	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Prof Livia Hool	2018	2021

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>PENRHOS COLLEGE COUNCIL S9.3</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairperson</li> <li>• Principal</li> <li>• President of Penrhos College Foundation</li> <li>• up to 14 members.</li> <li>• Moderator as Visitor</li> </ul> <p>Term: Chair – 1 year Members 3 years</p>	Chairperson	Prof Peta Sanderson (Chair	Feb-17	Jan-22
	Principal	Meg Melville (1/2011)	X	X
	Foundation Rep	Tony Connors	Feb-18	Feb-21
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Appointed by Synod	Ian Parker (DP 8/2018)	Aug-14	Aug-21
	Appointed by Synod	Evan Hillard	Dec-15	Dec-21
	Appointed by Synod	Geoff Fry	Apr-17	Apr-20
	Appointed by Synod	Brook McGowan	Oct-18	Oct-21
	Secretary	Margaret Horne (Sec from 12/2015)	Dec-12	Dec-21
	Elected by SSC	Felicity Kermode	Feb-17	2020
	Treasurer	Kelvin May	Apr-17	Apr-20
	Elected by SSC	Kristian Stratton	Oct-18	Oct-21
	Elected by SSC	Jodie Wallace	Oct-18	Oct-21
Elected by SSC	Antiopi Orkopoulas	Oct-18	Oct-21	
<b>PRESBYTERIAN LADIES' COLLEGE COUNCIL S9.4</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairperson</li> <li>• Up to 10 members nominated by Church Council of which 1 should be a member of the UCA.</li> <li>• Up to 2 former students and up to 2 parents proposed by the Council and appointed by Synod.</li> <li>• Council may appoint 1 Deputy Chairperson</li> <li>• Moderator as Visitor</li> </ul> <p>Term: 3 years</p>	Chairperson	Claire Poll (01/2019)	2017	Dec-21
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Deputy Chairperson	Stuart Love	Aug-12	Dec-21
	Appointed by Synod	Andrew McKenzie	Jan-14	2019
	Appointed by Synod	James Mactier	Oct-17	2020
	Former Student	Linda Kenyon	Feb-16	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Fiona Crowe	Feb-16	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Morgen Lewis	Nov-16	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Prof Donna Cross	Apr-17	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Charlie Bolt	May-19	May-22
	Former Student	Kathy Bonus	Jun-11	2020
	Parent Representative	Morgan Ball (Parent)	Jan-14	2019
	Parent Representative	Michelle Barrett	Feb-19	2022
<b>SCOTCH COLLEGE COUNCIL S9.5</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairperson</li> <li>• Up to 15 members including 2 former students and one current parent. At least 1 member from the UCA.</li> <li>• Moderator as Visitor</li> </ul> <p>Term: 4 years</p>	Chairperson	Mark Paganin (Chair Jan 2017)	2014	Dec-20
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Council Member	Philip Idle	Mar-13	Dec-20
	Former Student	Alan Murray	Jan-16	Dec-19
	Former student	Greg Ledger	Jan-16	Dec-19
	Current parent	Terry Bowen	Jan-14	Dec-21
	Appointed by Synod	Saschelle Blake	Jan-15	Dec-22
	Appointed by Synod	John Flecker	Jan-16	Dec-19
	Appointed by Synod	Rev Margaret Tyrer	Jan-16	Dec-19
	Appointed by Synod	Prof Simon Anderson	Jan-17	Dec-20
	Appointed by Synod	Tim Wiese	Jan-17	Dec-20
	Appointed by Synod	Prof David Gibson	Jan-18	Dec-21

