

A charge  
to keep



31st  
Queensland  
Synod

Minutes

Alexandra Park Conference Centre  
Moderator Rev David Baker | General Secretary Rev John Cox

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**THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA  
Thirty-First Queensland Synod**

*[Roll as approved on 11.10.14 at 8.24pm]*

**Regulation 3.3.7 (a)(i)**

**Assembly Ex-Officio**

Rev Dr Andrew Dutney  
Rev Terence Corkin

**Regulation 3.3.7 (a)(ii) and By-Law Q1.1.3**

**Synod Ex-Officio**

**Ministers**

Rev David Baker  
Rev Mark Cornford  
Rev John Cox  
Rev Andrew Gunton  
Rev Peter Lockhart  
Rev David MacGregor  
Rev Kaye Ronalds

**Lay Members**

Mr Craig Barke  
Mr Peter Burden  
Ms Anne Cross  
Dr Aaron Ghiloni  
Mr Scott Guyatt  
Mr Andrew McBryde  
Mr Robert Packer  
Mrs Elaine Rae

**Regulations 3.3.7 (a)(iii) & (iv) and Synod Standing Committee Res. 14.016 & 14.017**

**THE PRESBYTERIES**

**Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane**

**Ministers**

Rev Peter Arnett  
Rev Craig Batty  
Rev Di Bos  
Rev Lin Chew  
Rev Heather den Houting  
Rev Jeanette Gillam  
Rev Heather Griffin  
Rev Ann Hewson  
Rev Kath Hobson  
Rev Peter Hobson  
Rev Brian Kickbusch  
Rev Euan McDonald  
Rev Josie Neuendorff  
Rev Dr Elizabeth Nolan  
Rev Russell Reynoldson  
Rev Ian Smallbone  
Rev Costa Stathakis

**Lay Members**

Mr Robert Bennett  
Mr John Braithwaite  
Mr Doug Brecknell  
Mrs Jenny Brecknell  
Mrs Lyn Campbell  
Mrs Janice Charles  
Mr Ray Crompton  
Mr Paul de Sauty  
Mrs Shirley Doyle  
Mr Simon Gomersall  
Mr Peter Hall  
Mrs Pauline Hall  
Dr Marilyn Healy  
Ms Iris Marais  
Mr Jensen Nydall  
Mr Greg Raeside  
Mr Noel Rothery  
Dr John Roulston AM  
Mr Glen Schweitzer  
Mr Ian Scorgie  
Mr Ron Shaw

Mrs Catherine Solomon  
Mr Andrew Solomon  
Ms Janet Staines  
Mr Will Stewart  
Mr Harry Thompson  
Mrs Jan Thompson  
Mrs Helen Winter

### **Presbytery of Calvary**

#### **Ministers**

Rev John Adams  
Rev Dennis Corowa  
Rev Saimoni Davui

#### **Lay Members**

Mr Jekesoni Cakobau  
Mr Lloyd Hollingsworth  
Mr Ben Johnson  
Ms Marda Pitt  
Ms Sheila Pootchemunka  
Ms Ellen Roughsey  
Ms Louise Thomas  
Ms Nazareth Wapau  
Mr Palmer Wapau  
Mr Herbert Yunkaporta

### **Presbytery of Central Queensland**

#### **Ministers**

Rev Scott Ballment  
Rev Jenny Coombes  
Rev Brian Gilbert  
Rev Glenn Louttit  
Rev Wayne McHugh  
Rev Suzy Sitton  
Rev Allan Smith  
Rev Stanley Tuilovoni  
Rev Arthur Tutin

#### **Lay Members**

Ms Laura Brown  
Mr Gavin Caird  
Mr Peter Coombes  
Mrs Philipa Core  
Mrs Caroline Holmes  
Mr Brendan Hooper  
Mr David Horton  
Mrs Donna Muston  
Ms Andrea Payne

### **Presbytery of Mary Burnett**

#### **Ministers**

Rev Sione Afu  
Rev Pam Batson  
Rev Lloyd Beynon  
Rev Kate Dix  
Rev David Fanning  
Rev Dr David Ferguson  
Rev Dr Hedley Fihaki  
Rev Andrew Fox  
Rev Leonie Gaffel  
Rev Bob Harriman  
Rev Brian Hoole  
Rev Russell Morris  
Rev Brian Nagel  
Rev Ray Nutley

