



Uniting Church in Australia  
Presbytery of Western Australia



# **Minutes of the Meeting of the Presbytery of Western Australia at Trinity North Uniting Church on 22 March 2025**

## **1. Constitution**

On Saturday 22 March 2025 at 9.00 am, the Presbytery of Western Australia met at Trinity North Uniting Church with the Chairperson, Alison Xamon, presiding.

There were 35 ministers, 4 pastors, and 48 lay members present. Apologies were received from 6 ministers, 2 pastors and 12 lay members. There were 4 visitors who attended.

## **2. Opening Worship**

The Chairperson, Alison Xamon, welcomed members and opened in prayer.

Alison acknowledged country and highlighted our ongoing covenant with UAICC.

The Opening Worship was led by the Chair of Presbytery. Rev Ivan Clark began by reflecting with the members on the text of 2 Corinthians 3: 4 – 6 & the story of Grandpa's Slippers about what is old, familiar, and comfortable. Rev Ivan then preached on Isaiah 42: 1 – 11 and the theme of our meeting 'New Things Spring Forth'. During worship members of Presbytery met in small groups for sharing about congregational life and praying together.

Rev Mitchell Garlett welcomed the Presbytery to Whadjuk Country.

Alison Xamon welcomed those attending their first meeting and introduced the meeting procedures.

## **3. Venue Introduction**

Rev Ivan Clark introduced members to the Trinity North Uniting Church building and highlighted relevant amenities.

Rev Reuben Edmonds highlighted the ministry of Luke Williams that enables members to zoom in to our Presbytery meeting. Those interested in learning how they could also participate in this ministry are encouraged to speak with Luke.

## **4. Meeting arrangements**

The Secretary, Rev Reuben Edmonds, presented Proposal 1 about the arrangements for this meeting.

***The Presbytery agreed by consensus***

***1. To amend the Roll of Presbytery adopted at the Presbytery meeting on 15 June 2024 and amended on 9 November 2025 as follows:***

***1.1 Ministers in Active Service***

➤ ***Change Rev Sione Leaaetoo to Mt Pleasant.***

- *Remove Rev John Marshall - ceased placement.*

#### **1.2 Ministers Co-opted**

- *Add Rev Raymond Clee – Member of Committee for Counselling.*

#### **1.3 Congregational Lay Representatives**

- *Replace Sandy Scott with Monika Cowell as rep for Spearwood.*
- *Add Tevita Naroba as rep for Hedland Fijian Faith Community.*

#### **1.4 Co-opted Lay Members**

- *Add Sandy Scott – Member of PRC and PPC.*
- *Add Karl Sullivan – Candidate for Minister of the Word.*
- *Remove Monika Cowell – elected as a congregational rep.*

*Members of the Presbytery should note that the approval of these appointments (apart from once off alternates) will confer membership of Presbytery to the person until the next AGM.*

- 2. To appoint the following as once off alternates for this meeting only*
  - *Glenys White as lay representative for Wellington Regional Mission*
- 3. Adopt the Order of Business for this meeting.*
- 4. Appoint Rev Roy Surjanegara and Ps Simone Smalley as Chaplains for this meeting of the Presbytery.*
- 5. Appoint Sue Whitworth as Returning Officer and Rev Ken Devereux and Shelby Robison as scrutineers for this meeting of the Presbytery.*
- 6. Authorise the Presbytery Standing Committee to confirm the minutes of this meeting of the Presbytery.*

### **5. Chairperson's Report**

Past chairperson, Rev Lorraine Stokes, took the chair.

Alison Xamon presented her report. Alison highlighted the new shoots and growth with our Presbytery. She also highlighted the conclusion of her term in June and the lack of current nominations for the role.

A request was made for an update on the process for seeking a new chair. Alison indicated a slot would be made available for a presentation from the chair of the nominating committee later in the meeting.

The report was received by consensus.

The chairperson, Alison Xamon, resumed the chair.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

Janine McDonald, Presbytery Treasurer, presented her report. Janine highlighted the surplus for 2024, although this largely occurred due to Presbytery Mission Minister staff vacancy.

