

## THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

## SYNOD OF NEW SOUTH WALES AND THE ACT

**MINUTES** of the thirty seventh Meeting of the Synod of New South Wales and the ACT of the Uniting Church in Australia held 30 September to 3 October 2017 at Knox Grammar School. The theme of the Synod was “*Telling Our Story*”

**CANDLE** The Moderator lit the candle at the commencement of the Synod Meeting to signify the Synod was a Safe Place

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
OF LAND**

Rev. Harry Walker led the acknowledgement of land

**BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Studies were led by Mr Joel McKerrow

**WORSHIP**

Worship was developed and led by Rev. Nicole Fleming, Rev. Richard Harris, Rev. Mark Hillis, Rev. Radhika Sukamar - White, Rev. Jenny Ducker.

The Induction of the General Secretary was held on 3 October and included Holy Communion.

Each day's business closed with a reflection and prayer led by Rev. Mata Havea Hiliau

**THE SYNOD PRAYER**

God of all, speak with us.  
Creating, you spoke light and life and hope.  
In our worship,  
Let us honour your presence;  
In our deliberations,  
Move us to serve your mission;  
In our decisions,  
Let us reflect the image  
Which is shaped by your breath and love.  
Living and dying and rising, you recast  
everything.  
Help us discover your courage and your joy  
To live your hope and justice in our community;  
Enable us to trust you,  
As we discern your call  
Or struggle with what may appear mundane;  
Or struggle with what may appear mundane;  
Keep us faithful to the task in our hand -

To be your church,  
In worship, in witness and in service.  
You breathe, and whisper, and sing  
A story which seems beyond us  
and yet is placed in the palms of our hands.  
When we find consensus,  
Let us celebrate your guidance  
When we struggle to discern your voice,  
Keep us patient,  
Reminding us of our diverse lives and call;  
Have us mindful, always, of the world in which  
we live and move:  
The world for which Christ died  
and in which we bear witness  
In our lives and words each day.  
Creator, Word, Spirit,  
Lead us, that we may serve you well.  
Amen.

## DECISIONS

Decisions recorded in these Minutes were reached by consensus unless otherwise indicated.

## MEMBERS OF SYNOD

110/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod determine:

- (i) that the membership of Synod shall comprise ex officio and board members, together with those persons nominated by presbyteries or co-opted, being listed on Appendix A, attached to the minutes;
- (ii) that any alterations to the list of members be advised in writing to the Synod General Secretary by the Presbytery Chairperson no later than the close of Synod on Tuesday 3 October 2017
- (iii) that the following persons be co-opted as members of Synod in accordance with Regulation 3.3.7 a. (vii)
  - Rev. Garry Derkenne
  - Ms Lyn Drabsch
  - Mr James Morgan
  - Ms Kristy Morgan
  - Mr Allan Secomb
  - Mrs Denise Secomb
  - Ms Gwen Huelin
  - Ms Christy Martin
  - Rev. Kath Merrifield
  - Mr Myles Wellington

## AGENDA AND TIMETABLE OF SYNOD

111/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod

adopt the timetable of Synod as published on the Synod 2017 App and amended by the Synod Business Committee as required

## SAFE PLACE

112/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) determine the Respectful Communication Guideline documented under the 'Information' tab on the Synod 2017 App will be the basis for the Synod to be a safe place for all who participate
- (ii) note the Policy on the Prevention of Vilification and Harassment within the Uniting Church in Australia as documented under the 'Information' tab on the Synod 2017 App

**SYNOD  
BUSINESS  
COMMITTEE**

113/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

on the recommendation of the Synod Standing Committee appoint the following persons to the Business Committee for Synod 2017:

- Rev. Dr Chris Budden (Chairperson)
- Rev. Simon Hansford
- Rev. Jane Fry
- Mr Peter Andrews
- Mr Ian Lawrence
- Mr Bradon French
- Rev. Garry Derkenne
- Ms Lisa Sampson
- Mr Adrian Drayton
- Rev. Suzanne Stanton
- Mrs Karyn Warner

**ASSOCIATED  
MEMBERS**

114/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

associate the following people

<b>Member</b>	<b>Session</b>
Mrs Karyn Warner	All
Rev. Thresi Mauboy	All
Dr Gerard Moore	All
Mr Joel McKerrow	3 & 5
Ms Melanie Dicks	3 & 5
Mr John O'Brien	5
Mr John Cleary	6
Rev. Karyn Burchell Thomas	7
Ms Hannah Boland	8
Ms Robyn Brown	9
Rev. John Cox	10

**RETURNING  
OFFICER**

115/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

note that the Synod Standing Committee has appointed Mr Ian Lawrence as Returning Officer and Mr Scott Stanton as Assistant Returning Officer

## **SYNOD MINUTES**

116/17S

Resolved

That the Synod request the Synod Standing Committee approve the Minutes of the 2017 Synod Meeting

## **MINISTERIAL REPORTS**

The Acting General Secretary tabled the names of Deacons, Ministers of the Word and Youth Workers who have resigned, transferred to another Synod, or have been re-admitted, and the names and details of service of Deacons, Ministers and their spouse/widow and those lay leaders who have died since the 2016 Synod

117/17S

Resolved

That the Synod receive the names tabled and attach them as Appendix B to the Minutes

## **MINISTERIAL MATTERS – CELEBRATION SERVICE**

The Acting General Secretary tabled the names of Deacons and Ministers of the Word who have been received by the Uniting Church within the Synod of New South Wales and the ACT by ordination, admission from another denomination or by transfer from another Synod since the 2016 Synod; of Deacons, Ministers of the Word and Lay Pastors who have retired since the 2016 Synod; and Ministers of the Word and Deacons who have celebrated major anniversaries of their ordination since the 2016 Synod. Appropriate details are in the Order of Service of the Recognition Booklet

118/17S

Resolved

That the Synod receive the names tabled and attach them as Appendix C to the Minutes

## **SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

119/17S

Resolved

receive the report

**KOREAN  
PRESBYTERY  
REVIEW**

120/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) note that when the 2011 Synod resolved to establish the Korean Presbytery it included a provision “to review no later than 2017 the ongoing need for the Korean Presbytery” (Minute 154/11S)
- (ii) note that the Synod Standing Committee established a review, has received the report and recommendation, and has endorsed the recommendation that the Presbytery be continued
- (iii) note that the review also recommended a series of supportive improvements, involving the Korean Presbytery and other councils, particularly the Synod and other presbyteries
- (iv) request the Synod Standing Committee continue to work on these issues as part of a wider consideration across presbyteries and bring a further report to the 2019 Synod

**MINUTE  
OF  
APPRECIATION  
REV. DR  
ANDREW WILLIAMS**

121/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) record it’s thanks to God and its sincere appreciation for the Ministry of Rev Dr Andrew Williams
- (ii) receive the minute of appreciation and attach as Appendix D to the minutes

**GENERAL  
SECRETARY  
NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE**

122/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) receive the verbal report
- (ii) appoint Rev. Jane Fry as the General Secretary of the NSW.ACT Synod

## PATHWAYS PROJECT

123/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) receive the report;
- (ii) affirm the need for all members of the Uniting Church to tell God's story in a way that connects meaningfully and respectfully with the communities we serve;
- (iii) commit all the people of/within the Synod of the NSW/ACT to work together to develop their skills and confidence in telling the good news of Jesus Christ with their neighbours;
- (iv) provide resources to assist the two pilot Presbyteries (Parramatta Nepean and New England North West) to develop particular initiatives in response to the findings over the next 6 months;
- (v) support the positive engagement with congregations and presbyteries through the Pathways engagement process;
- (vi) assert the key role of the Presbytery Chairpersons in encouraging and supporting engagement by their Presbyteries in the Pathways process
- (vii) commit resources:
  - a. to enable the process to continue with the pilot presbyteries to allow consideration of findings and to begin to develop pathways for action; and
  - b. to extend the scope of the project to progressively engage with all presbyteries and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and to communicate to the Synod 2019 the outcomes and achievements of the process;
- (viii) refer the funding of the Pathways project to the Synod Budget Steering Committee for resolution, noting the significant commitment of \$300,000 per year already made by Uniting

## STEPPING STONES

124/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) receive the report;
- (ii) require the Senior Executive Leadership Team (SELT) to complete an analysis of the Stepping Stones results, develop an interim response and present it to the Synod Standing Committee (SSC) by November 2017.
- (iii) note that the purpose of this interim response is to ensure consistent focus by Synod operations while the Pathways planning process is completed across the remaining congregations and presbyteries.
- (iv) determine that the scope of the interim response is to include:
  - a. an interim vision and plan, so that energy is focused in one direction and people are working in unity to achieve a common goal, which is clearly articulated and detailed;
  - b. refinement to the governance model, to ensure accountability by confirming or establishing clearly articulated roles, responsibilities and reporting lines;
  - c. a communication and engagement plan, so that congregations and presbyteries are aware of what is happening and how Synod operations are supporting grass roots needs

- (v) require the SELT to stay abreast of the results of Pathways as it is rolled out in full across all Presbyteries and Congregations and to provide a considered response as results from Pathways are identified;
- (vi) require the SELT to work with the SSC to create a healthy balance between meeting grass roots congregation needs and refining the governance structure to ensure accountability and delivery of missional results

**PULSE PROJECT**

125/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) receive the report;
- (ii) endorse, in principle, the Pulse Project;
- (iii) note that further work needs to be undertaken before Synod 2019 to fully develop this project;
- (iv) encourage UME (and the Synod Budget Steering Committee) to allocate sufficient funding over the next 18 months, from within existing resources, to define and commence Stage One initiatives;
- (v) affirm that Pulse shall have priority allocations from the Growth Fund

**STRUCTURE SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE**

126/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

on recommendation of the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) adopt the the following structure

Moderator	1
Past Moderator	1
Moderator Elect (if position current)	1
General Secretary	1
Chairs of Synod Boards	4
Nominee of UAICC	1
Elected by the Synod	12 persons with no categorisation or qualification beyond the necessity to meet the requirements of the Regulations

- (ii) specify that no Presbytery may have more than 2 elected members;
- (iii) determine, that to be elected, a person would be required to receive no less than 50% of the votes cast;
- (iv) direct the Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee (GNRC) to develop a nomination process that gives force to this process and pays due regard to the desirability of achieving appropriate oversights this process

By agreement

**PAST  
MODERATOR  
REPORT**

127/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) receive the report;
- (ii) record it's thanks to God and its sincere appreciation for the Ministry of Rev. Myung Hwa Park
- (ii) receive the minute of appreciation and attach as Appendix E to the minutes

**SOCIAL  
JUSTICE  
FORUM**

128/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

receive the report

**SALTBUSH  
PROJECT**

129/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

receive the report

**MOBILISING  
MINISTRY**

130/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

receive the report

**UNITING  
FUTURE  
HORIZONS**

131/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

receive the report

**STEWARDSHIP  
CONTRIBUTION**

132/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

receive the report

**MISSION AND  
PROPERTY**

133/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

receive the report

**GROWTH  
FUND**

134/17S                      Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

**SOVEREIGNTY  
AND TREATY**

135/17S                      Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

**UNITING  
ABORIGINAL  
AND ISLANDER  
CHRISTIAN  
CONGRESS**

136/17S                      Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

**ASSEMBLY**

137/17S                      Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

**UNITING  
RESOURCES  
BOARD REPORT**

138/17S                      Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

**UNITING  
MISSION AND  
EDUCATION  
BOARD REPORT**

139/17S                      Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

**UNITING  
MISSION AND  
EDUCATION  
BOARD REPORT**

140/17S                      Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

## TREASURY AND INVESTMENTS BOARD REPORT

141/17S

Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive the report

## PRESBYTERY REPORTS

142/17S

Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive with thanks the following Presbytery reports

- Canberra Region
- Far North Coast
- Georges River
- Illawarra
- Korean
- Macquarie Darling
- Mid North Coast
- New England North West
- Parramatta Nepean
- Riverina
- Sydney
- Sydney Central Coast
- The Hunter

## SYNOD COMMITTEE REPORTS

143/17S

Resolved  
That the Synod  
receive with thanks the following Committee reports

- Admission of Ministers
- Adult Fellowship NSW.ACT
- Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placements
- Christian Spirituality
- Constitutions Committee
- Faith and Unity
- Historical Society
- Music Development
- Relations with Other Faiths
- Stamp Committee

## PARISH MISSION REPORTS

144/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod  
receive with thanks the following Parish Mission reports

- Lismore Regional Mission
- Newtown Mission
- Paddington Uniting Church
- Parramatta Mission
- Wayside Chapel
- Wesley Mission
- Wollongong Mission

## SCHOOL REPORTS

145/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod  
receive with thanks the following School reports

- Kinross Wolaroi School Orange
- Knox Grammar School
- Margaret Jurd College
- MLC School
- Newington College Stanmore
- Pymble Ladies College
- Ravenswood School for Girls

## MINUTE OF APPRECIATION REV. CHRIS UDY

146/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) record it's appreciation and thanks to God for Rev. Christopher Udy as Chairperson of the Advisory Committee On Ministerial Placements (ACOMP)
- (ii) receive the minute of appreciation and attach as Appendix F to the minutes

## CONGREGATION CHANGES

147/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod  
note the Congregational changes since Synod 2016 as attached  
in Appendix G

**SYNOD  
2019  
MEETING  
DATE**

148/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

instruct the Synod Standing Committee set the date and place of the next Synod

**THE PLACE  
OF CONGRESS  
WITHIN THE  
NSW-ACT SYNOD**

149/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

- (i) Approve the following changes in principle:
  - a. Using the authority given to the Synod in Clause 49 of the Constitution, prescribe that Congress may have certain powers of a Presbytery – specifically establishment of congregations and faith communities, and placement and oversight of Ministers
  - b. Relate Congress to the Synod through the Secretariat
  - c. Support the Congress Regional Committee to gain an ABN, have UR provide all accounting services directly to the Regional Committee, transfer staff from UME to either the Regional Committee or the Secretariat, determine its budget and apply for funding
- (ii) Request the General Secretary to work with Congress, GNRC, UR and any other necessary bodies to determine the exact powers of a presbytery which will be given to the Regional Committee, and to ensure that there is adequate support for Congress to carry out the other responsibilities that properly belong to it as a regional committee of Congress, and make necessary recommendations to the SSC.
- (iii) Direct the SSC to finalise this matter by no later than the end of April 2018, with the changes starting 1 July 2018.