#### **Lay Members**

Ms Fay Barton  
Mr Peter Callaghan  
Mrs Sylvia Douglas  
Mrs Susan Fanning  
Mr Alan Gillespie  
Mr Graham Huth  
Mr Trevor Huth  
Mrs Ann Huth  
Mrs Janet Korknobbel  
Mrs Maryan McGown  
Mrs Barbara Murray  
Mr Rollo Nicholson  
Ms Margaret Niethé  
Mrs Wendy O'Hara

Rev Robin Osborne  
Rev Schalk Pienaar  
Rev Jan Rossow  
Rev James Stevenson  
Rev Peter Taubner  
Rev Dave Thomas

Mr Murray Robertson  
Ms Rona Sandilands  
Mr Phil Smith  
Mrs Helen Staines  
Dr Lloyd Walker  
Mrs Sally Wells  
Mrs Lenelle Wendt  
Mrs Joan Whitmore  
Mrs Ruth Wishart

## **Presbytery of Moreton Rivers**

### **Ministers**

Rev Peter Armstrong  
Rev Lyn Burden  
Rev Suzie Castle  
Rev Paul Clark  
Rev Harlee Cooper  
Rev John Dansie  
Rev Rod Fisher  
Rev Anne Hulbert  
Rev Bruce Johnson  
Rev Subramaniam Manopavan  
Rev Monique Mawbey  
Rev Yvonne McRostie  
Rev Maile Molitika  
Rev Glenn Mulcahy  
Rev Fa Ngaluafe  
Rev Leva Pat  
Rev John Ruhle  
Rev Dr Wendi Sargeant  
Rev Keren Seto  
Rev Dan Skippen  
Rev Louis Van Laar

### **Lay Members**

Mr Greg Adsett  
Mr Philip Anquetil  
Mrs Helen Barnard  
Mr Chris Barnard  
Mr Errol Barnett  
Mr Nathan Barton  
Mr Geoff Batkin  
Mrs Leonie Bridges  
Mr Robson Brunt  
Mrs Margaret Buchanan  
Mr Graham Clarke  
Mrs Jennifer Claydon  
Mrs Rhona Collinson  
Mr Peter Cranna  
Dr Ken Davidson  
Mr Terry Edwinsmith  
Mrs Iris Gillingham  
Mr Dave Greig  
Mrs Wendy Keeble  
Mrs Glen Lang  
Mrs Heather Lye  
Miss Grace Lye  
Mrs Lynelle McDonald  
Mr Scott McDonald  
Mr Joe Packer  
Ms Margaret Pollock  
Mrs Terrie Seymour  
Mrs Beatriz Skippen  
Mr Adam Stanway  
Mr Terry Stanyer  
Mrs Julie Thomas  
Mr Howard Thomas  
Ms Elaine Unkles

## **Presbytery of North Queensland**

### **Ministers**

Rev Christy Allen  
Rev Peter Blauw  
Rev Russell Clark  
Rev Bruce Cornish  
Rev Barry Cox  
Rev Mark Dewar  
Rev David Ellis  
Rev Doug Foster  
Rev Garry Hardingham  
Rev Anne Harley  
Rev Shane Kammermann  
Rev Jim Pearson  
Rev Greg Rankin  
Rev Luke Smallwood  
Rev Ron Watson  
Rev Young Hun Weon

### **Lay Members**

Mrs Jan Bryde  
Mrs Sharyn Burmeister  
Mr Travis Cauchi  
Mrs Michelle Cullen  
Mrs Marie Dewar  
Mrs Janette Ellis  
Mr Rod Faddy  
Mr John Fifita  
Mr Greg Fraser  
Mrs Iris Hall  
Mr Richard Hosking  
Mr Bevan Lobley  
Mrs Helen Mitchell  
Mr Ian Ness  
Mr Ian Savage

