



NEWS AND NOTES

INCORPORATING **SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE NEWS**

Tuesday 27 February, 2018

On the evening of Monday 12 February 2018, Synod Standing Committee (SSC) met and began with devotions.

Deputy General Secretary Position

SSC agreed by consensus to fill the approved vacant placement of the Deputy General Secretary of the Synod of Western Australia as soon as possible. Rev Dr Ian Tozer resigned from this position as at 28 February 2018. The position description for this full-time, five-year term will be finalised by the end of February and a Joint Nominating Committee (JNC) will be established to consider applications.

Presbytery of Western Australia Secretary

SSC requested the General Secretary, Rev David de Kock, investigate possibilities for the funding of a full-time, paid Presbytery of Western Australia Secretary in anticipation of a request from the Presbytery that the position be stipended (Regulation 3.6.2). Rev Dr Ian Tozer resigned from this position as at 31 January.

Church Law

SSC agreed by consensus to the Church Law recommendations as presented for: By-law S5.4 Nominating Committee; By-law S6.2 Moderator and By-law S8.4 UnitingCare West. These amended documents are available on the Uniting Church WA website at unitingchurchwa.org.au/administration/synod/by-laws. SSC noted the amendments to Rule P3.3 Candidates for the Ministries Committee. These amended documents are available on the Uniting Church WA website at unitingchurchwa.org.au/administration/presbytery/presbytery-rules.

Nominating Committee

SSC approved the nominations of Rev Narelle Collas by the Strategy and Mission Planning Committee (SMPC); Rev Stephen Larkin by the Presbytery

Property Committee and Richard Patterson, Senior Property Manager to the Council for Mission. Further nominations to the Council for Mission from Synod Standing Committee (SSC), Presbytery Standing Committee (PSC), Resources Commission and Placements Commission are yet to be received. The Council for Mission is a project focused sub-committee of SSC and will consider applications arising from the Strategic Plan proposal for the establishment of collaborating communities which could be funded from the Uniting Church WA Foundation.

SSC noted the resignation of Dr Alison Atkinson-Phillips as chair of the Social Justice Commission due to relocation overseas. SSC approved the nomination of Rev Elizabeth Raine as Social Justice Commission Chairperson.

SSC approved by consensus the appointment of Cindy Smith and Pip Rundle to Tranby College Council; Prof Livia Hool and Vicki Robinson to Methodist Ladies' College (MLC) Council; David Gibson to Scotch College Council; Tony Connors to Penrhos College Council; James Mactier and Matthew Maxted to Presbyterian Ladies' College (PLC) Council; and Laurel Sellers to the UnitingCare West Board as a co-opted member.

SSC noted with thanks the retirement of Ralph Moore and Diane Smith-Gander from MLC Council and Heather Warner as Deputy Chair of Scotch College Council.

Reports Received

In line with its regular reporting arrangements, Synod Standing Committee also received reports from: Moderator, Rev Steve Francis; General Secretary, Rev David de Kock and General Manager Resources, Robert Locke.

Congregations

Rev Dr Michael Owen's new book, *Property and Progress for a Pilgrim People: How much has the Uniting Church now lost the way?* was launched recently, at St Aidan's Claremont Uniting Church. John McKechnie spoke about the book at the event. To order a copy, contact Margaret Johnston at the Uniting Church WA Ministry Resource Centre at resource@wa.uca.org.au or call 9260 9800. Read a review of the book by visiting goo.gl/Vjf3fm.

Lenten series. Emeritus Prof Bill Loader is presenting his Lenten series, 'Faith Facing Reality', at Wembley Downs Uniting Church on Sunday evenings from 25 February to 18 March, 7.30 to 9.00pm. Topics include God talk and suffering; The Bible and history; Jesus and the adulation of power; and Future and fantasies. Bill will also be preaching at Wembley Downs Uniting Church on Palm Sunday 25 March. For more info email Karen Sloan at kamasloa@hotmail.com.

A seminar on 'Homosexuality and same sex marriage' will be held at Mt Hawthorne St Peter and Emmaus Church on Thursday 15 March, 7.30 to 9.00pm. Emeritus Prof Bill Loader will be speaking. For more info call 9444 1447 or 0421 332 747 or visit mthawthornchurch.org.