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>ST STEPHEN'S SCHOOL COUNCIL S9.6</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson and up to 10 other members nominated by the Council and appointed by Synod.</li> <li>Moderator as Visitor</li> </ul> Term: 3 years	Chairperson	Kevin Smout (Member 2014)	Jun-17	Dec-20
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Principal in Attendance	Donella Beare (from 7/2016)	X	X
	Council Secretary	Robert Gotti (from April 2019)	X	X
	Appointed by Synod	Jenine Owen	2015	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Timothy Brewer	2015	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Michael Lynn	Apr-09	2018
	Appointed by Synod	Anneka Klopper	Jun-18	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Riaan Piek	Apr-18	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Michael Schrick	2019	2022
<b>TRANBY COLLEGE COUNCIL S9.8</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson</li> <li>Up to 11 others including at least 2 parents of students and at least 1 member of the UCA nominated by the College Council and appointed by Synod.</li> <li>Moderator as Visitor</li> </ul> Term: 4 years	Chairperson	Rev Andrew Syme	2019	2023
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Principal	Dr Clayton Massey	X	X
	Appointed by Synod	Dr Susan Roberts	2016	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Dr Kyle Hoath	Nov-14	Nov-22
	Appointed by Synod	Elisa Hylton Pott	2016	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Steve Kempin	Apr-15	Nov-22
	Parent Rep	Catherine Walker	2005	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Dr Cindy Smith	Feb-18	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Pip Rundle	Feb-18	2021
	Elected SSC	Dr Martin Samy	Oct-18	2021
	Parent Rep			
<b>WESLEY COLLEGE COUNCIL S9.7</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairperson</li> <li>Principal</li> <li>Up to 9 other persons and at least 1 member of the UCA nominated by the College Council and appointed by Synod.</li> <li>Moderator as Visitor</li> </ul> Term: 5 years Chairperson 3 years other members	Chairperson	Jim Walker	Aug-16	2021
	Moderator (Visitor)	Rev Steve Francis	X	X
	Headmaster	Ross Barron	X	X
	Appointed by Synod	Rabia Siddique	Sep-15	Jan-22
	Appointed by Synod	Matthew Brayshaw	2016	2020
	Appointed by Synod	Cheryl Haak	2016	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Dr Ross Goodheart	Jun-17	Jan-22
	Appointed by Synod	Kristie Young	2018	2021
	Appointed by Synod	Richard Hayes	2010	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Grant Vernon	Sep-15	Jan-22
	Appointed by Synod	Greg Ruthvan	2016	2019
	Appointed by Synod	Warren Ballie	Jun-18	2021

Name of Body & Composition	Category	Name	Elected	Election Due
<b>JOINT SYNOD / PRESBYTERY BODIES</b>				
<b>CHURCH LAW COMMITTEE S5.5</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convenor</li> <li>• General Secretary</li> <li>• Secretary of each Presbytery (or nominee)</li> <li>• Up to 5 other members</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2 Term: each ordinary Synod meeting	General Secretary	Rev David de Kock	X	X
	Secretary of Presbytery (or nominee)	Acting Secretary Rev Des Cousins	X	X
	<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Bruce Wilson #</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Ian Passmore</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>David Foster</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Leigh Warnick</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Alison McCubbin</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>			
<b>NOMINATING COMMITTEE S5.4</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convenor</li> <li>• General Secretary*</li> <li>• Secretary of each Presbytery (or nominee)</li> <li>• 1 person nominated by UC Schools &amp; College Forum</li> <li>• 1 person nominated by UnitingCare WA Forum</li> <li>• Up to 5 other persons</li> </ul> Co-opt up to 2. Term: each ordinary Synod meeting	Dep General Secretary	Rev Mark Illingworth	X	X
	Secretary of Presbytery or nominee	Acting Secretary Rev Des Cousins	X	X
	UC Schools & Colleges Rep	TBA		
	UnitingCare WA Forum Rep	TBA		
	<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Margaret Martin #</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Elizabeth Burns</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Ian Passmore #</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Nominee</b>			
	<b>Nominee</b>			
<b>Nominee</b>				

**Please Note**

Periodic updates will be available on the website. If you have a change, suggestion or nomination regarding a vacancy, or an update at any time during the year please contact the relevant body or the **Convener of the Nominating Committee Margaret Martin** [junemm@optusnet.com.au](mailto:junemm@optusnet.com.au) or **Secretariat Office – Maureen Bourke** [maureen.bourke@wa.uca.org.au](mailto:maureen.bourke@wa.uca.org.au).

**# beyond 10 years :**

Uto Fotu	Covenanting Commission
Bruce Wilson	Bridging Entities
	Church Law Committee
Ian Passmore	Nominating Committee
Margaret Martin	Nominating Committee
Lynette Clayton	Committee for Counselling
Ted Johnston	Committee for Counselling
Anne Steed	Uniting Church Adult Fellowship
Neville Barber	Committee for Discipline
Lee-Anne Burnett	International Partnership & Development Commission
Rev Marie Wilson	Ecumenical Affairs Network