## **Presbytery of South Moreton**

### **Ministers**

Rev Orrell Battersby  
Rev Lek Branjerdporn  
Rev Jenny Busch  
Rev Stu Cameron  
Rev Helen Dick  
Rev Peter Elliott  
Rev Bradley Foote  
Rev Trevor Gibson  
Rev Lynne Gibson  
Rev Linda Hamill  
Rev Graham Keech  
Rev Harold Kilah  
Rev Russell Knight  
Rev Dr David Mackay-Rankin  
Rev Viliami Mila  
Rev Bob Miles  
Rev Leo Newell  
Rev Beth Nicholls  
Rev Ian Proctor  
Rev Tim Robinson  
Rev Alan Robinson  
Rev Andrew Ross  
Rev Stephen Rothery  
Rev Lu Senituli  
Rev Peter Smale  
Rev Dona Spencer  
Rev Mel Wheeley  
Rev Ian Wilson

### **Lay Members**

Dr Gewa Au  
Mr Neil Ballment  
Ms Julia Barker  
Mrs Jane Bell  
Ms Heather Buchanan  
Mr David Busch  
Ms Wendy Campbell  
Mrs Jenny Clapham  
Ms Jan Drury  
Mr Rodney Eivers  
Mr Lynton Foulkes  
Mr Matt Gees  
Mr Robert Gilliland  
Mr Con Graves  
Mr Graham Green  
Mr Geoff Hill  
Mr Jim Hohnke  
Mr Glyn Irving  
Ms Barbara Jones  
Mr Noah Kim  
Mr John Lister  
Mrs Noela Lister  
Ms Julie Mackay-Rankin  
Mr Mike Maher  
Mrs Allison McGaw  
Mrs Kerry Miles  
Mr Bill O'Neill  
Ms Heather Peall

Rev Dr Tim Winslade  
Rev Dr Marian Zaunbrecher

Mr John Rae  
Mr Greg Rowe  
Mr Jon Rulton  
Mr Keith Schloss  
Ms Tricia Tschernez  
Mr John Waddell  
Mr Trent Wheeley

## **Presbytery of The Downs**

### **Ministers**

Rev Rob Callow  
Rev John Case  
Rev Andrew Gillies  
Rev David Graham  
Rev Tim Griggs  
Rev Marius Kruger  
Rev Bruce Raymond  
Rev Jenny Sims  
Rev Graham Slaughter  
Rev Fay Talatou

### **Lay Members**

Mr John Agnew  
Mrs Joy Agnew  
Mr David Angell  
Mrs Jodie Beitz  
Ms Barb Betts  
Mrs Avarell Cockfield  
Mrs Jenny Crossman  
Ms Pauline Denning  
Mrs Tricia Elliot  
Mr Gordon Gillmore  
Mr Iven Hewett  
Mrs Sharon Kirk  
Mrs Jenny Potter

## **Regulation 3.3.7 (a)(v) and By-Law Q1.1.4**

### **FIP Board**

Mr Bob Cambridge  
Mr Ralph Collins  
Mr Allan Hanson

### **Board for Christian Formation**

Rev Linda Hanson  
Mr Paula Hukehuke

### **UnitingCare Queensland Board**

Ms Colleen Geyer  
Rev Dr David Pitman

## **Regulation 3.3.7 (vii) & 3.3.7 (c) & (d) and By-Law Q1.1.6 (a) & (b)**

### **Co-options**

Mrs Caroline Foulkes  
Rev Jenny Tymms  
Mrs Carolyn Bennett

## **Regulation 3.3.7 (vi) and By-Law Q1.1.5**

### **Candidates**

Mr Aaron Moad  
Mr Adam Tipple

**THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA  
QUEENSLAND SYNOD**

**THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SYNOD**

**Held at**

**Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Alexandra Headlands, Queensland**

**10 October – 15 October 2014**

**The Constitution of the Synod**

- 14.01** At Unity College, 47 Lomond Crescent, Bellvista Estate, Caloundra West, at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 10 October 2014, the Uniting Church in Australia (Queensland Synod) met in worship during which the Moderator, the Rev David Baker, was inducted into office on behalf of the Synod by the Retiring Moderator, the Rev Kaye Ronalds, under the authority given by the Constitution and Regulations of The Uniting Church in Australia.

