



Uniting Church in Australia
Presbytery of Western Australia



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Presbytery of Western Australia at All Saints Floreat Uniting Church on 15 June 2024

📍 Uniting Church Centre, 85-89 Edward Street, Perth WA 6000, GPO Box M952, Perth WA 6843
🌐 unitingchurchwa.org.au

✉ secretary.presbytery@wa.uca.org.au

☎ T (08) 9260 9821

ABN 66 428 151 531

1. Constitution

On Saturday 15 June 2024 at 9.00 am, the Presbytery of Western Australia met at All Saints Floreat Uniting Church with the Chairperson, Alison Xamon, presiding.

There were 34 ministers, 4 pastors, and 50 lay members present. Apologies were submitted from 12 ministers, 3 pastors, and 14 lay members. There were 3 visitors who attended.

2. Welcome and Opening Prayer

The Chairperson, Alison Xamon, welcomed members, especially those attending their first meeting and opened in prayer.

3. Welcome to Country

Alison Xamon acknowledged that we were meeting on Whadjuk Noongar land and paid her respects to their elders, affirming the Covenant with Congress.

4. Opening worship

The Opening Worship was led by the Chair of Presbytery with Rev Judy Sanderson preaching on the text of Philippians 2:1-5. During the service Rev Lorraine Stokes was inducted as Presbytery Officer and Rev Claire Pickering as Presbytery Minister-Pastoral.

5. Community Building and Prayer

Members of Presbytery met in small groups for sharing about congregational life and prayer together.

6. Meeting arrangements

The Secretary, Rev Bev Fabb, presented Proposal 1 about the arrangements for this meeting.

The Presbytery agreed by consensus

- 1. To adopt the Roll of Presbytery published on the Presbytery Meeting Website on 12 June 2024 as the members of Presbytery for the 2024-2025 year, and agrees to attach the Roll to the Minutes to this meeting.***
- 2. To appoint the following as once off alternate for this meeting only:***
 - **Barbara Bennewith to replace John Boon from Willetton**
- 3. Adopt the Order of Business for this meeting.***
- 4. Appoint Rev Ana Lea'aetoo and Rev Stephen van Schalkwyk as Chaplains for this meeting of the Presbytery.***

5. ***Appoint Sue Whitworth as Returning Officer and Mary Riley, John Berger, Deborah Marshall & Rev Ken Devereux as scrutineers for this meeting of the Presbytery.***
6. ***Authorise the Presbytery Standing Committee to confirm the minutes of this meeting of the Presbytery.***

7. Chairperson's Report

Past chairperson, Rev Lorraine Stokes, took the chair.

Alison Xamon presented the report. There were no questions, and the report was received.

The chairperson, Alison Xamon, resumed the chair.

8. Finance Report

Janine McDonald, Presbytery Treasurer, presented the Finance Report indicating we are travelling well and within budget to end of April. Mission and Service contributions are needed.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

9. Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL) report

Dr Karen Flowers presented the report.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

10. Candidates for Ministries Committee report

Rev Bev Fabb presented the report.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

11. Pastoral Relations Committee report

Sue Strutt presented the report, emphasizing the importance of annual reports coming from ministers and congregations. These can provide information on how minister and congregations are travelling before issues arise.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

12. Thrive Mission Committee report

Rev Greg Ross presented the report, outlining the work of Thrive, in particular the Listening Journeys. So far only 20% of congregations have asked to engage in Listening Journeys and we need more to be involved.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

13. Proposal 9 – Thrive – Thanks

Rev Greg Ross moved Proposal 9. Heather had been minute secretary and performed key administration for Thrive. Rhod as an engineer brought his own gifts as well. Rev Rob felt called into the Uniting Church and has resourced the Presbytery well, with skills in journalism, First Peoples, remote areas, analytical skills.

The Presbytery of WA agrees

1 To record its appreciation for the service of Mrs Heather Hamblin and Mr Rhod Wright as members of Thrive Mission Committee

2 To record its deep thanks to Rev Rob Douglas for his work as Presbytery Minister Mission in resourcing the work of Thrive Mission Committee and extends its prayers and best wishes to him and Robyn for his retirement in September.

Approved by acclamation.

