



WA Presbytery Meeting – 16 March 2024 Thrive Mission Committee

Membership

Chairperson [Rev Greg Ross] – Wellington Regional Mission

Co-Chairperson [Ms Yvonne Robinson] – Baylife

Mrs Monika Cowell – Spearwood

Mr David Gray – UCIC

Rev Stephen van Schalkwyk – Baylife

Mrs Yuko Tonai-Moore – Bridgetown

Members presently co-opted by Presbytery Standing Committee

Rev Coral Cogs-Smith – Star Street

Rev Sione Lea'aetoea – St Andrews

1 Vacancy

Staff Person [Rev Rob Douglas]

Nominations for election

Rev Coral Cogs-Smith from Star Street and Rev Sione Lea'aetoea from St Andrews are proving great members of the committee and we present their nominations for consideration in the election. We hope to have one more name to present for consideration at the meeting.

Collaboration with Presbytery Property Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee

Thrive is continuing our practice of collaborating with the committees of the Presbytery in our shared work of supporting the mission and ministry of congregations and faith communities. Members often attend meetings together so that the overview of the responsibilities of each committee is drawn together in the interests of enabling fuller participation in the mission of God. For example: Joint meetings regarding Listening Journeys involve Pastoral Relations and Thrive, Joint meetings with Synod Property involve members of Thrive, Property and Pastoral Relations committees.

Listening Journeys

This work directed by the Presbytery in November continues at pace with the first round of 'listening visits' providing Thrive with so much encouraging information and also offering Thrive, PRC and Property Committee to respond to matters raised personally and direct them to the committee or persons with oversight or responsibility.

The conversations are open and honest with people not holding back as to the challenges they face, however on balance as we go back through the record of each meeting [which is approved by each congregation/cluster] there is so much more GOOD NEWS than bad news.

We (Thrive and PRC) are now working on the next groups of congregations to listen with, preparing the next steps following on from our 1st visits, planning for the second round of visits and conversation throughout this year and into next year.

Mission Planning and Mission Plans

The enormous work and talent of Rev Rob Douglas continues to bless congregations as he enables their prayerful work to bring their Mission Plans together so that their energies, plans and resources are directed toward the most useful ways of participating in the Mission of God in their patch. We continue to joyfully receive Mission Plans at each meeting and to listen to congregations present them. There is so much for which we are thankful.

Mission Shaped Ministry

This amazing course has been offered in our Presbytery since 2017 and the results have been astounding evidenced by the congregations where members or church councillors and clergy or key leaders have attended together and then returned home inspired and equipped to truly listen and look for the work of God in their community and then to see where the gifts, skills and resources of each congregation match the opportunities. Rob Douglas has captured a good number of these 'fresh expressions of church' in his video's which are available on the Presbytery Website.

We have listened to the responses of attendees over the last years (especially through COVID) and have re-shaped the programme from a Friday to Sunday over three weekends to Saturday (day only) and Sunday afternoon over 4 weekends and we are holding MSM at Mt Pleasant on Saturdays and Nedlands on Sunday afternoons.

- APRIL 27 and 28
- JUNE 22 and 23
- AUGUST 24 and 25
- OCTOBER 26 and 27

To be worthwhile we have set a minimum number of 15 people to attend so please sign up today. Flyers are on your tables with QR code to enable easy registration.

Staffing

As mentioned above the work of our Presbytery has been enormously enriched and blessed through the ministry of Rev Rob Douglas as Presbytery Minister Mission. We rejoice in his time working to support Thrive Mission Committee and so many congregations and faith communities. Rob has indicated that he is now of an age where retirement beckons strongly and he will finish his time in this role in August. Thrive and Presbytery Standing Committee are working with Placements Commission to seek the best person to continue this important work. We ask that you pray for Rob and his wife Robyn in these last 6 months of work, for the person/s whom God is calling to this position and for those who will discern and enable the process of appointment.

Rev Greg Ross

revgregross@internode.on.net

0417 637 944