**Recognition of Traditional Custodians of the Land**

- 14.02** As part of the opening worship service, the Synod acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land on which the 31<sup>st</sup> Synod met and gave thanks for their stewardship. Rev Andrew Gunton provided a greeting on behalf of the Gubbi Gubbi people.

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.03** (a) Notes the appointment by the Synod Standing Committee of the members of the Business Committee and the authorisation of Synod Standing Committee to those members to make further appointments to the Business Committee -
- Rev Kaye Ronalds (The Moderator)  
Rev John Cox (The General Secretary)  
Rev David Baker (The Moderator-Elect)
- (b) Appoints Rev Brian Kickbusch as Convenor of the Business Committee; and
- (c) Authorises the Committee to co-opt other persons as necessary for specific business.
- 14.04** (a) Appoints Dr Michael Hewson as Convenor of the Facilitation Committee and authorises the Convenor to co-opt members for that Committee.
- (b) Appoints Rev Lyn Burden as Small Group Coordinator.
- 14.05** Appoints Ms Kellie Broderick and Mrs Ana Mila as Minutes Secretaries.
- 14.06** Appoints Mr Scott Guyatt as Convenor of the Ballot Committee and gives him authority to co-opt members for that Committee.
- 14.07** Appoints Rev Schalk Pienaar and Pastor Terrie Seymour as Pastoral Coordinators.

(14.03-14.07 CONSENSUS)

- 14.08** Determines that the Roll of the Synod be as tabled at the plenary session following lunch on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2014.  
(CONSENSUS)
- 14.09** Determines that unless otherwise agreed, the hours of session for the Synod shall be –
- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Friday, 10 October    | 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.  |
| Saturday, 11 October  | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.<br>2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.<br>7.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. |
| Sunday, 12 October    | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.<br>2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.                          |
| Monday, 13 October    | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.<br>2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.<br>7.15 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, 14 October   | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.<br>2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.<br>7.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. |
| Wednesday, 15 October | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.<br>1.45 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.                          |
- 14.10** Determines that the Bar of the House be defined as the numbered tables in the auditorium, unless numbered tables are not present, in which case the Bar of the House be defined as the auditorium.
- 14.11** Adopts the use of the procedures of *A Manual for Meetings in the Uniting Church (2001)*.
- 14.12** (a) Endorses the decision of the Business Committee that nominations to Boards, Commissions and Committees closed on 8 August 2014, except for the 14th Assembly nominations which closed on 15 September 2014.
- (b) Determines that the ballots will be held as determined by the Business Committee.
- 14.13** Determines that, unless otherwise resolved, appointments to membership of various Councils, Boards, Commissions and Committees, will be based on a simple majority and nominees must receive at least 50% of the votes to be elected.
- 14.14** Authorises the General Secretary to convey greetings on behalf of the Synod to other Synods within The Uniting Church in Australia.
- 14.15** Endorses the decision of the Business Committee that General Proposals were to be submitted by 5.00 pm. on 12 September 2014.  
(14.09 – 14.15 CONSENSUS)
- 14.16** Authorises the Moderator, General Secretary and the Business Committee Convenor to confirm the Minutes of the 31st Synod.  
(CONSENSUS)

## GREETINGS TO THE GOVERNMENT/S OF THE DAY

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.17** (a) Authorises the Moderator to convey a greeting to the State and Federal Governments.
- (b) Approves that the following matters considered by the Synod be incorporated into the greeting to the appropriate government:
- (i) Mental health
  - (ii) Recognition of Indigenous People in the Constitution
  - (iii) Sector change impacts in aged care, disability and contestability agenda
  - (iv) Slavery and people trafficking
  - (v) Respectful relationships of world religions
  - (vi) Bundaberg post-flood recovery
  - (vii) The building of community in master planned developments
  - (viii) Church's engagement with local schools
  - (ix) Building cross-cultural relationships
  - (x) Coal seam gas and the impact of mining
  - (xi) The work of the Royal Commission Into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

