



Uniting Church Adult Fellowship (UCAF)

<i>Chairperson</i>	Helen McMillan
<i>Staff appointed by General Secretary</i>	Rev Mark Illingworth
<i>UC Mission Fellowship</i>	Anne Steed
<i>Members elected by Synod</i>	Gillian Muir (Vice President)
	Robert (Bob) Nicholls (Treasurer)
	Aladina Foster (Acting Secretary)
	Marcia Nicholls (NC Corresponding Member)
	Kerry Dunn
	Kay Lockley (Greeting Coordinator)
	Ray Foster
	Lynette Donald
	Rev Lorna Atkins
	Margaret Knight
<i>Staff appointed by General Secretary</i>	Maree Kemp (Synod Liaison)

1. REPORT TO SYNOD

During the last 2 years we have held our Annual Fellowship Day and Annual General Meeting on the Friday prior to Synod, hoping this may enable folk coming to Synod, particularly from the country to attend. In 2018 Fellowship Day was held at the Billabong Uniting Church Centre in Canning Vale; Lindsay Wolfe, former Chairperson of the Juniper Board was our guest speaker.

At the AGM we welcomed 3 new members to the Committee - Lyn Donald, Lorna Atkins, and Margaret Knight; and Gill Muir returned after a one year absence (Synod By-Laws requirement).

Our monthly meetings are held in the Ron Wilson Room at the Synod Centre on the 1st Friday of each month from February to November, with the exception being March. We meet on an alternative day in March as World Day of Prayer is always on 1st Friday when we meet with other Churches in the community.

2. COMMITTEE

Thanks to the members of the Committee for their faithful work throughout the year. Particular thanks to Aladina Foster in her joint role as Newslink Editor and acting Secretary; and Treasurer Bob Nicholls who looks after our finances. To Marcia Nicholls who receives correspondence from the National Committee and other State UCAF Committees, and Kay Lockley (corresponding member) who sends greetings to people turning 90 years old within our Congregations; 16 cards have been sent in the last 12 months.

3. THREE YEAR PLAN

We reviewed our plan and By Laws at the beginning of the year. We collected a range of information, about the number and variety of groups in our Church, from the survey conducted of the Congregations last year. We shared this information with the General Secretary, Rev David de Kock. At Fellowship Day last year and again this year groups were invited to share information and display some of their work and activities. For example, Trevor from Pinjarra shared the history of the Pinjarra (ecumenical) Community Kitchen with photographs of their activities, Lorna Atkins has been making telephone contact with various groups and sharing the information at our meetings. Lorna has been excited by what she has learnt about the life of the Church, particularly in country areas.



4. NEWSLINK

Four editions of Newslink are distributed each year. Aladina Foster works really hard to make the content up to date and interesting; and encourages the committee and groups to share news and stories and photographs. We are always delighted to receive news from groups like Dongara and Swan View Fellowships; and to share a story e.g. the Papuan students visit to Dongara.

Each congregation receives at least one copy of Newslink to share with their members. They can request more.

We appreciate the support of the Synod staff. Media and Communication publish the Newslink. We would particularly like to acknowledge and thank Andy Reavell for his generous support over the years. We were very concerned by the changes taking place in Media and Communications announced at the end of 2018 as Newslink is a vital link with Fellowship groups in the Synod. The General Secretary assured us Newslink would continue with support from the Synod. The August 2019 issue will be the first produced under the new arrangements.

5. DONATIONS

UCAF has not levied affiliation fees in recent years, but have invited fellowships to make donations to cover our ongoing expenses such as the production of Newslink, fees to the National Committee (their only source of finance), postage, etc Thank you to those individuals and groups who have sent in donations.

6. MISSION FELLOWSHIP

Anne Steed is the representative from Mission Fellowship on the UCAF Committee. Anne keeps us informed of the activities of the group. Mission Fellowship do a wonderful job keeping people informed of work within and beyond our Church. They work hard collecting used stamps and albums, also ice cream containers which are sold to support the work of Frontier Services and the Bush Chaplains in WA. The 'Stampers group' meets at Bicton Church each Wednesday (except 3rd Wednesday) to trim, sort, and pack stamps, some of which are collected and trimmed by groups and individuals within our congregations. Bob Lockley organises, and prepares the stamps and ice cream containers for sale. Thank you, Bob for all your work. Over \$20,000 has been raised since the group formed in 2015. Mission Fellowship meet each 3rd Wednesday at Wesley Church Perth. A variety of speakers share stories of mission activities both at home and abroad. This year speakers have included Street Chaplaincy in Perth and Fremantle on Friday and Saturday nights supporting young people; recycling and the environment; Bali, and Frontier Services Pilbara Patrol. While the Fellowship is only a small group a donation is given to the speaker's organisation.

7. NATIONAL UCAF COMMITTEE

South Australia is the current National Committee. Nationally UCAF is undergoing a major restructure as agreed at the Consultation meeting in Tasmania in May 2018. The SA Committee and the Chairperson and Secretary of the Vic/Tas past National committee have agreed to draft new Working Procedures. As an Assembly committee a draft mandate has been circulated to all State committees for comments and questions, then sent to Assembly for their input. It has now received approval from the Assembly General Secretary.

The next UCAF National Celebration is being held at West Beach, SA. from 29 April to 3 May 2020. WA UCAF are planning a visit from the National Chairperson in September 2020.

The National Committee with UCAF members from their State have prepared 'Your Word Lights the Way', a book of devotions based on the Lectionary Gospel readings from Pentecost 2018 to Pentecost 2019 Synod of the Uniting Church in Western Australia

2021. The money raised will support the National Projects: Frontier Services Ministries and scholarships through Uniting World for theological training for women from the Pacific nations.

The Joan Stott Bursary for students under 35 years of age who are studying leadership or theology within the ethos of the Uniting Church is offered each year through the National Committee. Nominations are invited from each State Committee with the selection by the National Committee. There were no nominations from WA.

8. AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Gill Muir is the current President of this WA ecumenical group. A retreat day was held at St Hilda's Anglican Church, North Perth in April. Their Fellowship Day was held at Maylands Uniting Church in July when the recipient of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, established to support young women training for ministry, was announced. This year it has been awarded to a woman from Fiji. The offerings at this meeting go to a group/organisation in Australia to support their mission work.

World Community Day is held in October when fellowship groups bring their 'Least Coin' offerings which support an organisation selected by the Board of Trustees.

During the year long time member Meryon Goode died. Meryon represented the Anglican Church. Meryon and her late husband were former Uniting Church members.

9. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN WA

UCAF is an affiliated member of NCWWA; Helen McMillan represents UCAF. NCW has members from a variety of community groups both secular and religious who are concerned for, and lobby the government, concerning the welfare of women, children, and families. Monthly meetings are held in Perth, but this year with public holidays and the WA President also being the National President there have been changes. A variety of speakers share information at the meetings including CEO of COTA, Citizens Advice Bureau, Technology Scams. The various committees bring proposals on a variety of subjects of concern to the meetings.

Bursaries are offered during the year. The STEM bursary (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) is offered to young women studying in these areas; Paddy Firstenberg Memorial Award to a woman who has demonstrated leadership in industry, business, or community services.

We give thanks to God for the fellowship we have shared with individuals, groups, and the committee and we seek His guidance in the coming year.

Helen McMillan
Chairperson
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