14. Presbytery Property Committee report

Heather Hamblin presented the report, asking members to pass the report onto congregation property bodies. Congregations and Faith communities are responsible for their property including all maintenance. Sale of property funds are not available for regular maintenance. All public buildings are governed by a raft of regulations. Congregations must be aware of all of these. Very few congregations do not have financial concerns meaning that money available to spend on their property is shrinking and costs are rising. There are no funds in the Synod to cover these costs. How can we focus on mission and ministry rather than property? Congregations must be on top of all their financial commitments while engaging in mission and ministry.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

15. Proposal 2- Recognition of Lay Preacher

Rev Bev Fabb on behalf of the Candidates for Ministries Committee presented the following proposal and invited Mike to address the Presbytery.

That the WA Presbytery agrees to recognise Michael Roberts as a Lay Preacher and request the Chairperson of Presbytery to arrange for this to be recognised in a service of worship, including presentation of a Certificate of Recognition as a Lay Preacher.

16. Secret Ballot on Proposal 2

After the proposal was presented, the Presbytery broke for morning tea. No questions were asked of CMC in relation to the proposal. The Presbytery voted on the proposal via secret ballot.

After the scrutineers counted the votes, it was announced that the proposal had received the two thirds majority required. Rev Steve Francis led the Presbytery in prayer for Mike.

17. Rural and Remote Ministry Network report

Rev Rob Douglas presented the report. Yuko was not able to be present due to family matters. Rob introduced Rev Craig Bosman as the incoming Rural Resource Minister in partnership with the Margaret River/Augusta congregations. The network has been working for this for 12 months.

There were no questions, and the report was received.

18. Uniting Generations Network report

Pastor Julie Ridden presented the report thanking Presbytery for being able to present intergenerational ministry. She also clarified some misunderstandings of this concept.

There were no questions and the report was received.

19. Introduction to Presbytery Staff

Rev Lorraine Stokes introduced the staff of the Presbytery to the meeting.

20. Update on Act 2 Project

Rev Cyrus Kung updated the Presbytery on the Act 2 report which is to come to the Assembly in July. He read the President's introduction to the report. A website is under construction to break the report down into shorter sections with video segments. Stream 1 is about creating life giving communities of faith, Stream B is looking at national theological education, and Stream C is about governance and structures. WA is already on the way to looking at the future.

21. Update on Assembly

Rev Reuben Edmonds reminded the Presbytery that the national Assembly was meeting in July and introduced the WA members who will be participating. Assembly only meets once every three years with members from around the country to discern what God is saying about our identity and future. The new President will be Rev Charissa Suli, who will be the youngest ever President and the first person of colour to hold this position. It is the 30 year anniversary of the Covenant with Congress. Major business will be the Act 2 report and proposals that come from these. These will ask us to give up some things and change. It will be a process of discernment and listening to God. Please prayer for members and Assembly.

22. Group Discussion

Rev Bev Fabb made a presentation on the Assembly Statement on *Being an Intercultural Church*. After this the Presbytery broke into small groups to discuss how their congregations could become more intercultural.

The Presbytery received feedback on what the Presbytery could do to be more intercultural. This included:

- Make language more accessible
- Invite people of different cultures to observe Presbytery
- Assumptions of knowledge
- Welcome new congregations and faith communities.
- Presentation of cameo from CALD and Congress on how we can learn from their cultures.
- Have we had conversations with CALD groups on do they want to be intercultural or mono cultural?
- Other spiritual practices in worship
- Need greater interaction between cultures.

- Need more space for discussion.
- Allow people CALD to speak first.
- Our meetings are very Western- how could we do this differently?
- See how other meetings are run and understand how other cultures run meetings.
- Invite Koreans and Indonesians to our meetings. Meetings are much more formal in Korea and Indonesia.

23. Proposal 3 – PSC – Change of Network Name

Rev Bev Fabb on behalf of the Presbytery Standing Committee moved the following proposal.

That the WA Presbytery agrees:

To re-name the “Multicultural and Cross Cultural Network” as the “Intercultural Network” and determine that its focus is to promote intercultural relationships within and between all congregations of the Presbytery in line with the following Assembly statement.

“An Intercultural church is a church that accepts, supports and celebrates each cultural group. It intentionally encourages all cultural groups to engage in intercultural relationships and share in leadership, mission and ministry.

An Intercultural church builds on the idea that Australian society and the Church’s membership are multicultural, and it calls on all members, especially those of the dominant culture to be prepared to live and act cross-culturally.