(CONSENSUS)

## ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.18** Associates the following visitors with this Synod –

Dr Michael Hewson, Convenor of Facilitation Committee

Mr Brendan McKeague, Guest Speaker for Norman & Mary Millar Lecture and Facilitator of Open Space Forum

Brooke Prentis for sharing the story of the cross

Rev Gregor Henderson and Ms Arda Aghazarian for Palestinian Christian & Peace Maker guest speaker

Ms Sandi Middleton from NEEN (Qld Regional Leader, National Energy Efficiency Network)

Heather Johnston, Pamela Davey, Marilyn Redlich and Peter Catt to assist with the facilitation of the Open Space Conversation

(CONSENSUS)

## MODERATOR'S REPORT

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.19** (a) Receives the Report of the Moderator.

(CONSENSUS)

- (b) Records its appreciation to Rev Kaye Ronalds, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Rev Bruce Johnson.

### **Minute of Appreciation, Rev Kaye Ronalds**

*Kaye Ronalds began her term as Moderator as the Queensland Synod was finding its feet after our disastrous financial crisis and Kaye asked us "Are we there yet?"*

*Kaye knew well that the journey we had begun would be long and challenging, requiring perseverance and clear sightedness and confidence in Jesus Christ. It was a journey that we were taking amidst the broader challenges facing all Christian Churches in Australia. Kaye wanted to remind us to extend our thinking so that our journey might embrace others so expanded our Synod theme to “Together on the Way – Enriching Community”. Kaye has urged us to never lose sight of the fact that Christ’s followers live not for themselves but for all people for whom Christ died. She called us to pray every Monday at Midday to express our unity and remind us of our dependence on God.*

*Kaye brought to the role of Moderator her wide ministry experience within and beyond the Uniting Church. Having served as a school chaplain and military chaplain Kaye was aware that many who would not enter our churches willingly seek the support and pastoral ministry of those who are willing to step beyond the four walls of the Church. As a member of the UnitingCare Board Kaye has seen the breadth and complexity of our Church’s Health and Community services and affirmed their work on our behalf.*

*During her time as Moderator Kaye has dealt with some difficult situations including the re-shaping of the work of the Uniting and Aboriginal Christian Congress both with Calvary Presbytery and CCDEU. This work involved some difficult conversations and some painful decisions. Kaye has walked graciously and steadfastly alongside the leadership of Calvary Presbytery throughout this journey, offering encouragement and affirmation. Kaye has traversed the state, regularly visiting Presbyteries and Congregations at significant points in their life and offered the encouragement of the whole church and the love and grace of God.*

*Kaye has received wonderful support from her immediate and wider family. No more than when she was trying to manage her workload and the care of her father during his illness and death. The Synod owes its thanks to Kaye’s sisters who allowed Kaye to continue her work while they offered so much support to Kaye’s mother and father.*

*Owen, Ellen and Naomi shared the joys and challenges of the Moderator’s journey and were a joy and blessing when Kaye needed them most. I am sure that there were times when Owen’s quiet reassurance helped Kaye maintain perspective when the pressure of the issues facing the Church began to overwhelm.*

*Kaye has brought real strength of character to the role. She has been absolutely consistent in wanting the church to be its best and naming where she sees that the church is not being its best. Kaye has often called our attention to situations we would prefer to avoid.*

*Kaye has led the church with dignity and grace. Her careful listening, compassionate and generous spirit, and her deep love of Christ and the Church have been evident in all that Kaye has done. Kaye’s gifts of hospitality and encouragement have created space for others to share insights, gifts and skills.*

*Kaye, the Church thanks you for your ministry in this past three years. We give glory to God whose Spirit has led and sustained you and we pray that God will bless you richly in the next season of your life and work.*

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

## **GENERAL SECRETARY’S REPORT**

- 14.20** (a) Receives the report of the General Secretary, together with Appendices and the Reports of the Synod Standing Committee, Finance and Property Services, Pastor Application Committee, Placements Committee, Project Officer – Christian Formation, Project Officer – Mission Engagement, Uniting Communications.