Presbytery of Western Australia

News from the Presbytery of WA meeting held on Saturday 10 February is available to read online. Visit goo.gl/Ra9K2w to download it.

Sophie Lizares will be ordained into the ministry of Deacon on Saturday 3 March, 2.00pm at Willetton Uniting Church. She will then be inducted into the role of UnitingCare West Chaplain on Friday 9 March, 9.00am at UnitingCare West, 16 Sunbury Rd Victoria Park.

Summer Spirit: Being a different church. To explore how the church could change and still be faithful in a different world, Rev Lindsay Cullen, Uniting Church National Consultant, suggested Christians would need to "think different" and "act different." Visit goo.gl/4YV6om to read the full article and view pictures.

Uniting Generations in the wilderness. Kids' Camp Out (KCO) is on Saturday 10 to Sunday 11 March, for primary school aged children. The program

incorporates shared meals, worship, sport, art and craft activities. Junior leaders will be meeting from Friday 9 March and the KCO Feast on the Saturday from 5.30pm. All are invited to attend the Feast. KCO will be held at Advent Park, Maida Vale. Visit goo.gl/Apz8GA for more info and to register.

The Mission Shaped Ministry Course will equip you for a lifetime of good practice and learning in planting and sustaining Fresh Expressions of church. Courses for 2018 will be held in March, May, August and October at Trinity North Uniting Church, Wandoo Rd Duncraig. The Presbytery of WA is offering this course in the hopes that every ministry agent, congregation, community or faith community in WA can complete the course by the end of 2020. For more info email Rev Greg Ross at revgregross@icloud.com.

The Intercultural Next Generation Conference and Workshop will be a weekend of learning about how our Christian faith calls us to love. Rev Dr Apwee Ting and Rev Charissa Suli, National Consultants with the Uniting Church Assembly Resourcing Unit, and Sam Chan, founder of the parachurch organisation, Red, will be the keynote speakers. It will be held from Saturday 24 to Sunday 25 March at Cannington Uniting Church. For more info and to register contact Alice Boomer on 9260 9800 or email alice.boomer@wa.uca.org.au.

Biblical Cultural Experience. Rev Elizabeth Raine and Rev Dr John Squires will present a unique day-long biblical culture immersion experience, 'From the Patriarchs to the Passover' on Saturday 24 March at Beldon-Iluka Uniting Church. Share in the food, music, dance, song and cultural practices of the ancient world. Learn about the context in which the people of the Bible lived and gain new insights into what we read in biblical texts. Cost is \$30. To register, contact Kerry on 9260 9800 or cedal@wa.uca.org.au.

The 2018 Women's Weekend Away will be held from Friday 25 to Sunday 27 May, with the theme 'Meeting the Mystics: Meeting me.' It will be held at Swanleigh Conference Centre, Middle Swan, cost is \$170 all inclusive. Rev Cathie Lambert will be leading, guiding you to explore how mysticism can inform our spiritual lives today. For more info email southperthwwa@gmail.com.

Synod of Western Australia

Rev Dr Les Brockway

The Uniting Church WA is saddened to hear of the passing of Rev Dr Les Brockway. A funeral service was held on Monday 26 February, 1.00pm, at Mount Pleasant Uniting Church. The service will be conducted by Rev Dennis Doust.

Easter Service times on website. The Media and Communications Unit would like to promote and share Uniting Church WA congregation's Good Friday and Easter services and other related special events on the Uniting Church WA website. If you would like your service times included, email website@wa.uca.org.au by Thursday 1 March.

From the National Church

First and Second Peoples in the Uniting Church have marked the 10th anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations, by calling for urgent action on sovereignty, treaty and Indigenous education. President of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, Rev Garry Dronfield, says the apology shows that Australia can address the injustices of past and present. Visit goo.gl/qK2aYk to read more.

Cyclone Gita Appeal. Donate now to UnitingWorld's appeal to support Tonga and Fiji, after they have faced the worst storm to pass through the islands in 60 years. Visit unitingworld.org.au/cyclone-gita-appeal to donate.