A suggestion was made that the policy for mission and service giving be sent out to congregations and to include a summary of what the mission and service goes towards. It was also highlighted that the What Is Presbytery booklet is a great resource that summarises what the Presbytery does as a result of the mission and service giving.

The report was received by consensus.

## **7. Pastoral Relations Committee report**

Sue Strutt presented the report. Sue highlighted the long meetings with long agendas and the challenge that PRC is more reactive than proactive. She highlighted the need for volunteers to assist PRC with its work and is grateful for those who already provide support.

There were no questions, and the report was received by consensus.

## **8. Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL) report**

Rev Dr Cathie Lambert and Rev Andy Broadbent presented the report. Cathie highlighted the formation focus week, 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July, themed on the Power of Perspective, which will include resources for Bible study or fellowship groups and Sunday worship resources. Andy highlighted the call for learning partners from each congregation to advocate for learning opportunities. Cathie explained the process of admission of ministers. Andy highlighted upcoming training for Lay Preachers.

Congratulations were given to Cathie for being selected to be the chair of the new Commission on Theology, Formation and Education for the Assembly.

Congratulations were given to Cathie on her newly published book.

There were no questions, and the report was received by consensus.

## **9. Presentation on Church Planting**

Rev Luke Williams gave an overview of the journey that the Billabong has undertaken to plant a new worshipping community in Piara Waters. He outlined the process of planting the Billabong congregation 25 years ago and the transition it undertook when it built the building and became more 'comfortable'. He then explored the theology and motivation behind the decision to undertake a new plant. and the process of listening and exploration that the church council and

congregation undertook. He outlined some of the challenges faced in beginning the plant and the difficulty in finding a regular venue for gatherings. He outlined the core theological principles which are foundational to mission including, but not limited to, church planting. He spoke about how creating disciples leads to planting, but that planting does not necessarily make disciples. He reflected on how we measure our success and rather than focusing on “bums, buildings, and budgets” it needs to focus measures of faith, like baptisms, confirmations, and how many people came to faith.

He left us with three questions to consider:

1. What is one small step the Holy Spirit could be leading your congregation to take in mission and disciple making?
2. What are you measuring and does that need to change? How?
3. What training do you feel your congregation might need in mission and disciple making?

#### **10. Uniting World Presentation and Table Discussion**

Dr Sureka Goringe, National Director of Uniting World, presented. Sureka began with a video giving us an overview of the work of Uniting World in India. She talked about the relationship Uniting World has with 22 overseas partner churches that includes solidarity and working together for justice. She gave an overview of the approach Uniting World takes including, partnerships, sustainable development, program design, privileging the poor, mutual capacity development, and clear boundaries. Sureka spoke about the many benefits congregations receive from supporting the work of partner churches, often more than the partner churches receive from the congregations. She spoke of the current focus of Uniting World on ‘Justice in a Changing Climate’ which recognises the impact of climate change on our partner churches. Sureka reflected on missional discipleship including spiritual engagement, transformative generosity, and public activism.

#### **11. Presbytery Chair Nominating Committee**

Rev Steve Francis spoke about the work of the committee. At this time there are no names to bring for election. He encouraged all members of Presbytery to hold this role in their prayers and to consider if they or someone they know is called to this ministry.

## **12. Thrive Mission Committee report**

Rev Greg Ross presented the report. Greg led the Presbytery in prayer for committee member Rev Stephen van Schalkwyk who's father died suddenly. He highlighted the work with Rev Andy Broadbent on the work to create opportunities to do with mission.

There were no questions, and the report was received by consensus.

## **13. Candidates for Ministries Committee report**

Rev Bev Fabb presented the report. Bev highlighted the good news of a new candidate for Minister of the Word and two more people who have applied to go before the selection panel. However, this means there is no-one currently completing a Period of Discernment. Bev also raised concerns about the length of time Susan Lord is waiting for a placement and how we can support candidates during this difficult time. Bev highlighted the large number of Lay Preacher candidates and also the challenges that some find in completing the study and balancing other commitments.

A question was raised about the current requirement for ordination requiring a placement. It was acknowledged that this is a change that would need to be made at an Assembly meeting.

The report was received by consensus.