We understand intercultural to encompass:

- **bringing people of different cultures together to learn from one another, and to partner in mission and ministry**
- **giving equal value and power to each culture**
- **respecting differences**
- **celebrating the variety of cultural traditions”**

Agreed by consensus.

24. Proposal 4 – PSC & CEDAL – Name of Theological College

Pastor Julie Ridden on behalf of CEDAL and the Presbytery Standing Committee reported on the work of the task group considering a new name for the WA theological college. There is a need to change our focus beyond the ordained to also include lay education and extend beyond Perth. The college is not an actual location. The first proposed name was not endorsed at last meeting of Presbytery. PSC and CEDAL were asked to look at some options for names. Unfortunately, we had to choose a name that was not used elsewhere which limited options.

Four options were proposed:

- Uniting Centre for Education and Formation.
- The Djarliny Centre for Uniting Education and Formation
- The Yarah Centre for Uniting Education and Formation.
- The Well: UCA WA Centre for Education and Formation.

Questions, comments and concerns were raised about each option. A concern was raised about the meaning of the Hebrew word Yarah. After some discernment it was clear that the 3rd and 4th option were not supported.

Further discussions were had about the use of a noongar word to name the centre. Some spoke of the important message this would send. Others raised concerns that it would appear to limit the centre to noongar country when it would be servicing most of WA.

After further discernment Pastor Julie Ridden moved the following proposal:

That the WA Presbytery agrees:

To adopt Uniting Centre for Education and Formation as the new name for the Perth Theological Hall to reflect the current education needs of the Uniting Church in Western Australia.

Passed by agreement.

25. Proposal 5 – Church Law – CEDAL Rules

Rev Des Cousins on behalf of Church Law working group presented a report on the work of review of Presbytery Rules and presented the new CEDAL Rules.

He indicated this is the last Presbytery Rules to be completed and therefore would also be his last report to Presbytery.

The Presbytery inherited old Synod By Laws which were extensive. A clear need to modernise and make them more free for development. The Presbytery has also

adopted standard format for all presbytery committees rules. The rules now name it a Committee rather than Commission. There was a reduction in the amount of information about PTH and its Faculty. This would allow for a broad framework for CEDAL to work within. Couple of minor word changes.

Question was raised about 14 (e) and (f) and why these have been added into the Rules. Covered in Regulations. Des felt that it was important that on some matters in relation to candidates there is more than one Presbytery body in decision making and the rules needed to be explicit about this matter. He suggested that it is not creating anything new but explaining what are the current relationships.

A question was raised about the relationship between CMC and CEDAL including who it refers to when using the word candidates. It includes candidates for ordained ministers and Lay Preacher. Pastors are never candidates.

Rev Des Cousins moved the following Proposal:

That the Presbytery of Western Australia approve and enact the following Rules for CEDAL

P14 COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION FOR DISCIPLESHIP AND LEADERSHIP

NAME AND STATUS

P14.1 The name of the Committee is the “Committee for Education for Discipleship and Leadership”, a body appointed by and responsible to the Presbytery of Western Australia.

P14.2 In accordance with Constitution clause 70(c), all the powers and responsibilities of the Synod of Western Australia in relation to theological and ministerial education and formation were delegated to the Presbytery of Western Australia by Synod minute 8/2009. These Rules provide for the exercise of the powers of the Synod of Western Australia and the Presbytery of Western Australia in regard to education and formation in the Church.

P14.3 The Committee exercises the responsibilities of a Ministerial Education Board, as provided for in the Regulations, within the Synod of Western Australia.

MEMBERSHIP

P14.4 The Committee is appointed by the Presbytery and consists of:

- (a)** a chairperson elected by the Presbytery for a two-year term;
- (b)** the full and part-time teaching staff of the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation;

(c) a candidate for a specified ministry, appointed annually by the Committee; and

(d) up to six other members elected by the Presbytery for two-year terms so that there are always two groups of members of nearly equal size, one group retiring each year.

P14.5 The membership of the Committee shall include least one Lay Preacher and one Pastor.

P14.6 The Committee may co-opt up to two further members, for terms of up to two years, to ensure balanced representation or to provide the Committee with knowledge, abilities or experience not otherwise available to the Committee. The appointment of co-opted members shall be subject to endorsement by the Presbytery or the Presbytery Standing Committee.

P14.7 A majority of the membership of the Committee shall be members of the Presbytery.

P14.8 The Committee may invite Presbytery or Synod staff or other persons to attend and participate in meetings on a non-voting basis to assist the Committee in fulfilling its role and responsibilities.