**ROYAL  
COMMISSION  
UPDATE**

150/17S

Resolved

That the Synod

receive the report

## APPOINTMENTS

151/17S

### Resolved

That the Synod appoint the following members to:

- (i) Synod Standing Committee
- Mr David Barrow
  - Rev. Paul Cosier
  - Rev. Salesi Faupula
  - Mrs Sharon Flynn
  - Miss Olivia Freeman
  - Mrs Sue Graves
  - Rev. Danielle Hemsworth Smith
  - Mr Ian Lawrence
  - Rev. Nicole Fleming
  - Rev. Dr Susan Phalen
  - Mrs Queenie Speeding
  - Mrs Jacki Watts

- (ii) Synod Boards

152/17S

Uniting Mission & Education:

- Rev. Haloti Kailahi
- Rev. Graham Perry
- Mr Maxwell Woodward

153/17S

Uniting:

- Mrs Gillian Coutts
- Mrs Elizabeth Nicol
- Mr Michael Talbot
- Mrs Heather Watson
- Mr Peter Wells

154/17S

Treasury & Investment Services:

- Michael Anderson
- Paul Mazzola

155/17S

Uniting Resources:

- Mr Ian Gray
- Mr John Martin
- Mr Peter Norman
- Mrs Meredith Yabsley

156/17S

- (iii) Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placement Chairperson:

- Rev. John Thornton


(iv) Assembly 2018

Ordained Members:

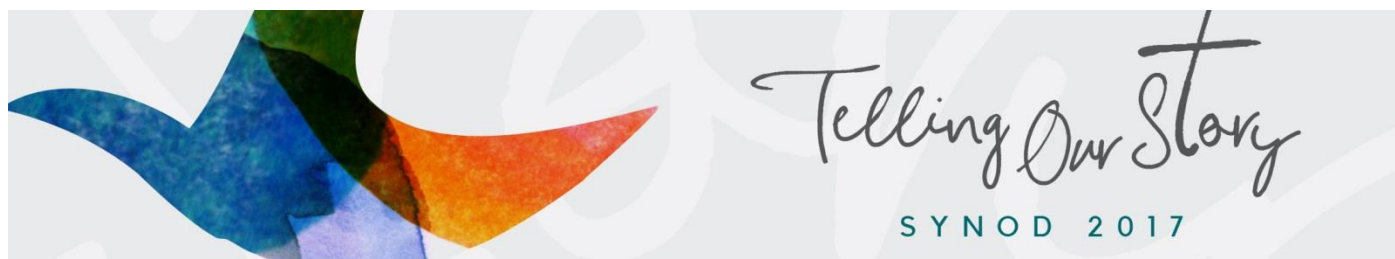
- James Aaron
- Punam Bent
- Andrew Cunningham
- Nicole Fleming
- Mata Havea Hiliau
- Gaby Kobrossi
- Fie Marino
- Margaret Mayman
- Kath Merrifield
- Rick Morell
- Graham Perry
- Suzanne Stanton

Lay Members:

- Bek Allcroft
- Zac Hatfield-Dodds
- Amanda Hay
- David Hay
- Trisha Mann
- Daniel Mossfield
- Malia Puna
- Hannah Reeve
- Shane Slade
- Katelyn Stevenson
- Subrumaniam Sukumar
- Nathan Tyson
- Heather Watson
- Meredith Yabsley

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rev. Simon Hansford  
Chairperson

28 October 2017  
Date



## MEMBERS OF SYNOD 2017

Synod and Assembly Appointments  
As at 29 September – 3 October 2017

### ASSEMBLY

Mr Stuart McMillan - President  
Ms Colleen Geyer – General Secretary

### SYNOD

Rev. Simon Hansford - Moderator  
Rev. Myung Hwa Park – Ex Moderator  
Rev. Jane Fry – Acting General Secretary  
Rev. John Thornton – Acting Associate Secretary  
Mr John Kitchener – Property Officer

### EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

#### UNITING RESOURCES

Mrs Meredith Yabsley  
Mr John Kitchener  
Mr Peter Norman

#### TREASURY & INVESTMENT SERVICES

Mr Michael Anderson  
Mr Warren Bird  
Mr John Collins  
Mr Jason Masters

#### UNITING

Ms Heather Watson  
Mr Peter Worland  
Ms Bronwyn Pike

#### UNITING MISSION AND EDUCATION

Dr Iain Brown  
Rev. Rhonda White  
Mr Max Woodward  
Mr Bob Minton

#### GOVERNANCE NOMINATIONS REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

Mr Peter Andrews

#### SYNOD RISK OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Mr Jonathon Rea

## CANBERRA REGION PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Karyl Davison  
Rev. Mark Faulkner  
Rev. Julie Lawton-Gallard  
Rev. David Russell  
Rev. Riana Kok

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Ms Siona Faupula  
Mr Daniel Mossfield

### LAY PERSONS

Mr Craig Boulton  
Mrs Patricia Coates  
Mr Robert Dunn  
Mr Zac Hatfield-Dodds  
Ms Delia Quiqley  
Mr Subramanian (Kumar) Sukumar  
Mr Robert Tulip  
Mr Derek Watson  
Dr John Williams  
Ms Mary Woodhouse  
Ms Stella Naimet

## GEORGES RIVER PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Salesi Faupula  
Rev. Tammy Hollands  
Rev. Trevor Jennings  
Rev. Haloti Kailahi  
Rev. Gaby Kobrossi  
Rev. Rob Rutzou  
Rev. Graeme Watkins  
Rev. Kamaloni Tu'iono

### LAY PERSONS

Mr John Algar  
Mr Ross Daddo  
Mr Peter de Beuzeville  
Mrs Toakase Fine  
Mr Kiteau Funaki  
Ms Fatafehi Funaki  
Mr Kevin Fyfe  
Mrs Ana Moala  
Ms Olivia Polutele  
Mrs Michaela Sisk  
Mr Scott Stanton  
Mr Uliti Tafea  
Ms Simaima Tuiono  
Mr Fauhiva Lutui  
Ms Louisa Siuhengalu

## FAR NORTH COAST PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. James Annesley  
Rev. Maggie De Leeuw  
Rev. Robert Griffith  
Rev. Peter Overton

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Mr Phil Dokmanovic  
Ms Greer Dokmanovic

### LAY PERSONS

Mrs Mary Birch  
Mrs Sue Duncan  
Mrs Louise Lancett  
Mrs Ann Phillpott

## ILLAWARRA PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Glenys Biddle  
Rev. Grant Bilbey  
Rev. John Brentnall  
Rev. Robert Buchan  
Rev. Charissa Suli  
Rev. Dr Matthew Wilson

### LAY PERSONS

Mr Ross Johnson  
Mrs Catherine Cochrane  
Mrs Sharon Flynn  
Mr Langi Suli  
Mr Gavin Whitten

## KOREAN PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Sang Heon Ahn  
Rev. Bom Wook Choi  
Rev. Sang Duk Choi  
Rev. Ki Soo Jang  
Rev. Sun Il Jeong  
Rev. Chan Il Kim  
Rev. Jihoon Kim

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Mr Matthew Kang  
Mr Sang Hyeon Nam

### LAY PERSONS

Mrs Eun Hye Jeon  
Mr Duk Min Kim  
Mr Ji Su Kim  
Mr Kap Lee  
Mr Jung Eun Noh  
Mrs Soon Hee Im

## MACQUARIE DARLING PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Andrew Cunningham  
Rev. Maurine Redenbach  
Rev. Jo Smalbil  
Rev. Betty Stroud  
Rev. Claire Wright

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Mr Joshua Bleyerveen  
Mr David Shrimpton

### LAY PERSONS

Mrs Jennie Shrimpton  
Ms Shirley Colless  
Mrs Shelley Forrest  
Mrs Sue Graves  
Mr Louis Smalbil  
Mrs Valerie White  
Mrs Marion Wilson  
Mrs Denise Wood

## MID NORTH COAST PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Dr Jason John  
Rev. Cherie Strudwick

### LAY MINISTRY AGENT

Mr Geoffrey Battle  
Mr David Freeman

### LAY PERSONS

Miss Peta-Gai Adamson  
Mrs Penny Archer  
Miss Olivia Freeman  
Mr Stephen Nicholson  
Miss Margaret Spark

## NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Jean Bell  
Rev. Jim Furze  
Rev. Phil Matthews  
Rev. Chris Wright

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Mrs Suzanne Holloway  
Miss Mere Lightfoot  
Mrs Gail Stone

### LAY PERSONS

Mr David Bissett  
Mr Bruce Corby  
Mr Graeme Tolson  
Mr Phil Tucker  
Mrs Jenny Tucker  
Mrs Jacki Watts

## PARRAMATTA NEPEAN PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Christine Bayliss Kelly  
Rev. (Peter) Hoe-Seung  
Rev. Sharon Cutts  
Rev. Keith Hamilton  
Rev. Danielle Hemsworth-Smith  
Rev. Duncan Macleod  
Rev. Karen Mitchell-Lambert  
Rev. Dr Susan Phalen  
Rev. Jorge Rebolledo  
Rev. Niall Reid  
Rev. Dr Ian Robinson  
Rev. Dr Christine Sorenson  
Rev. Geoff Stevenson  
Rev. Radhika Sukumar-White  
Rev. Greg Woolnough

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Mrs Geraldine Clarkson  
Ms Trish Rooney  
Mr Bradon French

### LAY PERSONS

Mr Sunil Baek  
Ms Tessa Bradbury  
Mr John Cutts  
Mr John Illidge  
Mr Trevor Knight  
Mr John Martin  
Mr Neil Menger  
Dr Ben Myers  
Dr Antony Rees  
Mrs Kim Stace  
Mrs Susan Stevenson  
Mr Doug Taylor  
Mr Stephen White  
Mrs Lorraine White  
Mrs Margaret Wigmore  
Mrs Sally Yabsley-Bell

## RIVERINA PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Paul Cosier  
Rev. Dr Hawea Jackson  
Rev. Keunil Ko  
Rev. Anthony Shumack  
Rev. Carolyn Thornley

### LAY PERSONS

Mrs Janice Jackson  
Mr Paul Ballard  
Mrs Janet Ballard  
Ms Anne Brophy  
Mr Paul Creek  
Mrs Dorothy Creek  
Mr Liam Elliot-Rudder  
Mr Kyle Moffitt  
Dr Andrew Thornley

## SYDNEY CENTRAL COAST PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Steve Aynsley  
Rev. Punam Bent  
Rev. Fiona Blair  
Rev. Clare Brockett  
Rev. Tara Curlewis  
Rev. Dr Chris Goringe  
Rev. Richard Harris  
Rev. Mata Havea Hilau  
Rev. Patty Lawrence  
Rev. Lorna Martin  
Rev. Bronwyn Murphy  
Deacon Karen Paull  
Rev. Graham Perry  
Rev. Jan Reeve  
Rev. Dr David Recihardt  
Rev. Lorenzo Rodriguez Torres  
Rev. Michael Thomas  
Rev. Meredith Williams  
Rev. Seungjae Yeon  
Rev. Krikor Youmshajekian

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Miss Michaela Antill  
Mrs Joanna Drayton  
Mr Bob Durbin  
Mr Rick Johnson  
Mr Richard La'Brooy  
Ms Julie Telfer

### LAY PERSONS

Miss Bek Allcroft  
Mr Malcolm Allering  
Mr Tim Anderson  
Ms Pauline Callan  
Mr David Cornford  
Mrs Liz Dabbs  
Mrs Margaret Gregory  
Miss Carolyn Handley  
Mrs Robyn Harvey  
Mr Matthew Jones  
Mr Arthur Krust  
Mr Ian Lawrence  
Mr Clive McCormack  
Mrs Rhonda McCormack  
Mr Jim Mein  
Mr Liam Miller  
Mr John Oh  
Mr David Paull  
Mrs Nicola Robinson  
Mrs Diana Sydney  
Mr Ron Taylor  
Mr Allan West  
Mr Ted Woodley  
Miss Bethany Cassie

## SYDNEY PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. James Aaron  
Rev. Dr Rick Dacey  
Rev. Ken Day  
Rev. Jenny Ducker  
Rev. Nicole Fleming  
Rev. Andrew Johnson  
Rev. Dr Raymond Joso  
Rev. Fie Marino  
Rev. Beverly Matthews  
Rev. Stephen Matthews  
Rev. Dr Margaret Mayman  
Rev. Rick Morrell  
Rev. Valamotu Palu  
Rev. Viniana Raveteli  
Rev. Dr Stephen Robinson  
Rev. Suzanne Stanton  
Rev. Adrian Sukumar-White  
Rev. Alimoni Taumoepeau

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Mrs Amanda Hay  
Ms Emma Parr

### LAY PERSONS

Mr David Barrow  
Mr Craig Corby  
Ms Anne Empson  
Mr David Hay  
Ms Meredith Knight  
Mr Eric Lewanavanua  
Ms Nadine Newell  
Ms Malia Puna  
Ms Catherine Ridge  
Ms Funaki Taumoepeau  
Mr Johnny Teong  
Ms Asenaca Ugavule  
Mr Semisi Vaea  
Mr Tui Waqanibaravi

## THE HUNTER PRESBYTERY

### MINISTERS

Rev. Dr Chris Budden  
Rev. Stephen de Plater  
Rev. Dr Gerald (Jerry) Duncan  
Rev. Greg McConnell  
Rev. Thomas Stuart

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Ms Kim Langford  
Mr Richard Moors  
Mr Grahame Pricter

### LAY PERSONS

Mr Rick Brownell  
Ms Eldrene March  
Mr Parriss McDougall  
Mr Greg Newton  
Mrs Lorraine Pepper  
Mr Myles Wellington

## UAICC

### MINISTERS

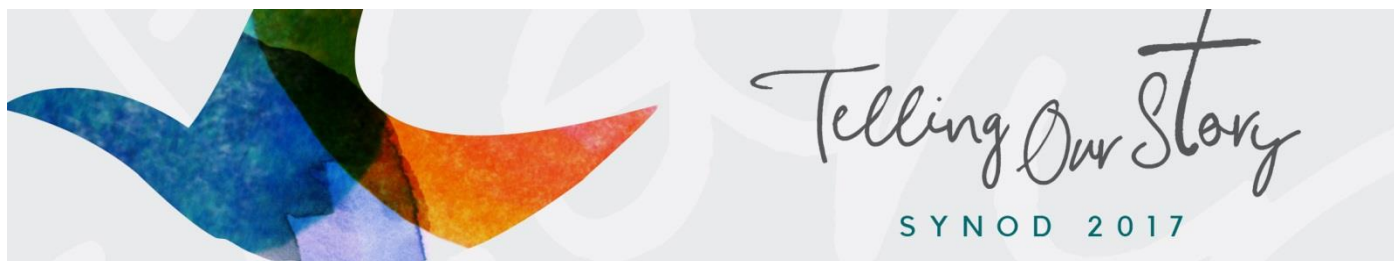
Rev. Garry Dronfield  
Rev. Dorothy Harris-Gordon  
Rev. Ray Minniecon  
Rev. Harry Walker

### LAY MINISTRY AGENTS

Mr Fred Logan  
Mrs Lena Logan  
Mrs Queenie Speeding

### LAY PERSONS

Mr Darren Mann  
Mrs Trish Mann  
Mrs Dianne Torrens  
Mr Nathan Tyson  
Mrs Annebelle Walker  
Ms Proscilla Wightman



## MINISTERS OF THE WORD RE-ADMITTED

Rev. Peter Walker: 29 August 2017

## RESIGNED MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Note that since the last meeting of the Synod in 2013 the persons names hereunder resigned from the ministry of the Uniting Church in Australia and their recognition as Ministers of the Word were withdrawn on the dates indicated:

Rev. Neville Naden: 10 March 2017

Rev. R.G (Bob) McLeod: 3 April 2017

## MINISTERS OF THE WORD TRANSFERRED TO OTHER SYNODS

Rev. John Balding	Victoria and Tasmania	July 2016
Rev. Donald Affleck	Queensland	September 2017
Rev. Michele Shumack	Queensland	December 2016
Rev. Kerrie Needham	Victoria and Tasmania	January 2017
Rev. Craig Blackburn	Queensland	January 2017
Rev. Janis Huggett	Victoria and Tasmania	February 2017
Rev. John Squires	Western Australia	February 2017
Rev. Christopher Barr	Queensland	February 2017
Rev. Heather Coombes	Queensland	March 2017
Rev. Elizabeth Raine	Western Australia	June 2017
Rev. Susan Pickering	Queensland	August 2017
Rev. Tony Davies	Victoria and Tasmania	August 2017
Rev. John Queripel	Northern Territory	October 2017

