

# STRATEGY AND MISSION PLANNING COMMITTEE

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Since the submission of our last 2017 Annual Report to the Presbytery of Western Australia, the Strategy and Mission Planning Committee has endeavoured to fulfil our responsibilities under the Rules of the Presbytery.

P4.6.4 The purpose of the Committee is to serve the Presbytery by:

- a. providing inspiration, resourcing, oversight and guidance to the Uniting Church in WA in order to enable and encourage the Presbytery, congregations, faith communities and other church bodies to discern theologically and engage strategically in the Mission of God in their communities.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

P4.6.5 The responsibilities of the Committees are:

- a. assisting congregations, faith communities and other church bodies to develop intentional intergenerational missional communities;
- b. sourcing and developing, or adapting appropriate training and resources (in collaboration with CEDAL) to enable greater participation by congregations, faith communities and other church bodies in the Mission of God in their communities, or locations;
- c. conducting (when necessary, or requested) in collaboration with the Pastoral Relations Committee a Mission Study in congregations, faith communities and other church bodies;
- d. actively participating in national and international mission-focused forums and sharing the knowledge garnered from such participation throughout the Presbytery; and
- e. assisting the Presbytery in the development of short-term (3 years) and long-term (5+ years) mission-focused strategies and goals.

This work has been undertaken through the lens of the four strategic directions of our Presbytery / Synod and is evidenced below:

- a. ***developing a culture of open communication*** demonstrated by invitations to the 8 committees of the Presbytery to engage with us in at 3 gatherings so that together we could fulfil our responsibilities under the rules which direct our work to discern and deliver the Mission Focused Goals – which were brought to the February meeting;
- b. ***promoting a culture of faith formation and faith sharing*** in the roll out of the Mission Shaped Ministry course in 2017 and 2018 which re-introduces people to faith sharing and the purposes of being church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century; and

- c. *developing and promoting relevant training and leadership development resources, programs and projects*, by our working with the Commission for Education Discipleship and Leadership in the roll out of Mission Shaped Ministry in Perth for 2018 and then more broadly across the Presbytery in 2019 and 2020, and
- d. *increasing the church's capacity for community engagement* evidenced by the work the committee is presently undertaking in re-shaping our Mission Grants so that they strategically support and relate to the Mission Focused Goals adopted by the Presbytery in February 2018.

Our committee will continue to deliberately create opportunities for collaboration with the other 7 Presbytery Committees so that together we can use our resources of people, time, skills and funds more efficiently to share the gospel and grow our church.

For those who may not have been part of the unanimous decision of the Presbytery in February, we take this opportunity to remind you of the decisions we made together regarding our mission focused goals:

1. *That Presbytery of Western Australia request each Community of Faith / Congregation, Church Council, agencies, and committees meeting within the Presbytery to give the first portion of their agenda at every meeting to consideration of the ways in which their participation in the Mission of God is growing the church by:*
  - a. *developing Fresh Expressions of Church,*
  - b. *deliberate, wise and prayerful mission planning and community outreach*
  - c. *working to be part of and create Collaborative Networks of Faith Communities.*
2. *That Presbytery of Western Australia note that SMPC in collaboration with CEDAL will do all it can between now and 2020 to encourage and support Communities of Faith, Congregations, Church Councils, agencies and committees within the Presbytery to:*
  - a. *invite all Ministry Agents, Church Councilors and interested members to complete the Mission Shaped Ministry Course*
  - b. *aim to have 80% of our Faith Communities/Congregations/Agencies in the Presbytery to have developed one or more Fresh Expressions of Church*
  - c. *support all Faith Communities, Congregations, Agencies and Committees within the Presbytery to have completed and implemented Mission Plans including the ways that they are reaching out into the community.*
  - d. *work with the Council for Mission in establishing at least 4 creative collaborative networks of communities of faith.*

In response to the decision of the Presbytery in February this year, the committee resolved to bring to conclusion the present Mission Grants which in the main pay for a ministry agents at the end of 2018.