P14.9 The Chairperson of the Presbytery may, at their own discretion, attend and speak at any meeting of the Committee but is not eligible to vote.

MEETINGS

P14.10 The Committee will meet at least six times per year.

P14.11 The meetings of the Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the principles and procedures of the *Manual for Meetings*.

QUORUM

P14.12 The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be the whole number next above one-half of the current members.

REPORTING

P14.13 The Committee shall report to the Presbytery at least annually, to the Presbytery Standing Committee when requested and forward the minutes of each Committee meeting to the Presbytery Standing Committee.

P14.14 The Committee, acting as a Ministerial Education Board, shall report to the Assembly as required in the Regulations.

ROLE

P14.15 The role of the Committee is to develop and foster opportunities for education and formation that encourage, empower and equip learners, congregations and faith communities of the Uniting Church in discipleship, leadership, mission and ministry.

P14.16 The Committee shall exercise oversight, facilitate and co-ordinate, as required in the Regulations, and advise Presbytery in matters including (or related to):

- (a)** theological education;
- (b)** ministerial formation (Minister of the Word and Deacon);
- (c)** lay education;
- (d)** continuing education;
- (e)** Lay Preacher education and formation; and
- (f)** Ministry of Pastor competency development.

RESPONSIBILITIES

P14.17 The responsibilities of the Committee shall include:

- (a)** promoting education and formation for the whole people of God as an integral and lifelong part of discipleship, mission and ministry;
- (b)** developing, curating, co-ordinating and evaluating programs, courses and resources for all education and formation within the Presbytery;
- (c)** assisting and supporting congregations, faith communities and agencies of the Uniting Church in the fulfilment of their educational and learning needs;
- (d)** keeping informed and being responsive to the changing context and emerging trends in the Uniting Church, and in discipleship, mission and ministry;
- (e)** developing and reviewing policies and procedures, and engaging in visioning and strategic planning;
- (f)** consulting and working together with other committees and bodies to further the life of the Presbytery and Synod;
- (g)** collaborating with colleges and education communities in the Uniting Church and in other churches to draw on expertise and talent, and to connect with proven programs and courses; and
- (h)** contributing to teaching and learning in the wider church.

P14.18 The Committee shall make recommendations to Presbytery in regard to:

- (a)** staffing the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation; and
- (b)** other matters where the Committee's decisions need to be approved or confirmed by the Presbytery.

P14.19 The Committee shall advise:

- (a)** the Candidates for Ministries Committee when candidates for the ministry of Lay Preacher have completed their training and are demonstrating all the competencies set out in the Assembly Standards for Formation and Education for the Specified Ministry of Lay Preacher.
- (b)** the Pastoral Relations Committee when candidates for the ministry of Pastor have completed their training and are demonstrating all the competencies set out in the Assembly Standards for Formation and Education for the Specified Lay Ministry of Pastor.

Uniting Centre for Education and Formation

P14.20 The Uniting Centre for Education and Formation is the Theological College established by the Synod of Western Australia and approved by the Assembly as a centre for education and formation for ministry according to the Regulations.

In accordance with Constitution clause 70 (c), all powers and responsibilities of the Synod of Western Australia in relation to theological and ministerial education and formation and the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation and its Faculty were delegated to the Presbytery of Western Australia by Synod minute 8/2009.

P14.21 In relation to the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation the Committee, as the Ministerial Education Board, shall be responsible to:

- (a)** provide staffing and facilities and determine the terms and conditions of appointment of staff other than those in placement;
- (b)** appoint and determine the terms and conditions of sessional or temporary staff as required for the work of the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation on the recommendation of the body exercising the responsibilities of a Faculty;
- (c)** ensure that the courses and training that the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation offers for the formation and education of candidates for the

specified ministries meet the Assembly Standards and the requirements of the Committee;

(d) determining appropriate courses of study for meeting the Assembly Standards including arrangements for any candidate studying at an institution maintained within another Synod;

(e) co-operating and consulting with and advising the Candidates for Ministries Committee regarding matters relating to candidates; and

(f) receiving from the body exercising the responsibilities of a Faculty and forwarding to Presbytery any recommendations concerning termination of candidature on academic or other grounds.