## MINISTERS OF THE WORD / DEACONESSES WHO HAVE DIED

Minister	Date of Death	Minister	Date of Death
Rev. Dr Aubrey McNaught	22 April 2016	Rev. Bruce Ball	29 January 2017
Rev. Robert Duffy	10 May 2016	Rev. Geoffrey Hunter	9 April 2017
Rev. Dr Geoffrey Peterson	11 June 2016	Rev. William McLeod	28 May 2017
Rev. Robert MacArthur	23 June 2016	Rev. Henry (Harry) Roberts	8 June 2017
Rev. Robert Jackson	26 August 2016	Rev. Ronald Blackwood	12 June 2017
Rev. Bernarr Stevens	31 August 2016	Rev. Barry Ridge	9 August 2017
Rev. Charles Bathgate	31 August 2016	Rev. Bruce Westbrook	12 August 2017
Rev. Ramsay McDonald	31 August 2016	Deaconess Rosemary Doust	13 August 2017
Rev. Marjorie Jean Winter	2 September 2016	Rev. Roy Cosier	14 August 2017
Rev. Graham Debus	5 September 2016	Rev. Christopher Paine	23 August 2017
Rev. Dr Clyde Dominish	16 January 2017	Rev. Ted Pickard	8 September 2017
Rev. Dr Stephen Reid	24 September 2017		



## FAMILY OF MINISTERS WHO HAVE DIED

Family of Minister	Date of Death
Mrs Win Watts, widow of Rev. John Watts and mother of Rev. Andrew Watts	6 May 2016
Mrs Kava Taufua, mother of Rev. Mosese Taufua	7 May 2016
Mrs Marie Affleck, wife of Rev. Donald Affleck	11 May 2016
Mrs Dorothy Knibb, widow of Rev. Tom Knibb	31 May 2016
Mrs Verna Knight, wife of Rev. Dr Eric Knight	2 June 2016
Mr Peter Smith, father of Rev. Geoff Smith	18 June 2016
Mrs Betty Keating, mother-in-law of Rev. Greg Woolnough	15 August 2016
Mrs Nancy Nicolls, widow of Rev. Keith Biddle and mother of Rev. Glenys Biddle	18 September 2016
Mrs Maha Kobrossi, mother of Rev. Gaby Kobrossi	21 September 2017
Mrs Gai Bradford, wife of Rev. Colin Bradford	23 September 2016
Mrs Salome Havea, mother of Rev. Mata Hiliau	3 October 2016
Mrs Betty Glover, wife of Rev. Roy Cosier	9 October 2016
Mrs Gwen Bedford, widow to Rev. Roy Bedford	12 October 2016
Mrs Lynn Llewlyn, wife of resigned UCA Minister, Max Llewelyn	9 November 2016
Mrs Barbara McCarthy, widow of Rev. John McCarthy	11 December 2016
Mrs June Friend, mother-in-law of Lay Pastor Geoffrey Wellington	3 January 2017
Mrs Margaret Goodwin, wife of Rev. Martin Goodwin	23 February 2017
Mrs Joy Coleman, wife of Rev. Albert Coleman	24 March 2017
Mrs Mary Hughes, ex-widow of Rev. Dr Graham Hughes	30 March 2017
Mrs Beatrice Debus, widow of Rev. Graham Debus	3 June 2017
Mrs Rosina Noad, widow of Lay Pastor Ken Noad	9 June 2017
Mrs Elizabeth (Bessie) Wakem, widow of Rev. Leslie Wakem	11 June 2017
Mrs Mona Green (Hall), widow of Rev. Hon Hall	26 June 2017
Mrs Joan Tarry, mother of Rev. Janice Freeston	15 July 2017
Mrs June Swadling, mother of Rev. Paul Swadling	26 July 2017
Mr John Bayliss, Father of Rev Christine Bayliss Kelly and Father-in-law of Rev Scott Kelly	6 August 2017
Mrs Nancy Carter, mother of Rev. Ann Hogan	14 August 2017
Mr AB "Barry" Wilson, father of Rev. Dr Matthew Wilson	21 August 2017
Mrs Jean Constance Palmer, mother-in-law of Rev. Glen Renton	11 September 2017
Dr Ronald Reid, father of Rev. Niall Reid	14 September 2017
Mrs Ruth Joy McDonald, wife of Rev. Norman McDonald	27 September 2017

## LAY LEADERS OF THE CHURCH (PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXERCISED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE LIFE OF THE SYNOD) WHO HAVE DIED

Lay Member	Date of Death	Minister	Date of Death
Ms Averill Edwards	27 April 2016	Lay Pastor Wal Andrew	15 October 2016
Mrs Yvonne Lloyd	2 May 2016	Mrs Joan Tarry	15 July 2017
Mr Lloyd Nowland	25 June 2016	Emeritus Professor Bruce	9 September 2017
Mr Ralph Morgan	22 September 2017	Mansfield AM	

# SYNOD 2017 OBITUARIES

## REV. DR AUBREY MCNAUGHT

28 November 1928 – 22 April 2016

Reverend Doctor Aubrey McNaught, late of St. Catherine's Villa, Grafton, passed away peacefully, surrounded and supported by four generations of loving family, on 22nd April, 2016, aged 87 years. Dearly loved husband of 67 years of Shirley. Adored father and father-in-law of Anne & Stan, Rosemary & Gerry, Alex & Kim, grandpa of Sarah & Craig, Elizabeth & Dean, Scott & Shelene, Richard & Alicia, Duncan & Karla, Timothy, Stephen, Belinda, Jennifer, Katherine and great-grandfather of Tylah, Lucy, Jackson, Ivy, Gwilyn, Bonnie, Maggie, Abel, Hank, Tully, Hannah, and also loved by Kyra, Maxine, and beloved Opa Aub to Emmy and Lou.

His entire life was devoted to the service of God.

## REV. DR GEOFFREY (ROBERT) PETERSON

20 February 1925 – 11 June 2016

Beloved husband of Barbara, loving father of Adrian, Russell, Derek and Robyn, and their partners. Proud grandpa of Alex (dec), Marcus, Sothea and Sarina. Minister, teacher, counsellor and compassionate friend to many.

Aged 91 years.

## REV. BERNARR STEVENS

7 May 1926 – 31 August 2016

Dearly beloved husband of Heather (deceased). Much loved father and father-in-law of Lynne and Roderick Chappel (Hurstbridge, Vic), Greg and Ann (Adelaide). Loved Grandad of James, Samuel, Brett, Jade and Gay. Loved brother and brother-in-law of Byron (Orange), Noel and Joycelyn (Kendall).

"In God's Loving Care"

## REV. MARJORIE JEAN WINTER

7 February 1937 – 2 September 2016

Minister (50%) St Andrew's Uniting Church Longueville 1999 – 2010

Chaplain (50%) of Sydney North Uniting Care Aged and Disability Services (Kamilaroi, St Columba's, Lynvale and Pindari-Thomas Bowden) 1999 – 2010

Mother of Anna and Clive.

Jean was called late in life to the Ministry and was renowned for her loving care and respect for people of all ages, differing abilities and diverse cultural backgrounds. She was passionate about art, music and the environment.

Jean's ministry was one of a deep loving Christianity, encouraging us to trust in God and to be guided by Him on our spiritual journey with faith, hope and love. "As we walk upon this earth my we remember that we are on Holy Ground and to be good to the earth as the earth has been good to us.



## REV. DR GEOFFREY (ROBERT) PETERSON

20 February 1925 – 11 June 2016

Robert Geoffrey Peterson was born at Kew, Melbourne on February 20, 1925. He had two older brothers, Bruce and Guy. Although named Robert Geoffrey he was always called Geoff.

The family returned to Sydney two years later and lived in Burwood, then Strathfield. The family attended Burwood Methodist Church and Geoff was also a keen boy scout. He attended Burwood Public School then Newington College where he was equal dux. He went on to Sydney University, living at Wesley College where he was captain of the Wesley Rugby Union team and a member of the Debating team.

After qualifying as a maths and science teacher he taught high school maths at Coonamble, Gilgandra, Nowra, North Newtown, Mosman, Sydney Teachers College and Sydney Boys High. Studying at night, he completed the degree of Master of Arts majoring in mathematics, specialising in Number Theory. His thesis was 'The Distribution of Prime Numbers'.

Whilst at Sydney Boys High he shared staffroom space with classics master Bob Maddox who was then candidating for the Methodist ministry, and who later became Rev. Dr Robert Maddox, Principal of Leigh College. Friendship with Bob and the influence of Geoff's older brother Bruce, cemented Geoff's own conviction that he too was called to candidate for the Methodist ministry. He spent the next three years at Leigh Theological College studying at the United Faculty and also completing the degree of Bachelor of Divinity through Melbourne University.

After ordination in 1958 he served as minister in the Mortdale Oatley circuit, and then was appointed to Leigh College, initially teaching New Testament Greek, then Pastoral Theology and counselling. He remained on the staff of Leigh College, then UTC, for 28 years with three periods of study leave in Chicago, Canberra and Los Angeles. In 1976 he was awarded Doctor of Theology (Melbourne) and he published his first book *Conscience and Caring* in 1982.

In the early 1970s he chose to minister part-time in the Strathfield-Homebush Methodist circuit, thereby providing practical experience for students of Pastoral Care. The Unicare Counselling Service was established at that time as part of the outreach of the church and to provide learning experiences for selected students.

He was instigator and foundation member of the Council for Clinical Pastoral Education in 1963, which continues today as the NSW College of Clinical Pastoral Education, a member institute of Sydney College of Divinity. In this way student ministers and others of many denominations receive training in the skill of the pastoral care of hospital patients.

Always a strong supporter of the ecumenical movement he welcomed the church's involvement in interchurch and interfaith engagement. He was an active supporter of human rights organisations and a lifelong member of Amnesty International.

When in his eighties, he wrote three more books each focusing on issues he had found crucial in counselling, seeking as always to relate the insights of psychology to those of theology. *Tormenting yet Transforming Shame* was published in 2009, *Maturity and Childlikeness in Faith* in 2010 and *Anger! Basic Questions* in 2012.

In 1958 Geoff married Barbara Doust and they had four children – Adrian, Russell, Derek and Robyn, and four grandchildren.

As a young man Geoff was a keen sportsman. At school, then at Wesley College and Leigh College he participated in rugby, cricket, soccer, tennis, table tennis and squash, and in competitive debating.

In his later years his greatest leisure joy was listening to and reading about classical music, especially that of J.S.Bach. He had hundreds of classical CDs and many books on music.

Geoff Peterson is remembered lovingly by his family and friends. His many students and the wider church saw him as a gifted and compassionate counsellor, a teacher who made his subject intelligible and a preacher with the gift of engaging with his hearers.

Thanks be to God.



REV. ROBERT MACARTHUR  
11 August 1919 – 23 June 2016

The Church gives thanks to God for the long life and faithful ministry of the Revd. Andrew Robert MacArthur, known affectionately as 'Bob'.

The Scripture portions he chose to be read at his funeral service gather the essence of his faith and the selflessness of his service to God and others. Psalm 121 speaks of the road he faithfully chose to travel with God knowing that through it all his help came from the Lord, Maker of heaven and earth. The other passage was 'The Parable of the Good Samaritan' which speaks of how he met people on the road of life with God and ministered to their needs. The one whom he asked to conduct that service said of Bob's call,

*It's the same as Jesus saying to the disciples, Peter, Andrew, James and John, "Come, follow me." Those who, like Bob, answered that call went into the unknown, into a life of hardship and sacrifice, frustration and disappointment, but into magnificent surprise and indescribable joy, fulfilment and satisfaction.*

Bob MacArthur could have been an actor, a stand-up comic, a distinguished linguist, an engaging journalist, indeed a success in many professions, but he dedicated his life and his many natural gifts to be a minister of the Presbyterian and later the Uniting Church.

He had an infectious sense of humour, and, for the record, he was a practical joker and an amazing mimic in his student days. When he was at Sydney University one day he rang the Sydney Morning Herald impersonating the former Prime Minister, Billy Hughes, by imitating his distinctive, gravelly voice saying: "W.M. Hughes here. I'm going to make a very important announcement on a current matter at my home at midday to-day. You people should be here." The press duly arrived at Billy Hughes' house expecting an interview. Instead Billy gave them a piece of his mind. Bob's twin brother, John, said that Bob spent several anxious weeks expecting to be discovered as the perpetrator of the hoax, which may well have gained the disapproval of Church authorities but would have delighted those who shared Bob's sense of humour.

Andrew Robert (Bob) MacArthur and his identical twin brother, John, were born to William and Gertrude MacArthur on the 11<sup>th</sup> August, 1919. They were raised in their father's pharmacy in Auburn, bringing them into contact with the whole community. An ear infection left Bob deaf in one ear, no small problem for one in the ministry although having to listen attentively to people may well have deepened Bob's understanding of people and their needs.

Neither twin had any inclination to carry on the family business, but Bob dutifully began reading Science at Sydney University whilst residing at St Andrew's College. However, early in his course, Bob had a clear call to the ministry. He changed his course to an Arts degree and remained at St Andrews, the residential College established by the Presbyterian Church. Bob was popular with students from all faculties at Andrew's where his gift with words enabled him sometimes to make speeches, in rhyme, off the cuff. At Church Youth Fellowship camps his keen observation of people and his comic talents made him a natural for the role of 'Shriek', the character who, at the evening meals, went over the mishaps, jokes and scandals of the day, causing great hilarity.

What a comic, what a playful disposition, what fun, what laughter, what ridiculous stuff! And yet, in a more serious situation he would lift people with thoughtful words and expressions of appreciation. One could hardly leave his presence without feeling better for having been with him.

There was a social life around St Andrew's College and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital next door which means that for generations romances have grown and flourished. A nurse introduced to Bob was the daughter of the Reverend Ralph Maidment, a Presbyterian minister. A romance began and flourished. Bob and Enid Maidment married during the second year of his first parish.

After graduation Bob was ordained as a minister and inducted to the parish of Warialda in the north-west of NSW in 1949. He succeeded the saintly Revd. Peter Smith, who had been the minister there since 1908. As this young, single, city-bred ordinand looked out of the window of the train he saw the sunlit plains extended, but it was no vision splendid to him. He told his daughter later that he thought he was going to the end of the world.

Nevertheless, Bob enjoyed his years in Warialda making life-long friends and finding a rich source of stories for the future. One day Bob introduced himself to a blacksmith who asked bluntly, "Well Reverend, whose minister are you gonna be, the squatters' or the people?" Bob said, "To everybody", a statement encapsulating his view of service to all.

Back in the 1940's, after three or four years in a small struggling parish west of the Divide, young ministers would usually be invited to a larger parish; and, after that, only a few who had 'earned their spurs', might be challenged to minister to one of the more prominent Sydney parishes. So it was a "courageous decision" of the Pymble parish to call such a young, inexperienced man to follow a venerable, scholarly patriarch, and former State Moderator who, apparently, advised Bob to hasten slowly. Bob probably turned his partial deafness to good use because he missed the 'slowly' bit and began 'hastening' straight away. For the MacArthur era was one of vitality and development reflecting the awakening of the post-war era.

Bob was a pioneer, establishing new congregations in St Ives and West Pymble, a Leisure Skills School for the community at large and a leader in the resurgence of Presbyterian Church finances throughout the state by working with his friend and colleague, the Revd. Gordon Kerry of Drummoyne to establish a Stewardship Department for the NSW Assembly and Church in the pattern of the 'Wells Organization', transforming the finances of many a congregation. He also had a strong sense of history and for many years on into retirement, he advocated and served the archives work of both the Presbyterian and Uniting Churches.

Bob was a gifted wordsmith: mining ordinary events for deeper meanings and conveying them to readers with vivid adjectives and comical images. He succeeded the Revd. Frank Hanlin as Editor of 'The NSW Presbyterian' for ten years and was also a columnist or letter-writer on a variety of subjects, to the wider press including Column 8.