(CONSENSUS)

- (b) Records its appreciation to Mr Chris Barnard, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Rev John Cox

#### **Minute of Appreciation, Mr Chris Barnard**

*The Synod records its appreciation to Mr Chris Barnard for his work as the initial Chair of Governance, Nominations and Remuneration Committee. Chris indicated his interest and availability and identified that he had strengths that would equip him suitably in the establishment phase of the new committee.*

*He took up the Synod's vision for the GNRC and worked enthusiastically to build the committee into a team. Drawing on his own experience of being given an opportunity to serve on Boards and Committees as a young professional, he deliberately sought to recruit some younger members. He then arranged the work to give the young professional members appropriate opportunities to grow their experience.*

*Under Chris's leadership the GNRC identified its program of work and collaborated with the General Secretary and other Synod staff to progress the work on policies, processes and the regulated responsibilities. The Committee retained a focus on resourcing the church to develop ever increasingly effective governance processes. This work remains the focus for the GNRC into the future.*

*Chris served on interview panels and participated in the series of conversations around Synod nominations process.*

*Chris fulfilled his obligation of participating in the life of the Synod Standing Committee and gingered us up with two key questions, "How do we grow the Church?" and "Who is in charge here?" Chris revelled in the engagement around those issues and continues to find ways to seed those discussions and reflect on the roles of key leaders in being a presence for Christ in the community. Chris was known for his phone calls the day after the meeting to talk through what went well and what needs further work. His relational approach built bridges of understanding and trust.*

*As a synod we acknowledge his significant contribution and the many hours of service which represent a sacrifice of family time and time at the office. He modelled Christian leadership and service as he chaired the Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee.*

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

- (c) Records its appreciation to Dr Shirley Coulson, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Rev John Cox

#### **Minute of Appreciation, Dr Shirley Coulson**

*Following the Synod 2008 when we were confronted with the serious financial difficulties in which we found ourselves, the Queensland Synod began a major journey of transformation. We entered into wide consultation right across all parts of our Church in Queensland. It was not an easy process. However it was then compounded in January 2011 by the weather, which brought floods and a cyclone which touched every part of the state.*

*It was into this situation that Dr Shirley Coulson began as General Secretary.*

*At such a time of transition, and in the midst of a significant direction setting exercise born of crisis, Shirley brought energy, experience and expertise in leadership and change development and management to the formative phase of our Together on the Way process. Shirley's commitment to the process and to ensuring that the process was surfaced as*

*regularly as possible was tangible. Many will remember the questions “ What is priority direction D or C or B and seeking to recall the exact words which Shirley was able to remind us of at will. This commitment was enabled by Shirley’s many gifts and which have enhanced our Church’s journey.*

*When we began with our now famous Together on the way wheel...many were interested in the words. However Shirley and Mardi added colour. The wheel became a coloured wheel. Then we had coloured balloons, colour on letterhead and colour all over the office, even coloured lattice around the lift door. This colour wasn’t just for colours sake, Shirley wanted people to be captured by what the Church believed God was calling it to do, and so we should ensure that people were drawn to that very call... let it stand out... and in chasing after it, God’s love might also stand out. Shirley’s passion for God’s call on the Church, and for the Church to be all that it was called to be found expression in many and varied creative ways just like this.*

*In the midst of the passion for the whole, Shirley also brought gifts into many individual lives. The care and concern she showed for individuals in the life of the Church, expressing that care in many different ways, which will be unknown to all but the recipient, speaks of a faith in Christ that calls us to love and serve one another. Shirley demonstrated that love in action.*

*A passion for the whole, found in leadership of the whole, and in care for the individual. Rich gifts which remind us all of the grace of God.*

*Shirley was not grounded in an office. Shirley’s passion for the church ensured that she was a part of the Church in person, right across the Synod. Shirley visited Presbyteries and congregations sharing her passion for the Together on the Way Process and invited everyone to join us on this risky journey.*

*Shirley moved the office staff, uniting the first and second floors, relocating them in new colourful office spaces.*

*Shirley was always on the move. Her husband Graeme once said that Shirley has only two speeds, flat out or dead stop. Even when Shirley went on leave she moved. Her idea of a holiday was a very long walking pilgrimage.*