P14.22 The Uniting Centre for Education and Formation shall:

(a) arrange for the formation, education and assessment of candidates for the specified ministries in accordance with the Assembly Standards and the requirements of the Committee;

(b) assist the Synod to assess the educational attainments of and arrange for the education, formation and assessment of ministers from other denominations seeking to admission to the Uniting Church in Australia in accordance with the Regulations and the requirements of the Committee;

(c) provide a Phase 3 program in accordance with the Assembly Standards and the requirements of the Committee; and

(d) provide a continuing education program for ordained ministers, Lay Preachers and Pastors in accordance with the Assembly Standards and the requirements of the Committee;

(e) develop and provide programs, resources and opportunities that encourage, empower and equip members of the Uniting Church in discipleship, mission and ministry.

SUB-COMMITTEES

P14.23 The Committee may appoint and disband from time-to-time sub-committees and working groups to assist it and the teaching staff to fulfil their roles and responsibilities.

P14.24 The Committee shall designate one of its sub-committees to exercise all the responsibilities of a Faculty as prescribed in Regulation 3.7.4.5 and other Regulations. The membership of this sub-committee must include the Principal of the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation if such a position

exists and all the persons holding full and part-time teaching positions in the Uniting Centre for Education and Formation.

Passed by consensus

Gratitude to Des for all his work over the last two years. He is stepping down from all committees at Synod and Presbytery - comprehensive consultation, also work with Council for Mission, Property Trust, Resources Commission and MRC. He is a blessing to the church.

26. Elections Committee

Sue Whitworth, the Returning Officer, thanked those who had nominated for vacant positions. The ballot papers for the election of members to a range of Presbytery Committees were distributed and collected.

27. Congregational Selfies

A video was shown with news from Northway, Wagin and Noranda congregations.

28. Presentation on Models for Clusters

Rev Rob Douglas made a presentation on three different models for Clusters. There has been a two year process of mutual listening with congregations and faith communities on future directions. Rob has attended all Listening Journeys. He has met with over 20 congregations and faith communities, to share about their congregation, their joys, their challenges and their dreams. He has met with church council and others.

The Presbytery needs to look at how clusters may become an important part of the journey. There are three models for clusters which already exist in this Presbytery.

Network- a loosely formed network between congregations and faith communities- Great Eastern Highway. Most successful when regular meetings are called with outside speakers.

Support- more structured, shared finances and sharing of a minister, joint co-ordinating committee with separate church councils

Campus- several campuses in different locations. One congregation with one Church council with a number of worshipping congregations. Faith Communities need to become members of another congregation or the Presbytery. Smaller congregations who decide to become faith communities.

Adoption/merger- a faith community which is struggling to survive may decide to become part of a new structure. Can become missional.

No proposals- just ideas for consideration. Presbytery needs to identify these models and to formalise them and recognise their existence. New hope for the future.

A clear process is needed to identify hub congregations who are able to support others and recognise those who can join them.

Access Future Mission fund to engage someone to lead process for formalising and developing the cluster model.

We have an opportunity to work more closely together. Set us up for future missional growth.

29. Presentation on Future Mission Fund

Alison Xamon made a presentation on the Future Mission Fund. It was established at last year's Synod. MRC is meeting and has developed application form and guide. Purpose is to provide grants to develop new ministry and mission opportunities. A webpage has been established, encourage to visit this site and think about what opportunity there is to develop new mission and ministry. Aim to free up resources to engage in mission and ministry. Have ideas but not resources to develop new mission. Urge members to take back to congregations. Will be in communique.

30. Presentation on the ministry of Lay Preacher

Rev Andrew Broadbent made a presentation on the ministry of Lay Preacher and current options for preparation for this ministry. Please promote this in your congregation. Becoming a Lay Preacher brochure- display and promote in your church communities. "Show video in your congregation.

31. Proposal 6- PRC- Dissolution of congregations

Sue Strutt affirmed that all named congregations had been consulted and that a similar proposal would come to the November Presbytery about other congregations once there had been appropriate consultation. Task group to identify struggling congregations. Process of consultation with all of these. Work is continuing- we need to reach out to them.