"Bobby Mac" is particularly remembered as the chaplain to the Presbyterian, later Pymble Ladies College for 30 years. His association is commemorated in stained glass panels at the entrance to the school chapel. Although he was proud of the windows, he sought no such honours or offices; as Bob told his son when discussing arrangements for his own funeral, "All my life has been 'I come among you as one who serves' ". The Reverend Robert MacArthur served the Parish of Pymble with love, dedication and distinction for 33 years. In return he was greatly loved and admired not only by his parishioners but also by his colleagues in ministry and the Church at large.

Bob's wife, Enid pre-deceased him and he was survived by his son Ian and daughter-in-law Edwina, his daughter Helen Goulden and son-in-law Doug (since deceased), his grandsons William and Gordon MacArthur also his twin brother John.

*Submitted by the Revd. Dr William Ives,  
Written by the Revd. Dr William Ives, the Family, and Professor Bruce Mansfield.*

REV. CHARLES BATHGATE  
25 August 1928 – 31 August 2016

Rev. Charles Bathgate was born at Maclean on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1928 and passed away on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

Charles studied at Leigh Theological College at Enfield. From 1953 – 1956.

His first parish as a Probationer was Lake Cargelligo in 1956 /1957.

One year at Blacktown followed and at the end of that year he was ready for Ordination. He was ordained in February 1958.

He then served at Peak Hill from 1959 – 1962, Deniliquin from 1963 – 1966, Gladstone (NSW) from 1967 – 1972, Singleton from 1972 – 1976, Waratah-Broadmeadow from 1977 – 1981 and New Lambton from 1982 – 1985. In 1985 Charles moved into a new sphere of ministry and served as an ITIM Chaplain at Tube makers followed by BHP from 1985 – 1993.

Charles retired from full time ministry on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1993.

Charles has served God faithfully in ministry for almost fifty eight years, and has always exercised a strong pastoral ministry. He was a wonderful communicator and had a great love for people.

Charles has also served as a Chaplain in the Reserve Army which began in Singleton in 1974. This continued on, even after moving to Waratah. Following on from this he continued to serve at the Adamstown Army Camp for a further three years.

Like many ministers Charles never really retired, and since his retirement served the Presbytery in lengthy supply ministries at Maitland Westside, Maitland Eastside, Kurri – Weston, Cessnock, Singleton, Sugarloaf, Warners Bay & Tarro.

In late 1994 Charles relieved the Chaplain at Long Bay Gaol for three months.

He also served the Presbytery as one of the Uniting Church Chaplains at John Hunter Hospital.

We give thanks to God for the life and service of Rev. Charles Bathgate.

A Service of Thanksgiving was held at Warners Bay Uniting Church on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

REV. GRAHAM DEBUS  
28 June 1929 – 5 September 2016

Minister of Urana (Wagga Wagga) Presbyterian Church 1961-1967

Minister of St Andrew's Presbyterian/Uniting Church, Longueville 1968-1996

Husband of Beatrice for 62 years, father of Stephen, Murray, Margaret, Andrew, and Peter and their spouses and several grandchildren.

“During Graham's 28 years at Longueville he engaged deeply with the parish and wider community, providing pastoral care, encouraging ecumenical endeavors with other denominations, emphasising overseas aid and mission work, promoting a greater understanding of other cultures, as well as preaching and teaching scripture at local schools.

Graham was devoted to his wife and family and imbued his children with the same wonder of nature, compassion for humankind, sense of social responsibility, tolerance of other cultures and sense of humour



that radiated from within him. Graham was a very patient and gentle man, intelligent and empathetic, who worked passionately towards a peaceful kingdom on earth.” *The Village Observer, October 2016*

### REV. DR CLYDE DOMINISH

13 April 1926 – 16 January 2017

Synod pays tribute to the ministry of Rev Dr Clyde Dominish, AM, a former Moderator of the Synod, who died on the sixteenth of January this year. Born in Camden, NSW, Clyde pledged his life in love and service to his Lord Jesus during his boyhood days. He preached his first sermon at 15 years of age! Along with his family, he was exposed to the deprivations experienced by the working class during the Great Depression. He was destined, it seems, to live his life with the intention of relieving suffering in others, serving the needy and redressing injustice, all in the Spirit of his Lord.

Clyde was ordained at the Methodist Conference of 1950. He exercised ministries in Millthorpe, Ardlethan, Gosford, The Brunswick, Lismore, Grafton, Bondi, Wollongong and Bondi Beach. His leadership gifts, organisational capacity and his strong work ethic, found him busily engaged in many and various roles in Church, but also in the wider community. For a period of four years he took charge of the Wayside Chapel in Kings Cross. He spent an extended period of time as General Secretary for Life Line International. Wherever he ministered he was appreciated for his compassion and broad vision of life. In recognition of his contribution to Church and Community, Membership of the Order of Australia was conferred upon him.

Clyde’s love for the Church became especially evident in his term as Moderator of the Synod. He visited the Synod’s furthest outposts and congregations, offering encouragement and inspiration, bringing reconciliation and hope. His understanding of Church regulation and tradition was invaluable.

The family love which surrounded and supported Clyde through his working years, was never more real than during the later years of his life in retirement when he struggled with ill health. It was as if the care and compassion which inspired his ministry, returned to bless him.

The Church is deeply appreciative of Clyde’s ministry, characterised as it has been by grace and humility, devoted and wise leadership, strong spiritual focus and evangelistic endeavour.

## REV. GEOFFREY HUNTER

3 March 1935 – 9 April 2017

Geoffrey Hunter died in Canberra on 9th April 2017, aged 82.

After his primary school years in the central west of NSW and his teenage years in Sydney, Geoff Hunter had a short career as a telephone technician. He then responded to God's call on his life in his mid-20s, studied in Sydney and in the USA, and was ordained in 1970 in the Presbyterian Church. His studies were particularly in Christian Education and Pastoral Psychology, with Masters Degrees in each.

Geoff ministered at Lalor Park in Sydney's west while still a student, then on return from America took up the position of Christian Education regional officer for northern NSW, based in Newcastle, where he served for 8 years. In 1980 he and his family shifted to Canberra for Geoff to become minister at South Woden, where he is remembered with much love. Then for 20 years from 1986 he worked in senior positions with the Inter-Church Trade and Industry Mission before undertaking part-time aged chaplaincy in Canberra in his retirement years.

Geoff was a wise, gentle, and passionate man, committed to living life in the here and now. He was a deep thinker, a lifelong learner, content to accept the mystery of God and the limitations of human understanding. His ability to get alongside people, to care for them and to assist and counsel, was hugely valued. He was immensely skilled in organisational development and management, and fostered many community groups and activities, including long involvement in Clinical Pastoral Education and in later years in the establishment of Meaningful Ageing Australia.

Geoff's personal strength, deep humility, strong faith, wise counsel, warmth of caring and love of life will long be remembered and celebrated by all who knew him.

Geoff and his wife Elspeth enjoyed 53 years of a happy marriage. With their two daughters, one son and four grandchildren they delighted in being part of a well-adjusted and happy family. Geoff's family, and the family of the church, are much the richer for Geoff's life, and much the poorer for his passing. We thank God for the gift of Geoff Hunter.

Gregor Henderson

## REV. WILLIAM MCLEOD

11 September 1930 – 28 May 2017

Bill was born in Macksville, attended Primary School in Ashfield and West Ryde, and then Sydney Technical High School in Paddington. He completed a Diploma of Mechanical Engineering at Sydney Technical College, and started an Arts Degree at Sydney University before candidating for Ministry with the Presbyterian Church.

While a student at St. Andrews Theological Hall, he worked with Woolloomooloo Presbyterian Church; was a Student Home Missionary to Rylstone-Kandos and student minister at Ermington-Rydalmere.

Bill was ordained in 1958.

He served with the following congregations:

1957 - 1962: Tenterfield.

1962 - 1967: Gosford.

1967 - 1975: Glebe.



1976 - 1980: Hong Kong – Kowloon Union Church.

1980 - 1990: Woollahra/Double Bay.

Kowloon Union Church was an international, interdenominational congregation of 17 nationalities and 6 denominations. While there, Bill established a pilot project for Intellectually Handicapped Children which began with 24 students and by 1990 had 469 students.

Bill was vocal in his opposition to the Vietnam War; was passionate about the care of war veterans and often went to bat for them with Veteran Affairs. During the time he was in Ministry with the Woollahra/Double Bay parish, he was made an Honorary Life Member of the Australian 1st Battalion (Pozières Service) for his services to the battalion and assistance to war veterans.

Bill died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday 28 May 2017.

He is survived by his wife, ex-wife, two sons, (his daughter predeceased him), two step daughters, 14 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

### REV. HENRY (HARRY) ROBERTS

28 May 1920 – 8 June 2017

Rev Harry Roberts as he was known, grew up in Lithgow where he attended the Mort St Methodist Church. The Sunday School Superintendent Mr Len Barnes, the Christian Endeavour Leader Miss Chris Mitchell along with the Ministry of Rev T.K Fardon-Taylor and Rev S. R. Robins had a formative influence on Harry's life as he grew up.

On leaving school Harry worked for six years in the Small Arms Factory before going to Gulgong as a Methodist Home Missionary for two years. He was accepted as a candidate for Ministry at the 1944 Methodist Conference. With a probationary period at Culcairn before entering Leigh College After completing three years at the college Harry was a probationer at Berrigan Methodist Circuit. Whilst in that two year placement Harry was Ordained as a Methodist Minister by the New South Wales Conference in 1950.

Harry married Miss Maisie Dehlenburg who supported him as they served together over the next thirty five years. Settlements in Narrandera, Grafton, Paddington (East Sydney Mission) followed before Rev Harry became a 'fixture' of what is now known as the George's River Presbytery. Active ministry in Bankstown Methodist /Uniting Congregation from 1969 to 1978 was followed by 6 years in the Mortdale Parish, prior to retirement in 1985. Harry was a great believer and activist for the church of the time it was in.

In 2010 the Synod of the Uniting Church recognised Harry's 60 year of Ordination in the Methodist / Uniting Church

Active in leadership in the Presbytery, Harry held the position of Presbytery Secretary for three years and Chair for nine years. In retirement Preaching and Supply ministry along with voluntary time in hospital visitation

He encouraged congregations to include in their discernment a call to UTC candidates to be the Minister of the Word in their congregations. He also got alongside candidates supporting, encouraging and clearing the way for their call, and the challenges to being the church of the time.

Harry was the voice for those who had no voice. He defended people's rights and spoke out against injustice. In his ministry time, Harry was known to go and wash racist graffiti off a wall in his suburb. Harry was a shepherd to the presbytery, and a man who planted the seeds of the hope of Jesus Christ.

Harry was also a much loved dad of his son Peter and daughters Rhonda and Jan and a special Granddad to their families

A Service of Celebration for the life of Rev Henry J Roberts was held at Lugarno Uniting Church on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Georges River Presbytery

## REV. RONALD ALISTER BLACKWOOD

23 August 1919 – 12 June 2017

Ron Blackwood was born in Dimboola, Victoria on 23 August 1919. By his crib his parents, Rev William and May Blackwood, dedicated him to the ministry of the church. Ron was told this just prior to taking up his first ministry appointment in the Presbyterian Church, Stanley, Tasmania where he was ordained and inducted in April 1944.

On his retirement in 1985 he said:

'I was conscious of the fact that I was called to undertake certain tasks which I did not regard as those for which I had any particular talent. One of our teachers used to say our prayer to God must be, not for tasks more suited to our strength but for strength more suited to our tasks. I found this prayer was answered by Christ, the Head of the church.'

Brought up in Mildura with his brother, Alan, and sisters, Jean and Heather, Ron finished his schooling at the Geelong College. Ron completed an arts degree at Melbourne University and preparation for ordained ministry at Ormond College. Part way through his tertiary education he became a home missionary for a year in Lakes Entrance. There he met Jean Baker of Bairnsdale, a 23 mile (37 km) push-bike ride away. They married at the conclusion of his studies and moved to Tasmania.

In 1947 Ron was called to St David's, Newtown, Geelong. He was also part-time chaplain to the Morongo Girls College. The baby boomers were expanding the Sunday Schools.

Ron was called to Wairoona in 1957. His responsibilities included a part-time chaplaincy at Knox Grammar School. The baby boomers were now joining the youth groups.

A call to Gardiner in 1969 saw Ron and Jean return to Victoria. The baby boomers were getting married. Saturdays were busy with weddings, often several on the same day. The most was five.

These were the years leading into Church Union. Ron was the inaugural chairperson of the Nepean Presbytery (Victoria). Sunday Schools were shrinking so to address the nurturing of young families Ron had his congregation joined a small band of innovative churches. They radically changed their family worship services into high participatory events that were called 'worship in the round'.

In 1982 the Synod appointed Ron to Mildura where he had grown up and from where he retired. Again, as presbytery chairperson, he provided wise council across the Mallee.

Ron gave leadership to the wider church. He chaired the Joint Board of Christian Education which provided most of the Christian education material for the church. He wrote for devotional publications and prepared more than thirty reflection programs for radio and television.

Jean and Ron enjoyed a long and happy retirement in Kiama on the NSW south coast. Jean died in June 2008. Ron died 12 June 2017. He is survived by Roger (a Sydney accountant), Peter (retired minister in Melbourne), and Alison (retired palliative care nurse in Albion Park), 9 grandchildren, and 16 great grandchildren.

## REV. BARRY RIDGE

24 April 1928 – 9 August 2017

Much loved husband of Edith for 62 years. Adored father of Linda & David, David & Pauline, Alison, and Judith. Beloved Grandad of Peter & Emelia, Heather, Alice, Emily, Lucy, James, Grace. Loving Great-Grandad of Bennett, Isaac and Zarahlinda.

"Precious in the sight  
of the Lord"

Ordination Year - 1956;

He served with the following Congregations:

1950-1951 Boggabri;

1955 Milton;

1956-1960 Gunning;

1961-1964 Toronto;

1965-1970 Katoomba;

1971-1977 Auburn;

1978-1982 Woden;

1983-01/90 Strathfield-Homebush;

01/90 Retired

## REV. ROY COSIER

5 November 1930 – 14 August 2017

Rev Roy Cosier was born in Wellington NSW in November 1930, eldest son of Aub and Ruby Cosier (nee Wykes). He became a licensed Methodist Local Preacher at the age of 17 years in 1948. In 1951 he candidate as a Methodist minister. In 1955 Roy married Margaret Sanders from Kempsey NSW and this commenced a life of ministry together. Roy's ministry saw him serve in Parish ministry, patrol ministry in central Queensland and the Northern Territory with Aboriginal communities, as well as many years as a Chaplain in the Australian Defence Force. In this role Roy served in Vietnam. This had a dramatic effect on Roy's life and effected the rest of his life and ministry. Roy retired from full time ministry at Gosford NSW in 1990, however from then till his death Roy and Margret led an ecumenical worship service in the Terrigal Glen retirement village Erina, where Roy and his wife Margaret were residents.

As a church we can be thankful to God for a man who followed Gods call wherever he was led and lived with the scars of his ministry.

REV. BRUCE WESTBROOK  
28 September 1928 – 12 August 2017

Bruce Percival Westbrook was born in Bowral on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 1928.

Bruce completed his schooling at Bowral, and worked with his father for a time, and feeling a strong call to ministry at an early age, Bruce underwent preparation for ministry studies at the Central Methodist Mission in 1947, at the age of 18 years.

In 1948 Bruce moved into lay ministry as a home missionary at Cooma- Bombala Circuit, continuing his theological studies by correspondence.

From 1949 to 1951 Bruce studied at Leigh College at Enfield. Here he made many lifelong friends, captained the cricket team and, in his final year, he was the Senior Student.