## **14. Presbytery Property Committee report**

Heather Hamblin presented the report. Heather highlighted the upcoming asbestos inspections and the need for congregations to let the Synod Property Services know if they have removed or intend to remove asbestos from their buildings.

There were no questions, and the report was received by consensus.

## **15. Uniting Generations Network report**

Pastor Julie Ridden and Rev Kim Francis presented the report. Julie highlighted the conversations with ecumenical groups and the support available to congregations. Kim highlighted the monthly newsletter and encouraged congregations to sign up to receive it.

There were no questions, and the report was received by consensus.

#### **16. Rural and Remote Ministry Network report**

Yuko Tonai-Moore presented the report. Yuko highlighted a need for accommodation for regional members who need to stay overnight to attend Presbytery. She also highlighted the plans underway to hold a face-to-face meeting for the network.

There were no questions, and the report was received by consensus.

#### **17. Intercultural Network report**

Rev Judy Sanderson presented the report. Judy asked congregations to feedback to the network if they are participating in any intercultural activities. She also highlighted the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the statement 'We are a Multicultural Church' and the hope for a celebration in WA to mark the anniversary.

There were no questions, and the report was received by consensus.

#### **18. Proposal 2 Climate Care and Net Zero Emissions**

Rev Ken Devereux gave an overview of the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change and its activities. He noted that it is an inter-faith organisation that seeks to respect first nation voices and involves numerous regional groups.

Rev Ken Devereux moved, and Rev Sophia Lizares seconded, the following proposal.

**That the WA Presbytery encourages:**

**Congregations, faith communities and other bodies in the Uniting Church in Western Australia to press for further actions promoting climate care and working towards net zero emissions.**

Passed by consensus.

#### **19. Strategic Priorities Update & Health and Vitality Toolkit Presentation**

Rev Reuben Edmonds presented the report updating the meeting on the progress of the Presbytery towards the key priorities that they are responsible for.

Sue Strutt gave an overview of the Health and Vitality Toolkit. Sue encouraged all congregations and faith communities to complete the health and vitality toolkit and send it to the Presbytery Pastoral Minister.

#### **20. Thank Yous**

Alison thanked Trinity North Uniting Church for hosting today's meeting, and the staff and many volunteers who helped enable today's Presbytery meeting.

**21. Closing Worship**

Ps Julie Ridden led the Presbytery prayer to close the meeting.

**22. Closure of the meeting**

The meeting was then closed at 2.42 pm

*Confirmed by the Presbytery Standing Committee on*

*14 April 2025 as a true and correct record*



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*Signed by Alison Xamon- Chairperson*