*Shirley was committed to being amongst us, and reminding us that the Spirit of God moves unconstrained among us and calls us on a Pilgrim journey sustained only by God’s grace.*

*And not only reminding us, but creating spaces for us to celebrate it ourselves.*

*I remember that on Shirley’s first day in the office... we prayed together. Shirley wanted to start this journey immersed in prayer. At that particular time there was no times of corporate prayer in the Synod office. Shirley started it! Many in the Synod office will attest to the warm and inclusive way Shirley introduced staff prayers and how much this has both built community and nurtured individual lives.*

*Shirley came to this role with a deep sense of God’s call upon her life and sought to be faithful to that call.*

*The Synod of Queensland offers deep and sincere thanks Shirley for all that she has given us; her gifts, time and her very self.*

*Shirley, you have brightened our lives, shared with us your passion for the Church to be all it can be, helped us move forward in faith and encouraged us in prayer.*

*We wish you God’s rich blessings for the journey forward.*

**(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)**

- (d) Records its appreciation to Rev John Cox, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Rev Kaye Ronalds

### **Minute of Appreciation, Rev John Cox**

*Rev John Cox has served in the role of General Secretary since 1 February 2014.*

*The appointment was made by the Synod Standing Committee following the resignation of former General Secretary, Dr Shirley Coulson.*

*John was very familiar with the role of Synod Support Services and its world of enabling the mission of the Queensland Synod, because he was Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, and then Synod Ministries Coordinator prior to being appointed Associate General Secretary in May 2013. In that placement he had responsibility to serve as acting General Secretary during periods of leave of the General Secretary.*

*His experience as Chair of Moreton Rivers Presbytery provided insights for his work with Presbytery leaders to develop the budget requests and to advise them regarding discipline and placements processes.*

*The Uniting Church in Queensland has reaped the benefit of John's study in the field of Governance in Not-for Profit Sectors. This perspective equipped him well to understand the relationships and responsibilities of the community services that are delivered by the Queensland Synod in the large and small ventures as Uniting Care Queensland, Wesley Mission Brisbane and outreach activities based in congregations. As General Secretary John served as an ex-officio member of Uniting Care Queensland Board.*

*John has demonstrated his enthusiasm for education for ministry and service through the implementation of the Certificate IV in Pastoral Care and by supporting the amalgamation of Trinity Theological College, Pilgrim Learning Community and Chaplaincy Education.*

*John operates relationally. Over the years he has developed a warm rapport with the people in the Synod office by being MC of the Christmas lunch and the monthly morning teas. John has an open door policy and people have found him to be approachable and supportive.*

*The managers in the synod office have appreciated John's strong leadership. He has been outcome and task focused with a keen desire to implement change where it has been needed. John's commitment to developing a positive and empowering culture at the Synod office has been integral to leading staff in an important time of transition. He has demonstrated a clarity of vision for the support that Synod functions can give to Congregations, Presbyteries and the wider church. This will be vital as a new Synod team of leaders take up their roles.*

*John operates with a very pastoral approach. He is an active listener, available, collaborative, accountable and real; he truly "walked the walk". No-one ever expected that it would be easy to step into a position with as many demands as that, mid-stream as it were, but he has carried many burdens of the role with dignity, professionalism and grace. He leaves big shoes behind (metaphorically & actually!)*

*"During his time as General Secretary in 2014, John has led the Synod staff in their work very capably and with energy, humility, and an encouraging spirit. A good sense of humour and has seen him engage positively with other staff. His chairing of committees has been effective. "*

*The General Secretaries are observer participants to the Assembly Standing Committee. John has served on a National Committee to review the way Discipline and Counselling Committees exercise their responsibilities and how appeal processes are progressed. He*

*has been well placed to provide ongoing input even with the additional load of being General Secretary.*

*In the season that John has served as General Secretary the Royal Commission has continued its work. John, in collaboration with the Legal and Governance team plus the Risk and insurance Team has worked to strengthen our policies, practices and safeguards to ensure that the Uniting Church in Queensland keeps moving towards its goal to be a Child Safe environment.*