During 1953 Bruce conducted probationary ministry in the Tweed Heads Methodist Circuit.

Bruce was ordained as a minister of the Methodist church at Wesley Central on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 1953, and a week later married Marie Sackett at Lismore Methodist Church on 14<sup>th</sup> March 1953.

Bruce was the minister at the Wilcannia Patrol of the far West Mission 1953-1954, South Bathurst 1954 - 1959, Murwillumbah Circuit 1960-1966, Port Macquarie 1966-1972, Young Circuit 1973- 1980 (Young Parish at Union), Tamworth 1980-1986 and Grenfell 1986-1991.

Bruce and Marie retired to Lake Cathie in 1991. They had shared over 40 years of ministry together since their marriage.

Of course, Bruce and Marie continued to serve the church, becoming actively involved in the life of the Bonny Hills Uniting Church and the Laurieton Parish, where Bruce continued to lead worship, preach, conduct numerous funerals and visit the sick and grieving.

During their time at Lake Cathie, Bruce and Marie carried out supply ministry at Young, Cootamundra, and also at Norfolk Island.

Bruce and Marie also served the local community through Meals on Wheels, and Bruce enjoyed a valuable ministry of mentored children in a local primary school.

Bruce Westbrook was a great leader, but a man of humility and service.

During his ministry, he served the church as Chairperson of the Riverina Presbytery and Chairperson of the Northern Inland Presbytery during his time at Young and Tamworth

Bruce had a great love of God. He was called to ministry at a young age and served faithfully for over six decades. It was Bruce's joy and his deepest desire that he may lead people to become faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Many, many lives have been touched and changed through his encouragement, friendship and advice.

Bruce lived a full and happy life.

We are thankful that when he died so peacefully, his mind was still clear and sharp.

Bruce is survived by his wife Marie and his 4 daughters Mérida Willis, Vivienne Robinson, Kathryn Forster and Linda Westbrook, 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

### DEACONESS ROSEMARY LOUDER (DOUST)

8 May 1931 – 13 August 2017

Rosemary Lauder was born on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1931 in Newcastle where she attended school and completed her Leaving Certificate at Newcastle Girls High School in 1947. In later years she completed a Science Degree at University. Rosemary was a Deaconess at Brewarrina Methodist Nursing Home where she was for two years - 1964 - 1966. It was in Brewarrina that she met Delroy Doust, the son of the local Post Master. Rosemary and Del married on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1966. They lived many years in Cowra and had four children. For the whole of her life she has been actively involved in the life of the Methodist and then Uniting Churches as a Lay Preacher as well as in a wide variety of other ways. Rosemary passed away on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2017 and a Thanksgiving Service was held at St. Luke's Uniting Church – Belmont.

### REV. CHRISTOPHER PAINE

4 September 1962 – 23 August 2017

Christopher John Paine was born in the early hours of Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 1962 in Mudgee. He was Neville and Lee Paine's 4<sup>th</sup> child.

He attended Mudgee Public School and Mudgee High School was involved in Sunday School, Youth Group and worship at Mudgee Methodist church which became Mudgee Uniting church. As a family they shared the importance of God in our lives and their love of God and the desire to serve Him.

After high school, studied computing at Wollongong University and worked at the Steelworks. He became part of West Wollongong Uniting Church.

At an early age he took a redundancy and then commenced a job at the Uniting Church synod office in the centre of Sydney, commuting from Wollongong each day.

He moved to Westmead and discerning God's call he trained for the ministry at UTC and after ordination served the people at Nyngan, Moss Vale and Dubbo.

He always loved and cared for his family and his nieces and nephews.

At the age of 50, he married Helen and in doing so gained a family and then a grandson. Together after 12 months in Sydney, they moved to Broome to jointly minister there.

For the last 12 months Chris faced a battle with cancer which finished on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2 weeks short of his 55<sup>th</sup> birthday.

He will be sorely missed by his beloved wife Helen and their combined families.

## REV. TED PICKARD

4 February 1931 – 8 September 2017

Ted's early life was hard. Initially from Redfern, Ted spent much of his childhood in various orphanages in the Sydney area. As a result his formal education suffered and he only completed formal education to Year 7. It is a testimony to his commitment, perseverance and tenacity that he went on to complete successfully his studies at Croydon Bible College and Leigh Theological College. He was ordained in 1968.

Ted's strong faith and gentle demeanour served him well as he embarked upon his ministry. He served God and the Methodist Church as Home Missionary and Minister at Moruya, Nelson's Bay, Culcairn, Oberon and Long Jetty. He resigned from the Church in 1974. Following this, he preached in many churches in and around the Gosford area and led a bible study group at Terrigal Uniting Church where he remained a valued and respected member until his death.

In later years Ted and his wife Helen, indulged their love of the natural beauty of Australia by becoming enthusiastic motor-homers and travelled extensively throughout continent.

Ted is survived by his wife Helen and their children Jane and Christine.

SYNOD 2017

# Celebration of Ministry

Celebration of Ministers of the Word  
& Deacons Ordained and Lay Pastors  
Commissioned since the 2016 Synod

Ministers admitted into the Uniting Church of  
Australia since the 2016 Synod

Ministers transferred from other Synods into  
the NSW and the ACT Synod

Retired Ministers of the Word, Deacons,  
Deaconesses & Lay Pastors

Jubilarians



# Celebration of Ministry Service

## **Praise with joy the world's Creator**

1. Praise with joy the world's Creator,  
God of justice, love and peace,  
source and end of human knowledge,  
force of greatness without cease.  
Celebrate the Maker's glory,  
power to rescue and release.

2. Praise the Son who feeds the hungry,  
frees the captive, finds the lost,  
heals the sick, upsets religion,  
fearless both of fate and cost.  
Celebrate Christ's constant presence -  
Friend and Stranger, Guest and Host.

3. Praise the Spirit sent among us,  
liberating truth from pride,  
forging bonds where race or gender,  
age or nation dare divide.  
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure -  
foolishness none dares deride.

4. Praise the Maker, Son and Spirit,  
one God in community,  
calling Christians to embody  
oneness and diversity.  
Thus the world shall yet believe,  
when shown Christ's vibrant unity.

# SYNOD 2017

## Introduction

*Moderator*

Prayer

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4.1-2, 5-15**

Appreciations (Names are read)

*General Secretary*

Reception of Minute of Appreciation

*By Applause*

Responses

*Rev. Anne Ryan*

Prayers

*for those recognised, for the world and church they serve*

*Moderator*

Responses

*Rev. Anne Ryan*

## Blessing:

### **May the Feet of God Walk With You**

*(the members of the Synod stand and move to surround the people being honoured)*

May the feet of God walk with you,  
and his hand hold you tight.  
May the eye of God rest on you,  
and his ear hear you cry.  
May the smile of God be for you,  
and his breath give you life.  
May the Child of God grow in you,  
and his love bring you home.

© Robin Mann, 1949  
*Together in Song 779*



## Ordinations

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Placement</b>	<b>Date</b>
Rev. Simote Finau	Minister of the Word	Mascot Wesley Uniting Church	05/03/2016
Rev. Vanessa Williams-Henke	Minister of the Word	Uniting Mission and Education MLC Chaplain	04/06/2016
Rev. Kathryn Wyndham	Minister of the Word	Moss Vale Uniting Church	15/08/2016
Rev. Kodjo Nkrumah	Minister of the Word	Hornsby Uniting Church	10/09/2016
Rev. Tammy Hollands	Minister of the Word	Engadine Uniting Church	22/10/2016
Rev. Claire Wright	Minister of the Word	Bathurst/Perthville Uniting Church	13/11/2016
Rev. Michele Shumack	Deacon	QLD Synod	03/12/2016
Rev. Danielle Hemsworth Smith	Minister of the Word	Parramatta Centenary Uniting Church	21/01/2017
Rev. Mark Beaton	Minister of the Word	Greystanes Uniting Church	01/04/2017
Rev. Cherie Strudwick	Minister of the Word	Uniting – Church Engagement Leader (North Coast)	07/05/2017
Rev. Fiona Blair	Minister of the Word	Presbytery Development Officer (Sydney Central Coast)	26/08/2017
Rev. James Aaron	Minister of the Word	North Ryde Community Church	08/09/2017



## Commissionings

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Placement</b>	<b>Date</b>
Mr Josh Bleyerveen	Pastor	Lithgow	01/05/2016
Mr Jon Owen	Assistant Pastor	Wayside Chapel	18/12/2016
Mr Geoff Battle	Pastor	Forster – Tuncurry Uniting Church	23/01/2017
Ms Amy Junor	Pastor	Queanbeyan Uniting Church	05/03/2017
Mr Bill Hawkins	Pastor	The Hunter – Port Hunter	30/04/2017
Mr Pablo Nunez Acosta	Pastor	Far North Coast – Ballina	20/05/2017
Ms Kristy Morgan	Pastor	Roseville Uniting Church	20/08/2017
Mr Liam Miller	Pastor	Epping Uniting Church	27/08/2017
Mr Richard La'Brooy	Pastor	Epping Uniting Church	27/08/2017



## Ministers Admitted as UCA Ministers from Other Denominations

Minister	From	Placement	Date
Rev. Clare Brockett	Presbyterian Church Of Aotearoa New Zealand	Uniting Chaplain – Arrunga & Thomas Bowden	20/02/2017
Rev. Suk Huyn (Deborah) Yun	Presbyterian Church of Korea	Supply Blaxland	26/04/2017
Rev. Andrew Cunningham	Methodist Church of Ireland	Orange Uniting Church	23/05/2017
Rev. Hyo Jin Choi	Korean Church of the Nazarene	Galilee Korean Uniting Church	23/05/2017
Rev. Young Min Suh	Presbyterian Church of Korea	Sydney Vision Uniting Church	31/07/2017

## Ministers Re-admitted as Ministers of the Word

Minister	Presbytery	Date
Rev. Peter Walker	Canberra Region	29/08/2017



## Ministers Transferred from Other Synods

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>Date Transferred</b>
Rev. Susan Pickering	Queensland	01/09/2016
Rev. Karyl Davison	Western Australia	01/10/2016
Rev. Peter Harvey	Western Australia	01/10/2016
Rev. Joan Francis	VIC/TAS	30/09/2016
Rev. Dr Christine Sorenson	VIC/TAS	01/01/2017
Rev. Mark Grimm	South Australia	14/03/2017
Rev. Diane Grimm	South Australia	14/03/2017



**Name:** Rev. Dr John Craig Boyce  
**Ordained:** 1996 | **Retired:** 11/04/2016  
**Spouse:** Cathy  
**History:** Date of Ordination: 14/12/1996;  
NSW:  
01/01/1997 – 31/03/2000 Grenfell;  
QLD:  
01/04/2000-30/06/2005;  
NSW;  
01/11/05 - 30/06/06 50% Engadine;  
01/07/06 – 30/09/06 50% Oatley;  
01/10/06 – 31/12/06 100% Oatley;  
01/01/07 - 30/06/12 Beecroft;  
11/04/2016 - Permanent Retirement

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**Name:** Rev. Dr Keree Casey  
**Ordained:** 1998 | **Retired:** 26/04/2016  
**History:** Cert IV (Training/Assessment), BTh (SCD), MTh (SCD)  
DMin (CSU)  
**DMin Thesis:** *"Broken Glass and Angel Kisses – From Lament to Celebration: connecting liturgy and pastoral care in the journey of healing and forgiveness for a congregation that has experienced abuse"*

### Heart for Ministry

*"I have tried to be the person God longs for me to be and to encourage others in their journey of life and faith. My time in ministry has been characterised by being present with the broken and hurting and those of little or no faith. It has been my privilege to walk alongside people, from different backgrounds and in different settings. I have also had the joy of supervising and facilitating ministry agents, field education groups and individuals."*

### Ministry Placements

UnitingCare Ageing (West) Community Chaplain  
2009-2014  
Royal North Shore Hospital – Chaplains Coordinator 2004-2009  
Wentworthville Uniting Church  
1998-2004

### Academic/Teaching ministry

United Theological College: Visiting Lecturer;  
Adjunct Faculty 2002-2009



Charles Sturt University: Visiting Lecturer;  
 Adjunct Faculty 2007–2009  
 Field Education Supervisor  
 1999-2009  
 Joint Churches Domestic Violence Prevention Project  
 (Train the Trainer/Clinical Pastoral Education  
 1994  
 Developed/taught 10+ courses in area of Pastoral Theology/  
 Liturgical Studies

### Writing/Publications

Internationally published works have focused on integrating issues of abuse and theology, developing liturgical resources to support practice in this area, and materials for "talking about the tough stuff", particularly in the Scriptures. These continue to influence ministry among the most vulnerable in different parts of the world. More locally, Keree's contributions are to be found in Uniting in Worship II. She continues to supervise ministry agents and others, ecumenically.

**Name:** Rev. Dr Sang Taek Lee

**Ordained:** 1973 | **Retired:** 30/04/2016

**Spouse:** Eunice

### History:

Korea:

15/08/1973 Date of Ordination:

1970-1973 - Jungyul;

1973-1975 - CP.Korean Army;

1975 - 1979 Ahyun;

NSW:

1980 - 30/11/1999

Sydney Korean Parish;

01/12/1999 - 30/04/2004 - 100%

Lugarno-Peakhurst;

01/11/2004 - 31/01/2010 - 100%

Gymea-Miranda;

01/05/2011 - 30/04/2016 50%

Bexley;

30/04/2016 - Permanently Retired;

(Between 2011 -2016 Hannam University Degree Coordinator

working through Uniting Mission and Education)



**Name:** Rev. Young Sik Park

**Ordained:** 2001 | **Retired:** 5/05/2016

**Spouse:** Jung Mi

**History:**

Date of Ordination: 23/10/2001;

NSW:

01/03/2008 - 31/01/2012 - 50% Chatswood South Christian Fellowship (50%) 03/08

06/10/2012 - Provisionally recognised as a Minister of the Word of the Uniting Church

01/05/2016 - Permanently Retired.

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**Name:** Rev. David Oliphant

**Ordained:** 2001 | **Retired:** 10/05/2016

**Spouse:** Angela

**History:**

Curacy at St Johns Canberra

Lucas-Tooth Scholar to the University of Birmingham 1978-1980

Minister of Church of Holy Covenant, Belconnen, Canberra 1980-1984

Deputy Director of St Marks Canberra, 1984-1989

Rector of St Johns Canberra 1989-1995

Rector of St Philips Canberra 1996-1998 and Chaplain at The Australian National University.

Director of Clinical Pastoral Education and Chaplaincy Services, The Canberra Hospital 1999-2010

Minister of Mt Dromedary Parish 2011-2016

Bachelor of Architecture (Sydney)

Bachelor of Divinity (Melbourne College of Divinity)

Diploma in Pastoral Studies (University of Birmingham)

Master of Arts (Theology) (University of Birmingham)

Diploma in Adult Psychotherapy (ANZAP)

Diploma in Solution Oriented Psychotherapy.