Creative Submissions for 15th Assembly's Theme. President-elect Dr Deidre Palmer is inviting Uniting Church members to make creative submissions interpreting the 15th Assembly theme 'Abundant Grace, Liberating Hope.' This invitation is open to everyone in the Uniting Church, including songwriters, poets, artists, storytellers, photographers and liturgists. Read more here: goo.gl/iHRUHy.

UnitingCare and Congregational Community Services

Family Foundations Volunteers. UnitingCare West are looking for volunteers to join their Family Foundations program, working with families who are homeless or

at risk of homelessness to enjoy better lives. To find out more, call Elaine on 9355 9022 or email volunteers@UnitingCareWest.org.au.

Foster Care Services. UnitingCare West are looking for carers for children in their specialised foster care services. To find out more, contact the Futures Foster Care Service on 6279 1800 or visit unitingcarewest.org.au/services/foster. Carers receive a generous tax free subsidy, ongoing support (including respite) and training.

Tackling Elder Abuse. UnitingCare Australia congratulates the Federal, State and Territory Governments for committing to work together to tackle the serious problem of elder abuse in our community. Elder abuse is a serious issue facing too many vulnerable people and has ongoing negative effects on their lives that ripple through communities. Visit goo.gl/oMtiyb for more info.

Ecumenical and International

The Perth Children's Ministry Convention will be held on Saturday 17 March, 9.00am to 3.15pm, at North Beach Baptist Church. On Friday 16 March, 7.15 to 9.00pm, they will also be holding an event for children's ministry co-ordinators, 'Recruiting, Training and Retaining Leaders.' Visit <http://pcmc.asn.au/> for more info.

Darkness to Light: Voices in Praise Ecumenical Choir. You are invited to Voices in Praise Ecumenical Choir's Tenebrae Service on Wednesday 28 March, 7.00pm, at Mt Pleasant Uniting Church. With the theme 'Darkness and Light,' the night will include a selection of spiritual music and readings, as well as the lighting of candles to quietly reflect on the true meaning of Easter. There will be a retiring offering for UnitingWorld's Lent Event. All are welcome.

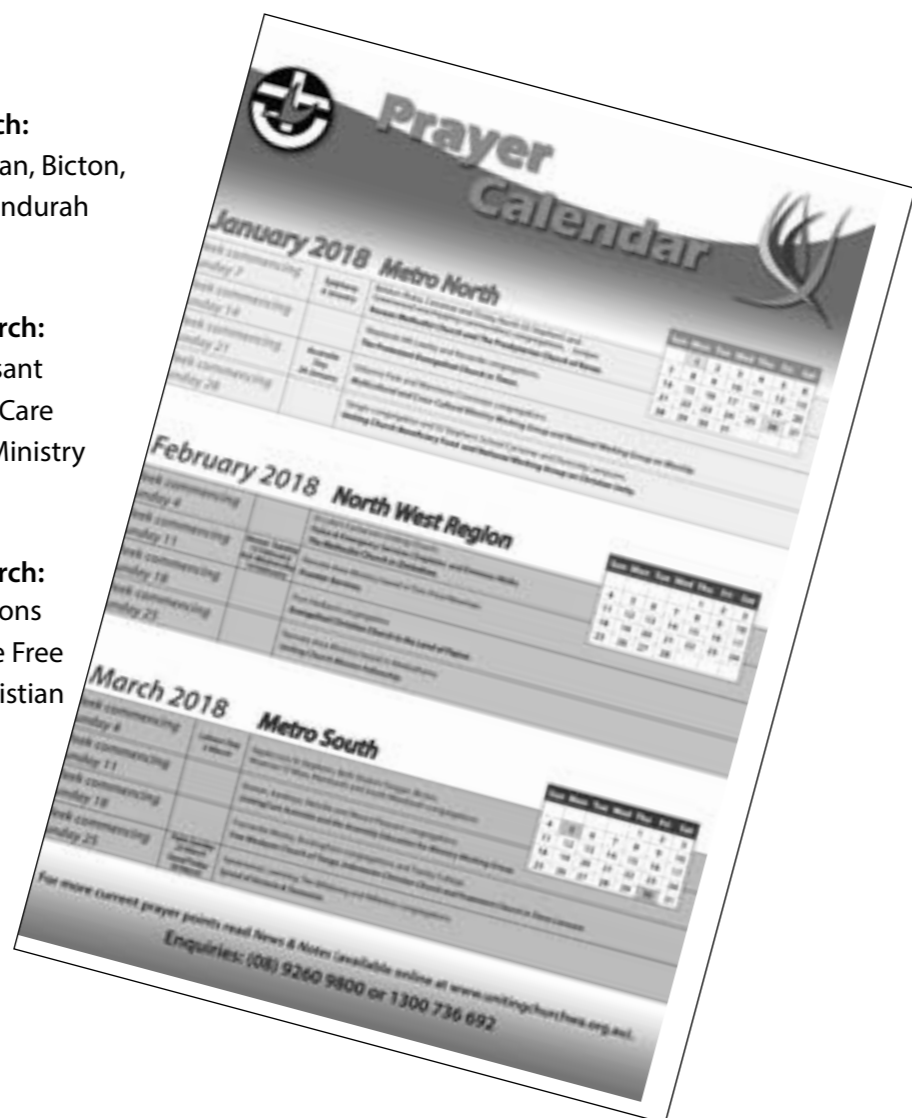
Australian Church Women: Winifred Kiek Scholarship is offered in rotation to women from countries of the Pacific Island Nations, member countries of the Asian Church Women's Conference and multicultural Australia. The Scholarship is offered to Christian women aged 25 or over and is to help the recipient to undertake theological studies, Bible studies, religious leadership training or to attend a conference or seminar during 2019. Visit goo.gl/KSP9Vp for more info.