# 22 March 2025 Presbytery Meeting Attendance Record



Uniting Church in Australia  
Presbytery of Western Australia



A WELCOMING  
CHRISTIAN  
COMMUNITY

OFFICE BEARERS		
Alison Xamon	Chair	Attended
Rev Reuben Edmonds	Secretary/All Saints Floreat	Attended
Janine McDonald	Treasurer	Attended
REPRESENTATIVES OF BODIES		
Rev Robert Jetta (Chairperson)	WA Regional Committee of UAICC	Attended
Lenny Yarran	WA Regional Committee of UAICC	
MINISTERS IN ACTIVE SERVICE		
Samuel Annan	Rockingham	Attended
Dianne Bertolino	HOD Chaplaincy and Spiritual Services- SCGH & OPH	
Craig Bosman	Rural Resource Minister/Margaret River/Augusta	Zoom attendee
Andrew Broadbent	CEDAL Education and Resources Coordinator	Attended
Ivan Clark	Trinity North	Attended
Mitch Fialkowski	Remote Area Ministry (Meekatharra)	
Kim Francis	Maylands/Mt Lawley	Attended
Steve Francis	Tranby College	Attended
Mitchell Garlett	Maaman 'O' Miya and Congress	Attended
Mark Illingworth	South Perth	Attended
David Jackson	Remote Area Ministry (Pilbara Patrol)	Attended
Sugeun Jang	Korean UCA	Attended
Toby Keva	Willetton	Attended
Cathie Lambert	CEDAL Formation and Learning Culture Coordinator	Attended
Ana Lea'aetoea	King Edward Memorial Hospital Pastoral Care	Attended
Sione Lea'aetoea	Mt Pleasant	Apology
Elaine Ledgerwood	St Aidan's Claremont	Attended
Sophia Lizares	Kalamunda	Attended
Rick Morrell	Industry Chaplain	
Herman Nienaber	Nedlands	
Erica Payne	Frontier Services (Mid West Disaster Chaplaincy) & Dongara	Attended
Claire Pickering	Presbytery Minister Pastoral	Attended
Nalin Perera	Presbytery Ladies' College Chaplain	Apology
Sonny Rajamoney	NorthWay	Attended
Lyall Reid	Naval Chaplain	Apology
Greg Ross	Wellington Regional Mission	Attended
Judy Sanderson	Applecross	Attended
Lorraine Stokes	Presbytery Officer	Attended
Manie Strydom	Wesley College Chaplain	
Roy Alexander Surjanegara	GKI	Attended
Ian Tozer	Moderator	Attended
Gary van Heerden	Scotch College Chaplain	Apology
Corina van Oostende	Albany	Zoom attendee
Stephen van Schalkwyk	Baylife (Busselton)	Apology
Andrew Williams	General Secretary	Attended
Luke Williams	The Billabong	Attended
Hollis Wilson	UCIC (Wesley)	Attended
Anne Wright	Nedlands (Contract Ministry)	Attended
ASSOCIATE MINISTERS - Open to all ministers on leave of absence, retired or awaiting placement who are not otherwise Presbytery Members. We "enrol" them only on request and non-voting		
Anne McAndrew	(Osborne Park)	Attended
Gemmel Sherwood	(Wanneroo Crossways)	

MINISTERS CO-OPTED		
Mervyn Anderson	Congress Ministry	Attended
Raymond Clee	Committee for Counselling	Attended
Chris Crause	Noranda (Supply)	Apology
Ken Devereux	Retired Minister	Attended
Bev Fabb	Chair of CMC	Attended
Hannes Halgryn	Minister in secular employment	
Marie Wilson	Regional Pastor	Attended
PASTORS		
Joshua Fotu	Beth Shalom	
Lindsay Ginn	Remote Area Ministry (Kalgoorlie)	Apology
Cameron Harries	Piara Waters	Apology
Marilyn Price	Mandurah	Attended
Julie Ridden	Children, Families, Youth and Young Adult Co-ordinator	Attended
Simone Smalley	Methodist Ladies' College Chaplain	Attended
John Tomkins	Remote Area Ministry (Carnarvon)	Zoom attendee
Paul Whitfield	Penrhos College Chaplain	
LAY PREACHERS (up to 10 elected by Presbytery)		
Doug Burtenshaw	Lay Preacher (Mandurah)	Apology
Shirley Francis	Lay Preacher (Leeming)	Attended
Jonathan Haslam	Lay Preacher (Piara Waters)	
<b>COMMUNITY MINISTERS</b> - Community Ministers, Lay Pastors and Youth Workers were specific ministries in the past, now discontinued but people who held that classification at the time the ministries were discontinued, keep that status.		
Valda Knott	Central Wheatbelt (Trayning, Kellerberrin)	Apology
LAY MINISTRY TEAM REPRESENTATIVES (Rule P2.1.4)		
Trevor Thomas	Pinjarra	Attended
CONGREGATIONAL LAY REPRESENTATIVES (Elected Members)		
Elizabeth Burns	Albany	Attended
Margaret Martin	Applecross	Apology
Sue Whitworth	Armadale	Attended
Yvonne Robinson	Baylife (Busselton)	Apology
Olivia Sina	Beth Shalom	Attended
	Bicton	
Laurie Dyer	Billabong	Attended
Yuko Tonai-Moore	Bridgetown	Attended
	Brookton	
Kathleen McAndrew	Capel	Attended
Shelby Robison	Cannington	Attended
	Carnarvon	
Ann Hammer	Claremont	Attended
	Cunderdin	
Judy Wilson	Denmark	Apology
	Dongara	
Deborah Marshall	Floreat	Attended
	Floreat	
Robert Watson	Forrestfield	Attended
Andrew Stokes	Fremantle	Attended
Bianca Allen	Geraldton	
Ben Micke	Geraldton	
Kim Mouritz	Gingin	
Jan Alvin Gunawan	GKI	
	GKI	
	Glen Forrest	
Neville van Wyk	Gosnells	Attended
Sue Thompson	Guildford	

