



WA Presbytery Meeting – 16 March 2024 Candidates for Ministries Committee

Membership

Chairperson:	Rev Bev Fabb
Elected by Presbytery:	Rev Anne McAndrew, Rev Toby Keva Bob French Doug Burtenshaw Shelby Robison
Ex Officio:	Rev Dr Cathie Lambert

Activities since the last Presbytery Meeting

Meetings

CMC has held two meetings since the last Presbytery meeting. As always the focus of our meetings is on discussion of the progress being made by people undertaking a Period of Discernment and those who are candidates for Lay Preacher or the ordained ministries of Deacon or Minister of the Word.

Period of Discernment

Since the last Presbytery meeting we have had two new people start a POD. We currently have 7 people undertaking a Period of Discernment, three of whom are nearing the end of this process. It is encouraging to see younger people engaging in a Period of Discernment with great enthusiasm. A POD retreat was held in February on Courageous Leadership.

Candidates for Ordination

Highlights in the last couple of months were the ordination of Samuel Annan as a Minister of the Word and Ana Lea'aetoea as a Deacon. Sue Thompson resigned from her candidature for Minister of the Word late last year. This now leaves only two candidates in formation. CMC interviewed one of these about their readiness for ordination at our February meeting and will be bringing a proposal to Presbytery about this in March. When this candidate exits formation in mid 2024 we will have only one accepted candidate in formation. This is a concerning situation, given the age profile of ministers and the number nearing retirement. So we really need ministers and congregational leaders to be identifying those whom God may be calling to ordained ministry and encouraging them to engage in the process.

Ministry of Lay Preacher

It is encouraging to see an increasing number of people preparing for the ministry of Lay Preacher. We currently have twelve candidates in training for this ministry. CMC will be bringing a proposal about the commissioning of one of these candidates to the March meeting. With fewer congregations able to afford an ordained minister, we desperately need more lay people trained to lead worship. CMC appreciates the work Rev David Kriel has done in getting a comprehensive and accessible course of training for Lay Preachers established and we look forward to working with Rev Andrew Broadbent in the future in relation to this.

Bev Fabb (Chair of CMC)

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