

# CANDIDATES FOR MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

### Membership

- Moira Mathie (Chair)
- Rev Dr John Squires (Principal PTH)
- Rev Bev Fabb (Chair, CEDAL)
- Elected by Presbytery-, Rev Dr Alison Longworth, Rev Gary van Heerden, Mr Neil Warne.
- Co-opted, Rev Alistair Melville
- Rev Dr Ian Tozer, later replaced by Rev John McKane (Secretary of Presbytery)

The Committee thanks Rev Anne McAndrew for her services to the Committee and her willingness to mentor the new Chair and Rev Dr Ian Tozer whose knowledge will be missed... The Committee regrets that Rev Dr Alison Longworth and Mr Neil Warne have decided not to renominate.

### Culture of Call

As part of our responsibility for promoting the call to specified ministries, for the last three years we have held a service for the commencement of the academic year for Perth Theological Hall, with an open invitation to the whole church. This year it was combined with the induction service for Rev Dr Anne Wright and Rev Emma Matthews as Presbytery Ministers – Formation and Discipleship. This service was again well attended by the wider church and, hopefully, a greater awareness of ministry opportunities was gained. Whenever anyone feels a call or is tapped on the shoulder to explore a call, to a specified ministry, they enter a Period of Discernment. CMC has responsibility for them from that moment. The process is outlined in the PoD handbook which can be accessed at [unitingchurchwa.org.au/careers/candidating-for-ministry](http://unitingchurchwa.org.au/careers/candidating-for-ministry). An article in Revive (Issue 59, April 2018) written by Heather Dowling details the observations of Sione Leaaetoa on PoD. This is also available on Facebook.

### Period of Discernment (POD)

There are currently 11 people participating in a Period of Discernment.

- Auya Auya (Owen) - Armadale-Kelmscott
- Reuben Edmonds- Star Street, Carlisle
- Kotoni Latu – Scarborough
- Ana Lea'aetoa- Scarborough
- Louise Powell – Carramar
- Olivia Sina- Beth Shalom
- Alana Moorman – Northcliffe
- Joji Soqoiwasa – Crossways Wanneroo
- Trevor Thomas – Pinjarra
- Nathaniel Taylor – Fremantle

- Megan Sutherland – All Saints, Floreat

Three people, Julie Ridden, Pamela Crass and Sione Lea'eatoa have completed their PoD in the last year and a certificate of completion has been presented to each of them. Julie Ridden and Pamela Crass have discerned a call to become Pastors and Sione has been accepted as a candidate to become a Minister of the Word.

A one day retreat was held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> at Kalamunda Uniting Church. The attendees included Six PoD candidates, two Candidates for Ordained Ministries, five Faculty members of Perth Theological Hall and members of CMC. The retreat was facilitated by Rev Gordon Scantlebury and was an enriching, reflective and discerning experience. CMC, CEDAL and PTH plan on this being an annual event.

Normally it takes 12-18 months to complete a POD which involves studies in ministry and mission, theology and Biblical studies, ministry practice, study of the theology and polity of the UCA, and deepening spirituality. It is anticipated that we will have applicants for Selection Panel in 2018. Applications for candidature close on 31 July 2018.

## **Candidates for Ordained Ministries**

Currently the Presbytery of WA has two candidates in PTH. Sione Lea'aetoa (MOW) is in first year and Paul Montague (MOW) is in third year. CMC is currently in discussion with Congress about how it can share in oversight of formation of Mitchell Garlett (a Congress candidate)

CMC maintains regular contact with all candidates, participates in their Formation Panels and regularly assesses their progress towards ordination. CMC appreciates the close working relationship it has with CEDAL and the staff of PTH with whom it shares oversight of candidates.

Sophie Lizares (Deacon) was ordained at Willetton Uniting Church on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018. Justine Wall (MOW) was ordained at Wesley Church Perth on July 9<sup>th</sup> 2017 and Claire Pickering (MOW) was ordained at Bicton Uniting Church on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017.

## **Lay Preacher Candidates**

There are currently two candidates for Lay Preacher, John van den Berg (Kardinya) and Jing Tih Hsieh (Nedlands).

## **CMC Rules**

The reception of ministers from other denominations is no longer the responsibility of CMC. The rules have been amended.

## **CMC Promotion**

CMC, with assistance from the staff of Revive, is actively promoting and advertising Period of Discernments. CMC does have a need for more trained mentors and committee members.