Prayer Calendar

For the week commencing Sunday 4 March:
Applecross St Stephens, Beth Shalom Tongan, Bicton, Maaman 'O' Miya, Mandurah and South Mandurah congregations.

For the week commencing Sunday 11 March:
Korean, Kardinya, Melville and Mount Pleasant congregations. Please also pray for UnitingCare Australia and the Assembly Education for Ministry Working Group.

For the week commencing Sunday 18 March:
Fremantle Wesley, Rockingham congregations and Tranby College. Please also pray for the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, Indonesian Christian Church and Protestant Church in *Timor Lorosa'e*.



Jobs: Paid and Volunteer

The Placements Commission and Pastoral Relations Committee webpage is available to view all vacant placements, by-laws, ministry changes and pastoral and placement updates. unitingchurchwa.org.au/careers/ministry-vacancies.

Uniting Church WA: Deputy General Secretary

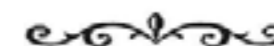
The Uniting Church WA is seeking a visionary and strategically oriented person to work with the General Secretary to provide collaborative leadership in partnership with Presbyteries, Agencies and Schools. The successful applicant will be a member of the leadership team of the Uniting Church WA, seeking to support the ministry, mission and planning directions of the whole church. Applications close Wednesday 28 March. Visit goo.gl/c3KaD8 for more info.

Presbytery of The Downs, QLD: Patrol Minister

The Presbytery of The Downs is seeking an ordained Ministry Agent for a Patrol Minister in the Cunnamulla/Burke and Wills Patrol based in South West Queensland. Applications close on Friday 2 March. Send enquiries to david.fender@ucaqld.com.au.

UnitingCare, South Australia: Executive Officer

The Uniting Church SA is currently seeking an Executive Officer, Uniting Care SA to maintain and further develop the relationships between the Uniting Church SA and its associated organisations, and to support their fulfilment of the mission of God through the Uniting Church. Visit goo.gl/9KW6qF for more info. Please direct confidential enquiries to Tracey Bost, Executive Assistant to CEO/General Secretary by email tbost@sa.uca.org.au or 08-8236 4232.





The Ministry Resourcing Centre is located in the Uniting Church Centre, 85-89 Edward Street, Perth and is open Monday to Friday 8.30am–5.00pm.

Lent: There are different ways of recognising Lent than going without chocolate - like reading and learning. If you haven't picked up a book in a while this could be the time.

Contact Margaret Johnston on 9260 9800 or email resource@wa.uca.org.au.