Acting Level III in Clinical Pastoral Education

Doctor of Philosophy (University of Western Sydney)



**Name:** Rev. Paul Drury  
**Ordained:** 1998 | **Retired:** 4/06/2016  
**Spouse:** Roslyn  
**History:** 01/10/1997 Date of Ordination;  
 NSW:  
 01/10/1997 - 30/04/2016 S.C.P.Parklea Gaol; 01/05/2016 -  
 04/06/2016 100% Supply Metropolitan Reception Remand  
 Centre, Silverwater;  
 05/06/2016 Permanently Retired;



**Name:** Rev. Dr Chris Budden  
**Ordained:** 1977 | **Retired:** 30/06/2016  
**Spouse:** Wendy  
**History:** Being received as a candidate on my 18th birthday I was sent to university to study for a BA, and then went on to complete theological studies. From 1972 to the end of 1976, I was a Presbyterian Student Home Missionary at Fairfield-Villawood and Petersham-Dulwich Hill. Ordained: 18/3/1977. Placements: Lake Cargelligo (1977-80), Northern Synod (1981-85), Secretary, Social Responsibility and Justice (Assembly - 1/1/86 to 31/3/92), Hunter Presbytery Development Officer (1/4/92 to 31/10/95), Adamstown (1/11/95 to 30/4/2000), Synod General Secretary (1/5/2000 to 30/4/2005), North Lake Macquarie (1/5/2005 to 31/7/2013), Resource Worker NSW Congress (1/8/2013 to 30/6/2014), Interim National Coordinator UAICC National (1/7/2014 to 30/6/2016). I have continued in UAICC position in supply. I have been an adjunct member of faculty at UTC for a number of years, and Associate Researcher in the Public and Contextual Theology Research Centre at Charles Sturt University.

**Name:** Rev. Rex Graham  
**Ordained:** 1984 | **Retired:** 30/06/2016  
**Spouse:** Lorraine  
**History:** Years of Study: 1980 - 1984;  
**Date of Ordination:** 25/01/1984;  
 NSW:  
 01/01/1984 - 30/09/1989 Port Macquarie;  
 1990 - 1994 Army Reserve Chaplain IRTB Kapooka; 1995 - 2001  
 Specialist Reserve Chaplain RAAF Base Wagga  
 01/12/2004 - 31/10/2008 Manager Wesley Homeless  
 Persons Services;



01/11/2008 - 30/06/2011 UnitingCare NSW ACT Social Justice  
Consultant;  
01/07/11 - 31/03/12 100% Supply at Wollongong;  
01/04/2012 - 31/12/2012 100% Supply at Hunter;  
01/04/2014 - 15/09/2014 100% Supply at Hunter (50% Hunter  
& 50% Cessnock);  
01/01/2015 - 30/06/2016 100% Supply as The Hunter  
Presbytery Officer;  
01/07/2016 - Retired

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**Name:** Rev. Ray McIlwraith  
**Ordained:** 2011 | **Retired:** 31/07/2016  
**Spouse:** Evelyn  
**History:** Date of Ordination as a Minister of the Word 21/01/2011;  
NSW:  
01/09/2003 - 31/12/11 Maclean. Whilst at Maclean, was a Chaplain  
with Acmena Juvenile Detention Centre,  
01/02/12 - 31/07/2016; Grafton; Wallsend. Whilst at Wallsend was a  
chaplain with Margaret Jurd College;

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**Name:** Rev. Jennifer Kivikko  
**Ordained:** 1988 | **Retired:** 28/11/2016  
**History:** Date of Ordination: 18/12/1988;  
NSW:  
01/08/2001 - 11/02/2016 100% S.CP.Prince of Wales Hospital,  
Randwick;  
Provisionally recognised as a Uniting Church Minister 27  
February 2010;

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**Name:** Rev. Brian Smith  
**Ordained:** 1982 | **Retired:** 16/12/2016  
**Spouse:** Susan  
**History:** 1982 Ordination Year;  
01/01/1976 - 31/12/1978 Cloncurry-North West Patrol;  
01/01/1982 - 31/12/1984 Aitkenvale;  
01/01/1985 - 28/02/1991 Exec. Off. Social Justice and Chaplaincy;  
01/03/1991 - 31/12/1999 A.Frontier Services;  
01/01/2000 - 28/03/2006 Parramatta Regional Mission;  
16/12/2016 NPR;

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**Name:** Rev. Trevor Lunney  
**Ordained:** 1992 | **Retired:** 30/12/2016  
**Spouse:** Karen  
**History:** Date of Ordination: 16/12/1992;  
 NSW:  
 01/02/1993-31/12/1995 100% Broken Bay;  
 01/02/1996-31/10/2003 100% Five Dock Drummoyne;  
 01/01/2002 - 28/02/2002 International Exchange  
 St. Catharines, Ontario, United  
 Church of Canada;  
 01/11/2003-31/07/2010 100% Ermington;  
 01/07/2008 - 31/12/2016 ITIM Chaplain/On Site Counsellor;  
 UnitingCare Ageing Chaplain Arrunga Ermington, Thomas Bowden,  
 Ryde 01/08/2010 - 30/09/2012;  
 01/12/2013 - 31/05/2014 50% Supply Fairfield;  
 01/04/2016-31/07/2016 Supply 43% Northern Beaches;  
 01/01/2017 NPR



**Name:** Rev. Dr Susan Phalen  
**Ordained:** 2005 | **Retired:** 31/12/2016  
**Spouse:** David  
**History:** Susan was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Prior to and following her ordination, she served the church in Texas as a chaplain at the Texas Medical Centre in Houston and at St. Joseph Regional Health Centre in Bryan. She was also a Parish Associate at First Presbyterian Church, Bryan Texas. Susan and her husband David migrated to Australia in 2006, and she immediately began her ministry within the Uniting Church. She served in supply before her first placement at Moss Vale Uniting Church in February 2007, where she was also recognised as a Minister in the Uniting Church. She had a subsequent placement with Uniting as an aged care chaplain at Edinglassie Village in Emu Plains and Edinglassie Lodge in Penrith. In September 2012, Susan was called as Minister of St. Andrew's Uniting Church, where she remained until her retirement on December 31, 2016. She has been an educator with Uniting, an assessor for Lay Specified Minister of Pastor, an Ethical Ministry Training facilitator, and a chaplaincy supervisor. Susan is trained in individual, group, and advanced group critical incident support and is a member of Crisis Intervention and Management Australasia (CIMA) and the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE). Susan continues to be active in the Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy Network as a chaplain, duty officer, peer supporter and training officer. She is a member of the Synod Disaster Recovery Committee and is currently Acting Presbytery Minister for Parramatta Nepean Presbytery.

*"I give thanks to God for the many opportunities to serve Christ, Christ's Church and the people of God as a Minister within both the PC (USA) and the Uniting Church in Australia. "*



**Name:** Rev. Garry Derkenne

**Ordained:** 1983 | **Retired:** 31/01/2017

**Spouse:** Christine

**History:** Garry's first placement was to the Parish of Holbrook NSW in the Riverina Presbytery. With others he developed and co-lead an ecumenical after school ministry. He was also a member of the Scots School Council at Albury.

From 1990 to 1999 he served in the Parish of Orange of the then Central West Presbytery. With others he developed and co-lead a new congregation based around ministry with younger families. He served on the Strategy Committee of Presbytery and the Council of Kinross Wolaroi School for ten years. The new Millennium saw him in placement at Castle Hill Congregation till 2006 and it was a delight to assist the congregation celebrate its Centenary.

He was a founding member of the Hills Interfaith Dialogue Group 2001-2006. He also served on the Standing and Strategy committees of the Parramatta Nepean Presbytery.

From 2006 till retirement Garry was Chaplain to UnitingCare Burnside, then with a restructure to Uniting Communities. Through this time he convened the Presbytery Strategy Committee and with many others assisted the church to practice Community Organising as a faithful and effective way to be engaged with the wider community. Not through design but through calling and environment Garry found a major focus of ministry was to assist the church to theologically and practically navigate a rapidly changing cultural environment where the traditional way of being church was becoming a cultural relic; and therefore how the gospel could be reimagined for this time in thought and deeds.

**Name:** Rev. Jungmin Sunwoo

**Ordained:** 1996 | **Retired:** 1/02/2017

**Spouse:** Han

**History:** 13/10/1996 Ordination Date;  
NSW:

01/10/1996-30/09/1999 CP.

01/10/1999-31/05/2002 50%

01/11/2004 - 30/04/2010 50%

01/05/2011 - 31/05/2011 60%

30/09/2011 - 28/02/2013 70%

01/03/2013 - 31/01/2017 80%

01/02/2017 NPR;

Lane Cove Retirement Centre;

North Ryde Cox's Road;

Wentworthville;

Tuggerah Lakes South Long  
Supply;

Tuggerah Lakes South Long  
Supply;

Tuggerah Lakes;





**Name:** Rev. John Cox

**Ordained:** 1976 | **Retired:** 24/02/2017

**History:** I was the minister at Ermington Rydalmere Baptist 1971-1974. Youth Minister Gymea Baptist 1975-1976, Minister at Hornsby Heights Baptist 1977-1980

Counselling Ministry LifeCare: Counselling and Family Services a ministry of Baptist Community Services 1980- 1995.

Counselling Ministry recognise by Baptist Union 1995- 2007

NSW: (Provisionally recognised as a Minister of the Word of the Uniting Church 1/6/12);

01/08/2011 - Current 100% Chaplain UnitingCare Ageing Northern Sydney Region Wesley Gardens Retirement Centre Belrose; (Fully recognised as a Minister of the Word of the Uniting Church 30/11/2013);

24/02/2017 NPR;



**Name:** Rev. Christopher Barr

**Ordained:** 1999 | **Retired:** 28/02/2017

**History:** I was young and naïve when I perceived a call to ministry, well young in the faith if not in years, and naïve enough to look up the yellow pages (a time before Google) to find the "Head Office" and ask what I needed to do to become a minister in the Uniting Church? So began a wonderful journey of study and responding to the call of Jesus on my life. I candidated in the South Moreton Presbytery of the QLD Synod and was ordained on 11/12/1998, and served the congregation of Eastside Trinity from 01/01/1999 - 31/12/2005. Eastside Trinity comprised of three places of worship; Norman Park; Camp Hill and Mayfield, of the three only Norman Park continues as "Faith Works" and it was wonderful to celebrate 100 years of Christian Witness there in August 2017. A call to Graceville followed where I served from 01/02/2006 - 31/12/2011. The numerous weddings and baptisms conducted at Graceville provided wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel with lots of new folk each week, many of which had little or no connection to church or faith in Jesus Christ. The Spirit began to stir beckoning me to a new season and on 01/02/2012 answering a call from Alstonville in the Far North Coast in the Synod of NSW and ACT I transferred from QLD to NSW and I served at Alstonville from 01/02/12 until my retirement on 28/02/2017 and settled in Woodford Qld. The journey with the faithful folk at Alstonville was greatly valued and it was difficult to conclude that season of ministry but I sensed the time was right.

*"A guiding light for me gleaned from the gospel stories is that Jesus meets us wherever we are, but does not leave us there; rather he invites us on a journey – a journey that continues to amaze me. Thank you to those who in the beginning were willing to allow me to carry out this sacred call and the many folk who I have encountered along the way."*



**Name:** Rev. William Fischer

**Ordained:** 1989 | **Retired:** 30/06/2017

**Spouse:** Iva

**History:** Prior to Candidature I had the privilege of serving in the area of International Mission in the following positions.

1973-77 Accountant of the Methodist Church in Fiji

1978-81 Accountant of the Methodist Church in Fiji

1981-86 Finance and Administration Secretary of the Assembly Agency – Commission for World Mission

Placements and Positions since Ordination

1/1/1990 - 31/8/1994 Queanbeyan

1/9/1994 – 31/12/1998 Alstonville

1998 Far North Coast Presbytery Chairperson

1/1/1999 – 31/5/2006 National Director of Uniting International Mission

1/6/2006 – 30/6/2017 Tamworth City

9/9/2015 – 7/7/2016 New England North West Presbytery Secretary

*I have been greatly blessed to have spent approximately half of my years of formal ministry in areas of International Mission work and in serving congregations in differing settings in NSW. I am thankful for the many opportunities to be involved in Councils, Boards and Committees in all sectors of the life of the Uniting Church. My life and ministry was greatly enriched by the many people that I had the privilege to share with through the years.*



**Name:** Rev. Anne Ryan

**Ordained:** 1988 | **Retired:** 1/08/2017

**History:** Ordained 1988, 01/01/1988 - 28/02/1992 100%  
Moruya-Tilba;

01/03/1992 - 31/12/1999 100% Glebe;

01/01/2000 - 30/06/2005 100% S.Regional Education Officer  
Newcastle;

01/07/2005 - 31/12/2005 50% Supply Dungog, Stroud and  
Stroud Road

01/01/2006 - 30/06/2006 65% Supply Dungog, Stroud and  
Stroud Road;

01/07/2006 - 31/01/2011 100% North East Riverina;

01/02/2011 - 31/01/2017 100% Tuggeranong;

01/02/2017 60% Tuggeranong;



**Name:** Rev. Gwen Graham

**Ordained:** 1996 | **Retired:** 10/08/2017

**History:** As a Candidate from Adamstown in The Hunter Presbytery, Gwen was Ordained on 3 February 1996 and entered the placement of Central Coast Presbytery Tuggerah Lakes Parish with responsibility for the four northern congregations.

*"It was a great privilege to experience a variety of ministries in different Presbyteries, and to work with generous sisters and brothers in Christ who offered their gifts in loving and tireless service."*

Returning to The Hunter in 2001 there were opportunities to conduct services, followed by Supply with Maitland West Linked Congregations in 2002. In 2003 a placement commenced with Central West Presbytery, based in Mudgee as the first Resource Minister in the 150km Cudgegong Cluster of eight congregations.

In 2008 The Hunter offered two years' Supply in the Upper Hunter, and in 2010 a placement began with UnitingCare Ageing as Regional Chaplaincy Coordinator for Hunter Central Coast New England/ Hunter Hub Chaplain. This was based in the Regional Office at Garden Suburb, with pastoral care available for seven Residential centres in teamwork with a Pastoral Care Worker. The addition of four Pastoral Care Workers in 2011 and 2012 created a Hunter Team whose ministry continues to enrich the lives of Uniting's residents, clients, families, staff and volunteers.

After completing seven years with Uniting, a period of valuable leave preceded retirement in August.



**Name:** Rev. Dr Mark Hillis

**Ordained:** 1976 | **Retired:** 09/9/2017

**Spouse:** Merril

**History:** NSW;

01/01/1972 - 31/12/1975 Student Pastor;

**Date of Ordination:** 17/10/1976;

01/01/1976 - 31/07/1977 75%

Orange;

01/08/1977 - 31/12/1978 100%

Orange;

01/01/1979 - 31/12/1980 100%

Papua New Guinea  
(Gaulim Teachers' College);

NSW:

01/01/1981 - 31/12/1986 100%

Tweed-Heads & Kingscliff;  
S.Board of Education -  
Newcastle Regional Officer;

01/01/1987 - 31/03/1999 100%

01/04/1999 - 30/06/2005 100%

Toronto;  
Assembly Director Christian  
Education;

01/07/2005 - 31/10/2010 100%

01/11/2010 - 31/08/2017 100%

Epping;

31/08/2017

NPR;



Mark served as a Uniting Church representative on the NSW Inter-Church Commission for Religious Education in Schools (ICCOREIS) from 1992-2010, and is a Life Member. He is a member of the International Seminar on Religious Education and Values (ISREV), and has been an Adjunct Faculty member at UTC and an Academic Associate of the CSU School of Theology since 2006. He also served as UCA Honorary Chaplain at Macquarie University from 2010-2017.



**Name:** Rev. Narelle Penman

**Ordained:** 2001 | **Retired:** 31/08/2017

**History:** 1 January 2002 – 31 December 2006 100% Culcairn, Henty & Burrumbuttock. I was also chaplain to the local SES and supported them through numerous road and accident traumas. This placement was partly funded by the Board of Mission and partly by the Congregations. This was the first 'resource' ministry of the Synod, seeking to find alternate ways of supporting ministry in small rural communities. Other congregations were also supported and this included Hay in 2004, requiring me to live between two homes some 270 kms apart. Conferences and training held locally and abroad were ways of sharing what had been learnt during this time, as well as gaining insights from the experiences of others.