Sue Strutt moved the following proposal:

That the WA Presbytery agrees:

- 1. To dissolve the following congregations according to Regulation 3.4.3 as they are no longer able to carry out the responsibilities of a congregation.**
 - Dalwallinu
 - Manjimup
 - Ongerup
 - Port Hedland
- 2. To dissolve the following congregations according to Regulation 3.4.3 as they are no longer able to carry out the responsibilities of a congregation and recognise them as faith communities according to Regulation 3.9.2**
 - Dowerin
 - Mukinbudin

Agreed by consensus

32. Proposal 7- PPC- Property Matters

Correcting a previous decision of Presbytery- principally to remove Blue Rd property. Also, where funds going- go into FMF- specifically for new forms of ministry in rural areas. Only 12 properties.

Heather Hamblin moved the following proposal.

That the Presbytery of WA

- 1. Amends the decision of the 18 March 2023 meeting, in the following way:**

That the Presbytery of Western Australia

- 1. give, in principal consent to the sale of the 13 Uniting Church properties listed below (a) to (l) with the recommendation that, when necessary, consultations are complete as per Reg 4.6.3, the funds released from any sales being equally distributed between (a) our corporate financial responsibilities to fund claims for Redress and (b). to enable fresh forms of mission and ministry and;***
- 2. recommends that when properties in rural areas are sold that the 50% of proceeds for ministry and mission be held separately within the Future Mission Fund under control of the Mission Resourcing Committee as the decision making body for approving funding applications for appropriate, new and fresh forms of ministry in our rural areas.***

- (a) *Manjimup Uniting Church - 27 Bath Street, Manjimup*
- (b) *Kondinin Uniting Church - 79 Jones Street, Kondinin*
- (c) *Aldersyde Uniting Church - 38 Railway Terrace, Aldersyde*
- (d) *Quairading – South Caroling – Lot 18019 Church Road, South Caroling*
- (e) *Lot 2, Coolgardie Road, Mt Burgess*
- (f) *Lot 521, Wogolin Road, Wickepin*
- (g) *Lot 883, Greenbushes, Beverley*
- (h) *18 Lindsay Street, Coolgardie*
- (i) *Lot 70, Greenhills South Road, Kauring*
- (j) *13 Smith Street, Koorda*
- (k) *40 Kingsmill Street, Ravensthorpe*
- (l) *35 Sewell Street, Yealering*

Agreed by consensus

33. Proposal 8- PSC- Election of Synod Members

Rev Bev Fabb moved the following proposal,

That the Presbytery of WA agrees:

1. All Ministers (Deacons and Ministers of the Word) who are members of the Presbytery, whether in Active Ministry or co-opted, shall be ministerial members of the Synod.
2. All commissioned Pastors and Community Ministers who are members of the Presbytery shall be lay members of the Synod.
3. To elect the following confirmed lay members of the church as lay members of the Synod.

LAY MEMBERS ELECTED BY PRESBYTERY		
Denise	Adams	Noranda
David	Beards	Maylands/Mt Lawley
John	Berger	South Perth
Kerrie	Birch	Pinjarra

Neville	Blesing	Nedlands
Annette	Bryant	Star St
Karen	Burke	
Elizabeth	Burns	Albany
Simon	Cartwright	Rockingham
Stephen	Davies	Geraldton
Laurie	Dyer	Billabong
Carolyn	Ebell- Taylor	Kalamunda
Karen	Flowers	Forrestfield
Shirley	Francis	Leeming
Bob	French	Merredin
Marg	Garrett	Bunbury
David	Gray	UCIC
Pepe	Halatau	Tapu Nuie
Heather	Hamblin	South Perth
Ann	Hammer	Claremont
Helen	Harmer	Trinity North
Steve	Higgins	Merredin
Alan	Hortin	Lockyer
Richard	Hugman	Bunbury
Doug	Lincoln	Mt Barker
Bob	Lockley	Northam
Liti	Lomalagi	Wanneroo
Susan	Lord	Candidate

Deborah	Marshall	Floreat
Margaret	Martin	Applecross
Janine	Mc Donald	UCIC
Natalie	Norman	Geraldton
Paul	Olney	St Peter/Emmaus
Coral	Richards	Mandurah
Vic	Richards	Wembley Downs
Phil	Ridden	Northway
Mary	Riley	Leeming
Shelby	Robison	Cannington
Olivia	Sina	Beth Shalom
Andrew	Stokes	Fremantle
Tom	Stokes	Armadale
Sue	Talbert	Floreat
Stephen	Thiele	Nedlands
Trevor	Thomas	Pinjarra
John	van den Berg	Kardinya
Neville	van Wyk	Gosnells
Graham	Wasley	Wagin
Bruce	Wilson	Claremont
Elizabeth	Woods	Scarborough
Alison	Xamon	UCIC
Dorothy	Yeoman	Margaret River

Agreed by consensus

34. Proposal 10 – Holy Land

ASC have made a resolution in November last year on the Holy Land. Expanded in March. Matter of faith, hope and love for strangers far away. Met with Palestinian Christians here in Perth. Congregations to take note of ASC decision. Resources will be available. Concerns were raised about the use of the term Holy Land and whether it reflected the understanding of the UCA.

