

# PRESBYTERY OF WA

## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE (\*PRC)

### REPORT TO PRESBYTERY MEETING – 3 AUGUST 2019



#### MEMBERSHIP

- Rev Dr Ian Tozer (Chairperson - from 1 August 2019)
- Rev Alan Jeffrey (PRC Coordinator – from 1 August 2019) – Non-voting
- Rev John Barendrecht (PRC Coordinator – until 31 July 2019) – Non-voting
- Rev Marie Wilson
- Rev Ivan Clark
- Sue Whitworth
- Rev Lorraine Stokes
- Rev Andrew Morris
- John Boon
- Anne Calverley – co-opted
- Amanda Badenhorst (Minute Secretary) – Non-voting
- Visitor – Bob Hunt (Chair of Presbytery) – Non-voting
- Visitor – Janine McDonald (Uniting Generations) – Non-voting
- Visitor – Rev Alison Gilchrist (Thrive Mission) – Non-voting

We welcome our new members to the Committee, Bob Hunt as Chair of Presbytery, Rev Alan Jeffrey as Presbytery Minister (Pastoral) and Rev Dr Ian Tozer as Chair of the Pastoral Relations Committee (\*PRC), Rev Lorraine Stokes, Sue Whitworth and Rev Ivan Clark.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Rev Trevor Waters for his leadership as Chair of the PRC over the past few years. Trevor's steady hand, gentle pastoral heart and balanced wisdom have been a vital ingredient in our deliberations as a Committee. We also thank Rev Janelle Macgregor, who has recently resigned as a co-opted member of the PRC, for all her invaluable advice, opinions, gifts and skills which she brought to our Committee.

The PRC is a statutory part of the Presbytery of WA. It is therefore vital in enabling ministers, ministry agents, congregations and faith communities to fulfil the mission of God within the UCA in WA. It's role is defined in the Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Since our last report, the PRC has been active on a range of issues.

#### **1. Life and Witness (\*L&W) training**

We have trained 14 people in L&W consultation leadership. We are using new documents in doing L&W consultations. These documents are adapted from similar documents in other Synods, and allow for more involvement by congregational members. They also call for a more thorough understanding of the state of their property and their missional direction. A L&W consultation normally occurs at a time when a change in placement happens. At such a time, a member of the consultation team, appointed by the PRC, will make contact with the church council to find a time when they can discuss the process of L&W before proceeding with the consultation.

**2. Beyond 10 year consultation**

The consultation team have completed their report and we thank Yvonne Robinson and Geoff Ebell for their thoroughness. The report and proposal will now be dealt with on the floor of the Presbytery.

**3. Vitality of Call consultation**

Having completed three years as the chaplain at Penrhos College from 1 June 2016 to 31 May 2019, a review was held with Rev Claire Pickering, which included conversations with Claire, the Principal of the school, the Manager of Penrhos Human Resources Department and Rev John Barendrecht. Claire is carrying out a vital ministry at Penrhos as was attested by the Principal and HR Manager and therefore the college were more than willing to extend her contract from 1 June 2019.

**4. Same-Sex Marriage (SSM) Pastoral contact**

Rev Emma Matthews has resigned as a pastoral contact for Same Sex Marriage issues that congregations and clergy may have. However the PRC informs the Presbytery that Rev Corina van Oostende is still continuing as a contact person.

**5. Actions taken / approved by the PRC since the last Presbytery meeting in May 2019:**

5.1 Placements filled

- 5.1.1 St Peter & Emmaus have issued a call and we are awaiting a response.
- 5.1.2 A call to Presbytery Minister (Pastoral) has been accepted by Rev Alan Jeffrey who will commence in this placement on 1 August 2019.
- 5.1.3 A call to Presbytery Minister (Commission for Education for Discipleship & Leadership)(\*CEDAL) has been accepted by Rev Narelle Collas and will commence 1 August 2019.
- 5.1.4 Rev Andrew Syme has been appointed as Executive Officer: Schools and Residential Colleges Consultant in the Church Office for the period 1 February 2019 – 31 January 2022;

5.2 Supply and Supply Extensions

- 5.2.1 Rev Frances Hadfield's supply at Uniting Church in the City (\*UCIC) has been extended from 1 June 2019 – 31 August 2019;
- 5.2.2 Rev John Barendrecht's supply as the PRC Coordinator has been extended from 1 June 2019 to 31 July 2019;
- 5.2.3 Rev Gordon Scantlebury's supply with the Rural Ministry has been extended from 1 August 2019 – 31 December 2019;
- 5.2.4 Ps Marilyn Price's placement as Prison Chaplain has been extended from 1 August 2019 – 31 July 2020;
- 5.2.5 Gail Wynne's placement as Prison Chaplain has been extended from 1 August 2019 – 31 July 2020;
- 5.2.6 Rev Floss and John Atkinson will be offering 0.5FTE supply at Willetton Uniting Church for a 13 week period from 3 August 2019 – 3 November 2019.
- 5.2.7 Rev Janelle MacGregor is in supply with Rowethorpe until 31 December 2019;
- 5.2.8 Rev Peter Johnston will be offering supply to South Perth, dates pending.

5.2.9 Rev Sonny Rajamoney is in supply at St Peter & Emmaus from 1 March 2019, with the end date still under negotiations.

5.3 PRC reps to Placements Commission (\*PC): John Boon and Rev Ivan Clark

5.4 PRC Co-option: Anne Calverley

5.5 Resignation from current placement:

5.5.1 Rev Emma Matthews has resigned from her placement as Presbytery Minister (CEDAL, 0.5FTE) and her last working day will be 23 October 2019.

5.5.2 Gail Wynne has resigned from her Chaplaincy Role at Boronia Women's Prison, Banksia Hill Youth Detention Centre, Woorolo Prison and Bandyup Prison with effect from 29 July 2019.

5.6 Retirement:

5.6.1 Rev Ruth Vertigan has retired, her last working day was 12 June 2019.

5.6.2 Rev Lesley deGrussa has given notice of her retirement - final date 29 February 2020.

5.6.3 Rev Lorraine Stokes has given notice of her retirement – final date 1 July 2020.

5.6.4 Rev David Tressler has given notice of his retirement – final date 12 March 2020.

5.7 L&W in progress/pending/completed

5.7.1 Wellington Regional Mission – completed – Beyond 10 year extension proposal submitted to 3 August 2019 Presbytery Meeting.

5.7.2 St Andrews - pending

5.7.3 UCIC – pending

5.7.4 Beldon-Iluka – in progress

5.7.5 Carramar – pending

5.7.6 South Perth – pending

5.7.7 Kalamunda/Foothills – in progress, nearing completion.

5.8 Congregation Closures

5.8.1 Melville Uniting Church - Final service was held 30 June 2019. The PRC have been advised that members have been issued forms to transfer their membership to other congregations of their choice.

5.8.2 Collanilling Uniting Church - Final service was held on 28 April 2019. All members have been transferred to the Wagin congregation.

With the changes in the social context in which the church finds itself, the Pastoral Relations Committee acknowledges the importance of setting priorities and knows that making sure there is good pastoral support, it is fulfilling a vital role in the process.

*Mover: Rev John Barendrecht*  
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