Carolyn Ebell-Taylor	Kalamunda	Attended
Betty Lewis	Kalgoorlie-Boulder	
John van den Berg	Kardinya	Attended
Malcolm Watson	Kojonup	
Gun Seo Park	Korean UC	
Mary Riley	Leeming	Apology
Alan Hortin	Lockyer	
	Maaman "O" Mia (Coolbellup)	
Coral Richards	Mandurah	
Collen Taylor	Margaret River	Zoom attendee
Deidre Kail	Maylands/Mt Lawley	Attended
Bob French	Merredin	Attended
Jonathan Nelson	Moora	
Doug Lincoln	Mt Barker / Plantagenet	Apology
Brian Gluestein	Mt Pleasant	Apology
Ralph Moore	Mt Pleasant	Apology
	Mundaring	
Christine Bundell	Nedlands	Attended
Neville Blesing	Nedlands	Attended
Helen McMillan	Noranda	Attended
Bob Lockley	Northam	Attended
	Northampton	
	Northcliffe	
Mark Hackling	Northway	Attended
Helen Findlay	Osborne Park	Attended
	Pemberton	
Kerrie Birch	Pinjarra	Attended
Arthur West	Quairading	
Simon Cartwright	Rockingham	Attended
	Rowethorpe	
Elizabeth Woods	Scarborough	Attended
John Lawrence	South Mandurah	
John Berger	South Perth	Attended
Monika Cowell	Spearwood	Attended
Sue Arthurs	St Andrews	Attended
Sue Strutt	St Peter and Emmaus	Attended
Annette Bryant	Star Street	Attended
Bob Nicholls	Swan View	Attended
Darian Partington	Trinity North	
Helen Harmer	Trinity North	Attended
	Trinity North	
David Gray	UCIC	Attended
	UCIC	
Robyn Willey	Wagin	Attended
Litiani Lomalagi	Wanneroo Crossways	Attended
	Waroon	
Richard Hugman	Wellington Regional Mission	Apology
Marg Garrett	Wellington Regional Mission	Attended
Vic Richards	Wembley Downs	Attended
Bruce Read	Willetton	Apology
Kevin Trent	York	
<b>FAITH COMMUNITY LAY REPRESENTATIVES (Elected Members) (The status of some listed faith communities is still being investigated)</b>		
	Augusta	
	*Byford	
	*Cuballing	

Graham Wasley	Darkan	Attended
	Dowerin	
	Dumbelyung	
	*Esperance	
Tevita Naroba	Hedland Fijian	Attended
	*Hyden	
Norma Hersey	*Katanning	
	Kellerberrin	
	*Kulin	
	Mukinbudin	
Evan Maltby	*Mundijong	
	Narrogin	
	North Midlands (Carnamah, Coorow, Three Springs)	
Steve Higgins	Southern Cross	
Pepe Liuvaie Halatau	Tapu Niue	
	Toodyay	
	Trayning	
	Waterloo	
<b>ONCE-OFF LAY REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATIVES</b>		
Glenys White	WRM (Replacing Richard Hugman for this meeting)	Attended
<b>CO-OPTED LAY MEMBERS</b>		
Yoy Alberastine	Candidate for Pastor	
David Beards	Synod Standing Committee	
Karen Flowers	Chairperson of CEDAL	Apology
Heather Hamblin	Chairperson of Property Committee	Attended
Bob Hunt	Past Chair	
Maggie Johns	Synod Standing Committee	
Susan Lord	Candidate MOW	Zoom attendee
Erin Lloyd	Youthful Member	
Sandy Scott	PRC & PPC	Attended
Karl Sullivan	Candidate MOW	Attended
Susy Thomas	Synod Standing Committee	
Hanamoia Vaitogi	Samoan Devotional Group	
<b>VISITORS</b>		
Dr Sureka Goringe	Uniting World	Invited Guest
Rev Dr Chris Goringe		Invited Guest
Graham Whitworth		Visitor
Senirewa Nawanawa		Visitor