1 January 2007 – 6 May 2007 100%	Intentional Supply at Wagga Wagga
7 May 2007 – 31 September 2007	Leave to care for daughter
1 October 2007 – 31 January 2009 100%	Broken Bay
1 March 2009 – 31 August 2009 50%	Supply Narara
1 September 2009 – 31 August 2017 100%	Manning, a multi-faceted regional congregation with a strong connection to and focus on the community. Its difficult to adequately represent the diversity and richness of this placement.

I have also contributed to the committees of the Riverina and Mid-North Coast Presbyteries. Chair of the Mission Strategy and Grants Committee [MSG]in the Riverina, Chair of the Finance and Property Committee, and currently treasurer of the Mid-North Coast Presbytery. I have also served as a Disaster Recovery Chaplain in flood affected areas.



**Name:** Rev. Darrell McKeough  
**Ordained:** 1971 | **Retired:** 3/09/2017  
**History:** 1971 Ordination Year;  
 01/03/2007 - 03/09/2017 50%      Wingham Wider;  
 03/09/2017      NPR

**Name:** Rev. Christopher Udy  
**Ordained:** 1981 | **Retired:** 31/10/2017  
**Spouse:** Virginia  
**History:** Ordained 1981,  
 01/01/1981 - 31/12/1983 100%      Five Dock-Drummoyne;  
 01/01/1984 - 31/07/1990 100%      Lithgow;  
 01/07/1990 - 30/06/1996 100%      Gordon-Pymble;  
 01/07/1996 - 31/01/2003 100%      Canberra Central;  
 01/02/2003 - 31/01/2013 100%      Killara;  
 01/02/13 - 31/10/2017 100%      Crows Nest;

## Jubilarians



### Rev. Samuel Arulampalam

SRI LANKA; Church of South India 1965-1985; NT; Karama 05/85-12/90; VIC; 01/91-07/95; NSW; 08/95-01/03; PR.02/03; transferred to VIC/TAS as at 01/01/2015

### Rev. Raymond Atkinson

NSW; Pre-Collegiate; 1962- Wyong; 1963 –1965 Leigh Theological College; 1966 – 1969 Kingsgrove; Ordained October 15, 1967 at Leigh Memorial Church, Parramatta; 1970-1975 Grenfell; 1976 – 1987 Pittwater; 1984–Study Tour in USA; 01/12/1987 – 31/12/1996 Port Macquarie; 01/01/1997 -31/07/2003 Port Hunter; Post Retirement 01/08/2004 – 31/12/2004 Dungog/Stroud Road; 01/07/2005 – 21/01/2007 Toronto; 01/03/2007 – 31/12/2007 Wallsend; 01/08/2009 – 31/12/2010 Belmont; 01/03/2011 -31/12/2011 Charlestown; 01/02/2012 – 15/06/2014 Adamstown; 01/07/2013 -30/06/2014 North Lake Macquarie; 09/07/2014 – 01/07/2015 Morisset; 27/11/1932 – about 1957 Devoted and tormenting only child to Annie and John Atkinson; 08/01/1966 – Husband to Wife, Di, and Father to daughters, Jodie, Kirsten, Brooke and Kimberley; Volunteer Fire Brigade in Grenfell, Police Chaplain in Port Macquarie and Newcastle, Community Spiritual Director for Emmaus in Sydney, Mid North Coast and Newcastle. Appointed to provide Pastoral Care to all Ministry Agents in The Hunter Presbytery.



### **Rev. Dr Tony Chi**

**MALAYSIA:** 1966 -1968 Pastor, Butterworth Methodist Church; **USA:** 1970 -1971 Pastor, Siloam- Palmyra United Methodist Church, Wisconsin; 1971 -1973 Pastor Beverly Hills United Methodist Church, Chicago, Illinois; **SINGAPORE:** 1973 - 1981 Senior Pastor, Wesley Methodist Church; **AUSTRALIA:** 01/01/1982 Became Uniting Church Minister; **NSW:** 01/01/1982 - 31/12/2000 Senior Pastor, Wesley Central Mission; 1992 - 1993 Moderator of NSW Synod; **SINGAPORE** 01/01/2001 - 15/05/2009 Vice President, Development and Training, Haggai Institute; 01/06/2009 - 30/09/2014 part time Lecturer at the Singapore Bible Institute and Trinity Theological College, Singapore; 30/09/2014 NPR

### **Rev. Albert Coleman**

Ordination Year - 1967; **NSW;** 1966 - 1967 Dungog-Myall River; 1968 - 1971 Weston; 1972 - 1978 Mortdale; 1979 -1985 Kogarah-Endeavour; 10/85 - 10/95 Balgowlah-Seaforth; 10/95 PR;

### **Rev. Dr Geoffrey Cummins**

1967 Ordination Year - Ordained by Tongan Methodist Church; **VIC;** 1960 Timboon-Nullawaree; 1966-73 Tonga Principal, Tupou High School; 1974-80 W/S; **NSW;** 1981-85 Port Macquarie ; 03/85-01/92 S.General Secretary Board of Education; 01/92-01/95 Eastwood; **VIC;** 02/95-01/97 Batlow (Tumbrumba); **NSW;** 02/97-12/99 Wodonga; 01/00 PR.  
Supply Ministry: Dapto (01/01-05/01; Oatley ( 06/01 -02/02); Mittagong 07/02-06/03); Tamworth (12/04- 04/05); Quirindi (04/05- 02/07)  
OAM 2015 For Services to the community of Nundle through a range of organisations

### **Rev. Dr Campbell Egan**

**ACADEMIC TRAINING:** B. A. (Bon. Philosophy), B. D. Sydney University 1957-1964; M.Theol. (Epistemology in the Theology of T. F. Torrance) Melbourne College of Divinity. 1970; 1965/66 New College Edinburgh; D. Min (The Formation of Social Witness Policy in UCA 1977-1991) San Francisco; Theological Seminary 1990; **MINISTRY:** 1965-66 Assistant Minister St. Cuthbert's Parish Church Edinburgh; Presbyterian Church in NSW, 1967 - 1971 Thirroul, 1971 - 1974 Broken Hill, 1974 - 1977 Artarmon, 1977 - 1988 Wagga Wagga; Uniting Church in Australia, 1988 - 1907 Canberra, 1997 - 2003 Glen Innes; **BEYOND THE PARISH ACTIVITIES:** Convener, Church and Nation Committee. Presbyterian Church in NSW 1974-1984; Secretary, Council of Churches in NSW 1975-1977; Moderator, General Assembly Presbyterian Church in NSW 1979-1980; Chairman Mirinjani Retirement Village Canberra 1992-1995; Alderman Wagga City Council 1983-1987; Staff Officer to Principal Chaplain Australian Army 1988-1996; **SPECIAL INTERESTS:** Ministry – Preaching; Liturgy, Pastoral Care; Relating Church to wider Community; Experience of Church in wider context - Taise, Iona Community, UK etc. **PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES:** Taught two courses U3A. 2006- 2016; Volunteer Guide Museum of Australian Democracy, MOAD at OFH 2015; Conducts 2 services each month; Grows potatoes and dahlias



### **Rev. Robert Evans**

NSW; Granville 1960; Parramatta North 1966-1968; Boolaroo/Speers Point 1969 -1972; Leeton 1973-1976; Maclean 1977-1984; Lower Blue Mountains 01/01/1985- 30/09/1993; Warrumbungles 01/10/1993-31/07/1997; PR.05/98

### **Rev. Alan Galt**

Ordination Year 1967; 1966-1970 Far West Mission; 1971-1977 Department of Christian Citizenship; 1977-2006 Board for Social Responsibility/Uniting Care; 2006- Retirement ministry; Awards:

1969 Churchill Fellowship, 2006 Order of Australia Medal

### **Rev. Ross Godfrey**

NSW; East Maitland 1960; Goulburn 1961-1962; Dundas Valley 1963; North Ryde 1963-1965; Inner City 1965-1968; ordained St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Redfern 24/8/1967; Woollahra 1968-1970; St. Stephen's, Sydney 1970-1973; Wellington 1973-1982 QLD; Central Queensland Presbytery Chairman 1983-1984; NSW CP. Knox Grammar School 01/1985-06/1997; PR. 06/97; Molong/Manildra; Mendooran, Wellington, non-stipendiary minister from 1998; Army Reserve Chaplain 1969-1991; Police Chaplain from 1997; Mentors: Robert Cruickshank, George Woolcock, Lachlan McInnes, John Calvin, Karl Barth, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Alan Loy, Crawford Miller, Stanley Hauerwas; Psalm 121, 2 Corinthians 13:13, Luke 17:10 Ross Murray Godfrey OAM RFD BSW

### **Rev. Allan Kilpatrick**

Ordination Year - 1967; NSW: 1958-1964 Salvation Army; 1965 Mortdale, Student Pastor attending Leigh Theological College; 1966-1968 Methodist; Lake Cargelligo; 1968-1971 Crookwell; 1972-1981 Moss Vale; 1982-1988 Port Kembla-Shellharbour; 02/88 -07/94 Bethlehem - Beecroft; 08/94-06/00 Leura Uniting Church, Katoomba Faith Community, Blackheath Uniting Church; 07/00 PR;

### **Rev. Dr Ross Mackay**

NSW; 1965-1967 100% Tuggerah Lakes; PNG; 1968-1975; NSW; 1976 - 1980 100% Parramatta North; 01/01/1982 - 31/08/1991 100% S.Board of Mission; 01/09/1991 - 30/04/1997 100% Weston Creek; 01/05/1997 - 28/02/1999 100% S.Board of Mission; 01/03/1999 - 30/04/2004 100% North Rocks; 30/04/2004 PR.

### **Rev. William Paul**

VIC; 1965-1968 Eildon; 1969-1973 Simpson; NSW; 1974-1979 Queanbeyan 01/01/1980 - 31/12/1989 Parkes; 01/01/1990 - 31/05/1997 Wauchope; 01/06/1997 PR



### **Rev. Edwin Perkins**

I was actually ordained in the King Williamstown Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa in 1967 and given permission by that denomination to retire in September 2000 from my role as the UPCS Assembly's Training for the Ministry Convener when it merged with The Reformed Presbyterian Church. I worked in supply ministry until 2004 when I was transferred by the Central Cape Presbytery to the "care and discipline" of the Ku-ring-gai Presbytery, enabling me to assist Dr John Pender in the Pymble Parish and subsequently serve as a Chaplain at Wesley Gardens. I concluded active ministry after providing supply ministry to two congregations the Hunter Presbytery in 2014.

### **Rev. Ronald Reeson**

NSW; 1965 - 1967 Coffs Harbour; PNG; 1968 - 1972 Nipa ;  
1973 - 1976 Reg. Director DCE; 1977 - 1978 Principal, St. Paul's Pastor Training School;  
NSW; 01/01/1997 - 31/08/1987 Central Belconnen; 01/09/1987 - 31/08/2002 Canberra  
Presbytery Officer; 01/09/2002 PR.

### **Rev. Christopher Ridings**

Ordination Year - 1967; WA: 1961 Midland; 1966-1967 Mullewa; 1968-1969 Upper Avon  
(Brookton); 1970-1977 SE; 1978-1982 Gosnells;  
1982-1985 Asst to Sec of Synod (Archives); NSW: 1986 PR

### **Deaconess Elwyn Tegel**

1967 Ordination Year NSW; 1965-1986 Menindee Nursing Service; 05/92 PR.

### **Rev. Dr Andrew Thompson**

Ordination Year - 1967; NSW; 1960-1961 Leeton; 1961-1963 Lismore; 1964-1966 Girraween;  
1969-1971 Trundle; 1971-1978 Lithgow;  
1979-05/90 Charlestown; 06/90-08/98 Lane Cove; 09/98-08/04 S.CP.Royal North  
Shore Hospital; 09/04 PR;

### **Rev. Ronald Wilson**

NSW: 1961-1965 Largs, Morpeth, Paterson; 1965-1967 Avalon 1965-1967; 1967-1968  
Girraween; 1968-1971 Tenterfield; 1971-1977 Tuggerah Lakes; 1977-1980 Parkes 1980-  
1985 Ashfield 01/01/1986 - 28/02/1989 Batlow; 01/03/1989 - 31/12/1996 Parramatta;  
31/12/1996 PR.



## Jubilarians



### Rev. James Bishop

1957 Ordination Year; SA: 01/84-12/86 Whyalla; NSW; 01/89-12/94 CP.Parklea Prison; 12/94 PR. JTB was ordained to the Presbyterian ministry in St Lukes, Redfern, in May 1957, and was inducted into the Inner City Charge – Redfern, Woolloomooloo, Newtown, Surry Hills and Ultimo. In 1960-62 he spent two years overseas; one year in Cleveland, Ohio, in a church linked with the East Harlem Protestant Parish, and one year in Glasgow in an Iona Community Parish.

He was in Paddington at St Johns Presbyterian, from 1962 to 1973. He and Rev. Harry Roberts, his Methodist colleague, brought their two churches into a Joint Parish in 1967. From 1973 to 1981 he was on the staff of the Ecumenical Institute, based in Chicago and working in many countries, including Canada, Venezuela, India, the Philippines and Indonesia. In 1982 he returned to Australia and held interim ministries for 18 months. His wife Isobel, already a deaconess, trained for ordination, and they then accepted a joint call to Whyalla in South Australia. From 1984 to 1986 they were part of a team of four ministers serving a parish of six congregations in that city.

In 1986 they returned to NSW and a number of supply ministries, including nine months in Gilgandra. In 1988 Isobel accepted a call to Mascot/ Botany /Eastlakes Parish.

In 1989 JTB was appointed Prison Chaplain with the Department of Corrective Services, working for the next five years at Parklea. In his final year before retirement, he inaugurated a new position within that Department as co-ordinator of their Chaplaincy Service.

### Rev. Dr John Whitehead

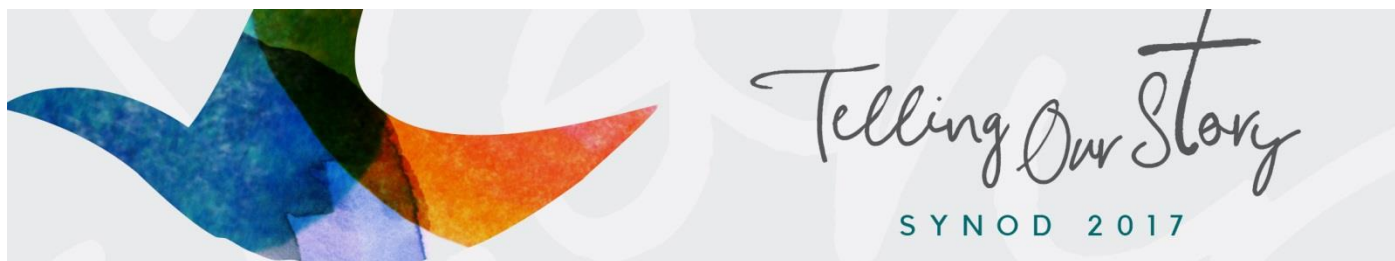
TAS; Queenstown 1958-1960; USA; SE.1960-1965; PNG; Port Moresby 1966-1968; VIC; CP.Monash University 1969-1972; SA; Lincoln College 1973-1983; NSW; Wesley College 01/84-12/96; PR.12/96

# Celebration of Ministry



uniting  
church

in Australia,  
Synod of NSW & ACT



## Minute of Appreciation

### Rev. Dr Andrew Williams

#### PROPOSAL

That the Synod:  
record it's thanks to God and its sincere appreciation for the Ministry of Rev Dr Andrew Williams

Andrew was inducted to the role of General Secretary on 27 August 2010.