Property and Progress for a Pilgrim People: How much has the Uniting Church now lost the way? by Michael Owen. "Ruling 26 of 2008 from the President of the Uniting Church's national Assembly and the Assembly's document on Property Policy of 2009-2010 take markedly different positions on the control and use of property in that church... The document's emphasis on values and whatever is new and emerging reveals a dependence on the modernist ideology and its problematic belief in progress, together with the managerialism to which they give rise. What would be an authentic Christian response to that ideology?" (from the synopsis). **\$14.95**

Turn Around Church: Evaluating the sustainability of Fresh Expressions of church, by Ruthmary Bond. Written from an Australian perspective. "The theme of this book is vital if we are to see God's mission and his church flourish in the 21st Century. We need to re-understand what leadership, discipleship, evangelism and resourcing looks like in our era as we seek to live out God's mission in our communities." (From the Foreword by Dave Male). **\$19.75**

Sisters In Scripture: Evocations on biblical women, by Amelia Koh-Butler. "A beautiful and at times disturbing array of poems, monologues and prayers giving voice to the joy, pain and struggles of women throughout the Bible." A collection not designed with scholarship in mind, but to provoke further thinking in worship or personal reflection. **\$16.45**

Beholding the Cross: Six studies on the meaning of the cross in our time, by Philip Gardner. With an interest in the rich theologies of the cross and resurrection the author's hope is that we should all discover "the fullness of the love of God for us, the extraordinary God at work, and gain a glimpse of God's purpose for creation and for us." **\$11.95**

The Sanctuary For Lent 2018, by Katie Z Dawson. For reflection on every day of Lent, with a brief scripture reading, a devotion and a prayer. **\$2.10**

Ten Minute Easter Activity Book, by Bethan James and Heather Stuart. An activity book based on the stories of the last week in the life of Jesus, and what happened afterwards. Ideal for an Easter holiday activity at church or home. **\$8.45**

All plus postage and packing if not picked up in person.



Calendar of Events

For more information on these events visit

unitingchurchwa.org.au/media-events/events

Day/Date	Time	Details
Thursday 1 March	6.30 - 8.00pm	Alpha Course at Carramar Uniting Church.
Friday 2 March		World Day of Prayer.
Saturday 3 March	2.00pm	Ordination Service for Sophie Lizares at Willetton Uniting Church.
Sunday 4 March	2.00pm	Induction Service for Rev David Kriel at Trinity North Uniting Church at St Stephen's School Duncraig.
Sunday 4 March	7.30 - 9.00pm	Lenten series with Emeritus Prof Bill Loader: The Bible and history at Wembley Downs Uniting Church.
Monday 5 March		Labour Day public holiday.
Thursday 8 March		International Women's Day.
Thursday 8 March	6.30 - 8.00pm	Alpha Course at Carramar Uniting Church.
Friday 9 March		Scotch College Open Day.
Friday 9 March	9.00am	Induction Service for Sophie Lizares as Chaplain at UnitingCare West, 16 Sunbury Rd Victoria Park.
Saturday 10– Sunday 11 March		Kids Camp Out (KCO) at Advent Park, Maida Vale.
Sunday 11 March	7.30 - 9.00pm	Lenten series with Emeritus Prof Bill Loader: Jesus and the adulation of power at Wembley Downs Uniting Church.
Monday 12 March	4.30 - 6.30pm	Farewell for Emeritus Prof Bill Loader at the Murdoch University Worship Centre.
Wednesday 14 March	9.30am - 4.30pm	Code of Ethics Overview at The Billabong, Canning Vale.
Thursday 15 March	9.30am - 4.30pm	The Basis of Union and the life of the church at The Billabong, Canning Vale.
Thursday 15 March	7.30 - 9.00pm	Who is my neighbour? Homosexuality and same sex marriage with Emeritus Prof Bill Loader at Mt Hawthorn St Peter and Emmaus Church.
Thursday 15 – Wednesday 21 March		Harmony Week.

If you are planning an event that would be of interest to other people in the Uniting Church community, let us know so we can put it in our calendar. We would also encourage you to contact us during your planning so you can check what other people are doing to avoid diary conflicts.