The committee is presently developing future budgets which will see funds made available to assist ministers and church councilors to undertake the Mission Shaped Ministry Course, to be supported post MSM Courses with specialist Mission Coaching, to undertake Strategic Mission Planning, to give small grants to congregations and faith communities who are

trying Fresh Expressions of Church as a further encouragement to 'have a go;' and to enable ongoing training for future leaders in Fresh Expressions and Mission Shaped Ministry. We are hopeful this will be ready for adoption in August.

The committee has also engaged the services of Rev Canon Dave Male, from the Anglican Church in the UK to work with our committee and with members of CEDAL in the week following Synod to further develop joint resources for Pioneer Ministry Training and Support, Mission Coaching and to help us review our progress in the development of our Mission Focussed Strategic Goals.

Three members of the committee are also working on developing a 'theology of resources and property' for our Presbytery. This document is based on work done in other Presbytery's and Synods, but shaped to reflect our structures and geography own and plan to have this ready for sharing in July/August.

The Committee continues to work closely with the Pastoral Relations Committee as we have jointly conducted Life and Witness Consultations in Augusta/Margaret River Uniting Churches; at Carramar Uniting Church and later this year we will work together in Busselton Parish. We have also requested that a representative of the Presbytery Property Committee also be part of every future Life and Witness Consultation so that a more collaborative and cohesive approach can be offered to our congregations and faith communities.

We have invited the Director for Education Rev Dr John Squires to work with us to develop an education resource for training people to engage in this important ministry of Life and Witness Consultations and hope to see this rolled out in 2019 and 2020.

The Committee wishes to place on record its deep thanks for the way in which the congregation of Swanbourne heard the call of the Spirit for new mission and ministry opportunities and so gave beneficial ownership of their property and funds for alternative mission to the Presbytery.

As the Presbytery will know, Rev David Kriel accepted a call to be the minister of the Trinity North congregation from 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2018. The committee expresses its thanks to the Pastoral Relations Committee and Placements Commission and to members of the Joint Nominating Committee for their work in calling a new Presbytery Minister (Mission). At the time of writing the name of the person was not yet available, but we hope to be able to make a very exciting announcement in due course with a view to them starting ministry with us from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2018.

The Committee again wishes to place on record its sincere thanks for the service provided by P.A. to the Mission Planner, Ms Alice Boomer, as Minute Secretary and enabler of many practical tasks in preparation for and follow up from each meeting, including the ministry of hospitality.

We also wish to place on record our thanks to:

- Rev Dr Ian Tozer for his wisdom and insight into the polity and practice of the Uniting Church in Australia

- Rev David Kriel for his years of service, inspiration and enthusiasm as Mission Planner for the UCA in WA
- Rev Mark Illingworth for his collaborative approach to ministry across Presbytery Committees to enable collaborative resourcing and supporting of congregations and communities of faith in his roll first as Pastoral Worker and then as Placements Co-ordinator for the Presbytery

As Chairperson I have been privileged to serve with such hard-working committee members. At almost every meeting each member is sent away with tasks to undertake that enable us to fulfil our responsibilities and play our part in supporting congregations and faith communities to grow their congregations in new and different ways.

The following persons have served the Committee:

Ms Alice Boomer	(Minute Secretary)
Rev Narelle Collas	Elected 2016 for 1 year, elected 2017 for 1 year
Rev Mark Illingworth	(Pastoral Relations and Placements) concluded 31 April 2018
Rev David Kriel	(Staff – Mission Planner – concluded Jan 2018)
Rev John McKane	Elected 2016 for 3 years
Rev Greg Ross	(Chairperson) Elected for 3 years in 2016
Mr Andrew Stokes	Elected 2016 for 2 years
Rev Stephen van Schalkwyk	Elected in 2017 for 2 years
Rev Dr Ian Tozer	Deputy General Secretary and Presbytery Secretary ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Mrs Yuko Tonai-Moore	Elected 2016 for 3 years