From the very beginning of his placement he faced a Church and Synod in the midst of change with many and often opposing forces advocating the need for immediate action on multiple fronts.

Andrew's natural inclination was to consult widely. He persistently displayed a willingness to seek advice from a broad spectrum of people with what he perceived to be the right skills and relevant experiences.

Similarly, it was Andrew's nature to address the big picture and not just the issue before him at the time; to reflect and discern on all that had been suggested and then and only then to proceed.

This reflective and yet deliberate approach did not suit everyone – some anxious for more rapid and decisive change; others concerned about the implications of change that would confront tradition and established patterns of behaviour. It is the mark of a leader that they can find a way through the various competing influences and guide the organisation towards a new position and with renewed focus and hope

Many of the changes faced by the church in its own life and in the increasing compliance and safety demands from the community find a focus in the office of the Synod General Secretary. It is a demanding job, made more difficult by the need to negotiate the ever-changing balance between the work of Secretary to the Synod as a Council, and CEO to the synod as institution. It is a role that challenges and stretches the incumbent's capacity as team leader, administrator, manager, canon lawyer (or at least Regulations expert) and theologian.

Andrew came to the role with organisational and administrative skills, global mission practice experience, highly respected pastoral expertise, a deep knowledge of the church, depth and breadth of biblical and theological reflection and knowledge and also imagination and humour. His passion for serving God shaped and influenced his approach to the role and his relationships with others.

There was little time to settle in and help the synod forge a vision for the way forward (although he did help that happen).

Andrew started in the role when the Synod was going through a significant transitional phase that was coupled to an increasing necessity for a professional approach to leadership. There was also a growing demand from Regulators for good governance and a robust code of conduct for (all) churches.



He often found himself facing strong challenges – having inherited a number of extremely difficult issues: a financial crisis and the need to cut staff and programs, constant restructuring processes, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and profoundly irresolvable pastoral matters. He also had to face appeals and challenges and the demands of lawyers as people challenged the decisions of the church, and as an attempt was made to heal some old wounds.

In partial response to these forces he championed the formation of the Synod Risk Oversight Committee as well as the Governance Nominations and Remunerations Committee.

Andrew did a great job tackling these issues, often working way outside his comfort zone. Naturally an optimist and a person with passion, a person tough enough to ride his bicycle to work on most days and to complete an ironman triathlon, he found the institutional demands difficult to deal with when they dragged him away from the church he believed was the body of Christ.

Andrew carefully considered the people implications of all decisions and had a deep yearning that the Church could and would flourish in changing and challenging times. His commitment to cross cultural engagement was always evident while always pragmatically acknowledging the challenges of different cultures within a diverse Church. Few will forget he became a converted Tongan; wearing Tongan clothes and traditional attire, writing and leading Tongan liturgies, singing Tongan hymns and preaching in Tongan - and yet he still preferred **palangi** (non-Tongan) food!

He was deeply committed to ecumenism!

Andrew was a champion of the importance of holding together the theological principles of worship, witness and service. Andrew was courageous in raising issues of concern being experienced in parts of the church and consequently this sometimes came at personal cost to him and his family.

Andrew was humble and acknowledged his limitations. He represented the Church with grace and humility. He provided servant leadership to the Church at a most challenging time.

He was happy to make fun of himself and his family and a willing participant in laughing with others at his own misfortunes. His personable approach and his openness in sharing his vulnerability made it easier for people to connect with him, respect him and share similar experiences.

He displayed gentleness and a pastoral heart and his passion for serving God shaped and influenced his approach to the role and his relationships with others.

There were joys and struggles, frustrations and successes and yet Andrew maintained his professionalism, integrity, energy and optimism. He exercised and maintained a calming influence in stabilizing and affecting mission for the common good in his service for the synod. He was sustained by the sheer grace of God and always sought to discern prayerfully in his decision making.

A lover of rugby – the game they play in heaven – the mild mannered General Secretary frequently morphed into an enthusiastic and loud spectator and commentator.

When Katalina accepted an appointment in Geneva (with his support and blessing), the work became even harder. A committed husband to Katalina and a loving father to daughter Lilliani the distance between the family was a burden. While it was a very hard decision to leave his friends at the synod and UCA behind he truly appreciated the synod's gracious understanding in allowing him go to be with his family in Switzerland.

Andrew helped the church transition through a difficult time in its life, and the Synod is grateful for his commitment and skill during his time as the General Secretary.



## Minute of Appreciation

### Rev. Myung Hwa Park

Moderator of the Synod of NSW and the ACT, 2014 - 2017

#### PROPOSAL

That the Synod:

expresses its sincere appreciation to Rev Myung Hwa Park for her leadership to the Church as Moderator since 28 September 2014.

We remember the moment of election in 2013 and observed as you entered a place of deep prayer with an awareness of the enormity of the task and the responsibilities that lay ahead. We thank you for embodying an attitude of prayer visible in all you do as well as sharing – “I have to ask every day where will the strength come from to carry out this role? How can I best serve God and the church, the people of God?” The significant place of prayer in your life has been a tremendous witness to us all.

As Moderator, you repeatedly encouraged us to pray, that we all work towards the saving grace of God. For Synod 2016 you crafted a prayer that was the theme for the meeting: *Come Holy Spirit – Renew Our Hearts*. All aspects of the meeting were shaped around this plaintive prayer – that God would renew us through the renewing of our hearts, the renewal of the Church and the renewal of all creation.

Your term as Moderator will long be remembered for initiating the UTalk gatherings out of concern for ministers having their spirituality sustained, because they are always giving to others. These gatherings invited over 400 people, retired ministers, ministers of various age groups, those with culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, the younger ministers, Chaplains (lay and ordained) as well as an informal UAICC UTalk. These conversations had the sole intention of listening to each person’s experience in ministry. You discerned that there was a pressing need to share the understanding and views held on ‘ordination’, recognising the significant ministry carried out through the ordained ministers of our church. Through each of the 22 UTalk conversations you invited people to share their moment of enlightenment.

Observations from the UTalk sharing have identified areas for further reflection and exploration for us as a church. Broad questions relating to our

- UCA identity and theology,
- the creative tension between UCA polity and the perceived burden of denominational institutionalism.
- the “Crisis” of reducing resources and their allocation (that is monetary, property and human).
- Spirituality in the Uniting Church in Australia.
- The nature and understanding of ordination and ministry.

Thank you for making the space and giving the opportunity for ministers to be heard, to listen to others and to feel affirmed in their ministry as well as acknowledging the loneliness, that at times, is experienced by those in Ordained ministry.

The UTalks have helped us realise that we have become what we said we wanted to be – Uniting – possibly not in the way we first imagined it some 40 years ago.

Arising from your own commitment to sustainable living and concern for the whole creation we have seen your enthusiastic support and engagement with the Murray Darling Basin Group. Just three weeks prior to commencing as Moderator you participated in your first tour and in the last three weeks have completed your fourth tour. The Murray Darling Basin (MDB) has become a hot topic with allegations of water misuse. This has caused lots of anger, frustration and serious concern for communities. All the MDB tours of our Synod have expressed the church's concern for this vital water resource and its impact on the people, communities and environment along its banks. Your involvement has embodied a pastoral response to those with whom we are connected through our creator God. Through your sharing you have brought the issues of water justice to the attention of many congregations in the Synod.

Other social justice concerns that you have drawn to the attention of the church, the wider community and our state political leaders have included: greater awareness of domestic violence, the need for affordable housing, refugees, assylum seekers and to stop people trafficking.

At the recent forum on Drug Law Reform you acknowledged that this issue is both challenging and confronting but expressed hope that the church can help call for positive change. Thank you for saying; "This is all about caring for the humanity and dignity of other human beings. Healing and reconciliation is our message,"

Myung Hwa this Synod will remember you as the Moderator on the move accepting as many invitations as possible to be with congregations and communities, to celebrate their special events, open community gardens, attend ordinations, inductions and the dedication of ministry across the whole Synod. Prior to preaching in a congregation you did your homework to understand their context, first visiting the Presbytery, searching them out on the internet and at times even looking up their NCLS data. You went to these measures because you understand that "assisting and encouraging the expression and fulfilment of the mission and witness of the Church" is absolutely crucial as the Moderator visits congregations, since they are at the forefront of mission and evangelism. For this attention to preparation we thank you.

Myung Hwa you have shown us how to enthusiastically stand in solidarity with others and not to limit this to our close circles of association. As Moderator, at times you have stood in solidarity with civil society and other faith communities. You have supported and fostered the building of relationships with both the Muslim and Jewish communities. It was most significant that you participated in the first Uniting – Jewish interfaith pilgrimage – "Give Peace a Chance" to Israel and Palestine. Your presence confirmed for all, the strong commitment that the Uniting Church has to both dialogue and our heartfelt desire for healing that leads to a just and lasting peace for all peoples in the Holy Land.

Reconciliation is at the heart of our faith and as a Synod "Covenanting" with UAICC has always held a significant place. As Moderator your leadership has strengthened the relationship with members of Congress, during Synod meetings you have modelled leadership shared with Auntie Di Torrens.

You have regularly encouraged our Synod not to lose sight of the importance of the ministry of "Covenanting". You have expressed solidarity in tangible ways walking with the Black Digger ANZAC Day March.

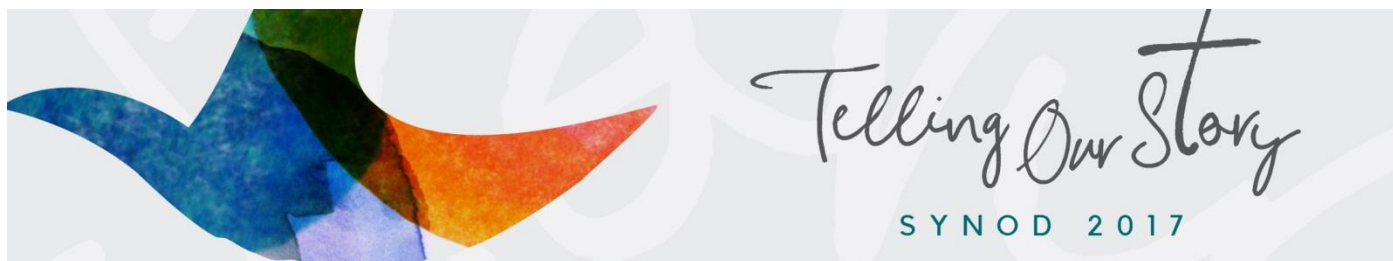
Myung Hwa the friendships that you have nurtured with our First Peoples saw the visioning of the Walking on Bundjalung Country Project in March 2017. The theme "Making Time and Space for First Peoples' Wisdom" allowed people to learn first hand from their hosts about their culture and stories in their own space and time. The relaxed and affirming way you relate to people especially across culture has enriched many relationships. Thank you for holding us together in this sacred space.

Your final reflections to the Synod commenced with the image of Places of Gathering, significant places within Cassandra Halden's country, these places are all connected by paths symbolically represented by dots or lines. In the life of our Synod you have charted paths that connect us as different peoples, different communities and sacred spaces and you remind us of our relationship as brothers and sisters united in Christ.

We appreciate your tireless energy and are grateful to your girls, Sinead and Ita, for the support and encouragement that they have given you.

There is so much more that we could include but above all we give thanks for the blessing of God that you have been and continue to be to the Uniting Church in Australia. Now we assure you of our prayers as you discern God's continued call and the revealing of the path for the next stage of your ministry.

Rev Tara Curlewis



## Minute of Appreciation

### Rev. Christopher Udy

#### PROPOSAL

That the Synod:

record its appreciation and thanks to God for Rev Christopher Udy as Chairperson of the Advisory Committee On Ministerial Placements (ACOMP).

Rev Chris Udy was elected as Chairperson of ACOMP by the Synod in September 2011 and has faithfully served the church in this role to this Synod.

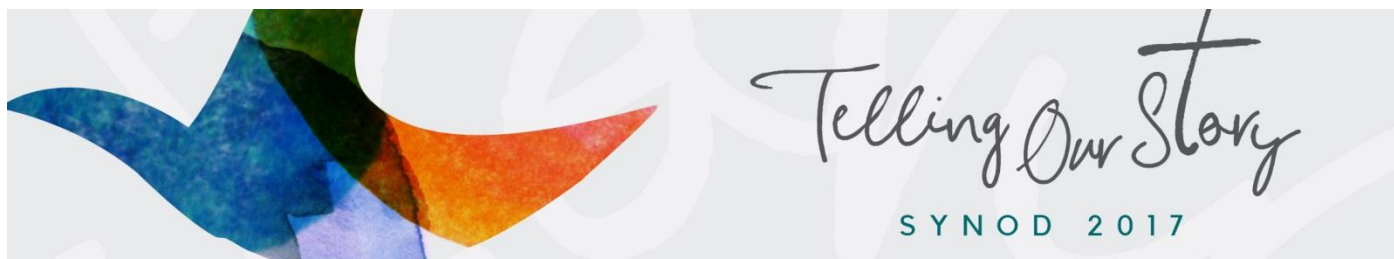
Chris has a passion for the Uniting Church and the discernment of the call of God on the lives of faithful people. Through serving the Placements Committee this passion has focussed on assisting Congregations and Ministers of the Synod to discern the call of God through ministry placements so as to facilitate the participation of the Church in the Mission of Christ.

Chris has been generous with his time, meeting with ministers and engaging with candidates for specified ministries to support them through the placements process.

During his time as Chairperson, Chris has worked tirelessly to assist ACOMP, to seek efficiencies, to work through its processes and policies, to avoid pitfalls and framing the work of the committee in the ethos and regulations of the Uniting Church. Chris has brought pastoral and wise leadership to ACOMP when faced with difficult decisions and situations.

Chris always worked as part of a team respecting the contributions of all who are part of the placements process, his contribution to the church through the position of Chairperson of ACOMP has been greatly appreciated.

Rev Grant Bilbey



## CONGREGATION CHANGES

### PROPOSAL

That the Synod  
note the following congregation changes:

- i. The Canberra Region Presbytery advised that:
  - a. Canberra City and Toe Talatalanoa congregations have been reclassified from a Multicentre to a Linked Congregation, effective 23 August 2017
  - b. Eurobodalla Linked Congregations (Batemans Bay & Moruya) have been reclassified from Linked Congregations to a Multicentre location, effective 16 August 2017.
- ii. The Far North Coast Presbytery advised that the name change of Tweed Coast Uniting Church to Kingscliff Uniting Church, effective from 1 January 2016.
- iii. The Presbytery of Parramatta Nepean advised that Rooty Hill, Rooty Hill Fijian, St Mary's and St Mary's Cook Island congregations have reverted to stand-alone congregations and no longer linked as the St Mary's Rooty Hill Linked congregations, effective 14 February 2015.
- iv. The Sydney Central Coast Presbytery advised:
  - a. The closure of East Killara Congregation, effective 31 December 2016.
  - b. The name change of Gladesville-Boronia Park to Boronia Park Congregation, effective 2 February 2016.
- v. The Sydney Presbytery advised:
  - a. That the Sydney Rotuman and Five Dock Drummoyne Congregations have reverted to stand-alone congregations and are no longer linked as the Five Dock Drummoyne Congregations, effective 31 May 2017
  - b. The name change of Dulwich Hill Hurlstone Park to Hurlstone Park congregation, effective 31 May 2017.
  - c. The closure of Marrickville Uniting Church, effective 16 2017.
  - d. They have ceased to recognise the International Faith Community, effective 31 August 2017.
- vi. The Hunter Presbytery advised that permission was given to The Commons to become a Faith Community under the oversight of the Hunter Presbytery, effective 29 February 2012.