Suggestion to amend- Endorse rather than Note.

Rev Sophia Lizares moved the following proposal:

That the Presbytery of WA:

1. Endorses the Assembly Standing Committee resolution of March 2024 regarding the situation in the Holy Land, condemning all acts of violence, and calling for working to a peaceful solution.

2. Responds to the ASC's call to "encourage congregations to offer support and comfort to those who are living with grief and fear in their communities as a result of the current escalation in the conflict and acts of racial and religious hatred happening in Australia including by:

I. praying for, listening to, and promoting the voices of those who are suffering;

II. participating in events and actions in support of a just peace; and

III. donating to the Act For Peace Gaza Emergency Appeal and Palestinian Christians in Australia accommodation Drive."

3. Authorises a small group consisting of Rev Sophia Lizares, Dr Alison Atkinson-Phillips, Rev Dr Elaine Ledgerwood, and any interested others to consult with Palestinian Christians in order to develop worship and educational resources for use by congregations.

4. Encourages congregations to use worship and educational resources developed within the Uniting Church to learn about the issues faced by Palestinian Christians.

Agreed by consensus.

35. Mic Minute

During a Mic Minute the following notices were given:

- Induction of Rev Craig Bosman at Margaret River on Sat 27 July.
- Sophie- invite to re-boot of Social justice Commission. On Monday 17 June at 5.00 pm.
- Kerrie Birch- new ministry team elected and seven members commissioned on 7 July with Moderator.
- Steve Francis – St Stephens School 40 year anniversary.
- Mervyn- supporters for Trek for Timor. Mt Pleasant and Foothills.
- Pray for Congress feeling very disrespected. Pray for Covenanting, meetings cancelled, and chair not consulted.
- Heather- looking for people to come onto Synod boards.
- Toby- classical music concert at Willetton tomorrow.
- Roy- working holiday makers in congregation, always looking for jobs, especially in rural areas.
- Bob- Council of Christians and Jews- learn more about origins of our faith.
- Elaine- if interested in working with Elaine, Sophie and Ali.
- Bob- UCAF- still sorting and selling stamps- short of sorters. Bicton UCA 10 to 2 on Wednesday. Proceeds to Frontier Services

36. Declaration of Ballots

Sue Whitworth the Returning Officer informed the Presbytery that the following had been elected.

Reuben Edmonds 2 years as Presbytery Officer Secretary

Janine McDonald 1 year as Presbytery Officer Treasurer

CEDAL

Lindsay Ginn 1 year

Alexandra Hugman 2 years

Mary Riley 2 years

Roy Surjanegara 1 year

John van den Berg 2 years

CMC

Bev Fabb 2 years (Chair)

Toby Keva 2 years

Shelby Robison 2 years

PRC

Christine Bundell 2 years

Ana Lea'aetoa 2 years

Trevor Thomas 1 year

Luke Williams 2 years

PSC

Bev Fabb 1 year

Mary Riley 2 years

Thrive

Yvonne Robinson 2 years

Yuko Tonai-Moore 2 years

Stephen van Schalkwyk 1 year

Uniting Generations Network

Kim Francis 1 year (Convener)

Rural & Remote Ministry Network

Yuko Tonai-Moore 1 year (Convener)

The Intercultural Network

Judy Sanderson 1 year (Convener)

Still looking for a member each for PSC, PPC, Thrive, and CEDAL.

37. Commissioning of Office Bearers, Chairs, Convenors and Committee Members.

Alison Xamon led the Presbytery in a Commissioning Service for Office Bearers, Chairs, Convenors and Committee Members.

38. Closing Reflections

39. Closing Prayers

Rev Sophia Lizares led the meeting in closing worship

40. Closure of the meeting

The meeting was then closed with the singing of the hymn *We will go out with joy* at 3.35 pm

Confirmed by the Presbytery Standing Committee on

12 August 2024 as a true and correct record



Signed by Alison Xamon- Chairperson