*By nature, John is an extrovert. That means that he is energised by his encounters with people and gives people a good hearing whenever possible. His light hearted banter with colleagues lifted morale in the synod office. Visitors and co-workers were nourished by his spirited replies such as, “Any fitter and I’d be dangerous.”*

*John has the capacity to build teams to move projects towards completion and to reflect upon progress and work together to overcome obstacles. At times John has initiated tough conversations and facilitated meetings to bring about outcomes and craft fresh ways of being Together on the Way Enriching Community.*

*On behalf of the Synod of Queensland I would like to express our thanks to John’s wife and family, Rev Alison Cox, Jasmine and Isaac. They have made significant adjustments to their household routines and sacrificed family time to enable John to serve as General Secretary this year.*

*In whatever role he serves, God will continue to use John’s gifts for management, leadership, strategic thinking, insight, enthusiasm, hopefulness, synthesis, pastoral support, preaching and humour for building up the kingdom of God.*

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

### **Uniting Communications**

**14.21** (a) Establish a Social Responsibility Reference Group to assist in determining the social responsibility priorities for the Synod.

(b) Request the Synod Standing Committee to determine terms of reference and membership.

(CONSENSUS)

### **Ministerial Changes**

**14.22** Notes the following ministerial changes contained in Appendix I to the report of the General Secretary –

#### **1. RECEIVED BY ORDINATION**

##### ***Ministry of the Word***

##### **Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane**

Stephen Rothery

##### **Presbytery of Central Queensland**

Lynnette Falkenhagen

##### **Presbytery of Mary Burnett**

Jennifer Coombes

##### **Presbytery of Moreton Rivers**

Feiloaiga Faye Talatonu

**Presbytery of South Moreton**

Melissa Lipsett

**2. DEATHS**

***Ministers of the Word***

Ellis Bramley

Allan Kenneth (Ken) Cutmore

Moira Laidlaw

Ken Neill

Don McKay

Corin Nyree Svenson

Keith Thompson

Ronald (Ron) Wallace

Godfrey Williams

***Minister of Deacon***

Louise Edwards

**3. RETIREMENTS**

**Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane**

Lucie Bennett

**Presbytery of Central Queensland**

Glenn Ingram

Jan Whyte

**Presbytery of Calvary**

Shayne Blackman

**Presbytery of Mary Burnett**

Susan Algate

Allan Kuchler

**Presbytery of Moreton Rivers**

Iris Carden

Lynne Davis

Patrick (Paddi) Mullan

Beryl Nielsen

Yvonne Sutherland

**Presbytery of South Moreton**

Graham Beattie

Mervyn Brooks

Colin Munns

Gwen Fisher

Ian Lord

Harold Kilah

Louise Edwards

**4. MINISTERS / DEACONS / YOUTH WORKERS RECEIVED FROM OTHER SYNODS**

**Northern Synod**

Murray Muirhead

Jenny Tymms

**Synod of New South Wales / ACT**

Tim Winslade  
Jovili Meo  
Veneeta Singh-Lucas  
Janie French  
Ron French  
Russell Morris

**Synod of South Australia**

Derek Schiller

**Synod of Victoria/Tasmania**

Louis van Laar

**5. MINISTERS / DEACONS / YOUTH WORKERS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER SYNODS**

**Synod of New South Wales / ACT**

Colin Batt  
Peter Overton

**Synod of South Australia**

Sue Page  
Jock Dunbar  
Tim Hodgson

**Synod of Victoria/Tasmania**

Michelle Cook  
James Hughes

**6. MINISTERS RECEIVED FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS**

Stephen Henderson  
Darren King

**7. MINISTERS WHOSE RECOGNITION HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN**

Victor Wolfgramm

(CONSENSUS)

**Appointments since the 30<sup>th</sup> Synod**

14.23

Notes the following appointments made by the Synod Standing Committee since the 30<sup>th</sup> Synod contained in Appendix II to the report of the General Secretary –

**Board for Christian Formation**

Rev Linda Hanson – appointed from 3 Oct 13 until the 31st Synod  
Mr Paula Hukehuke – appointed from 3 Oct 13 until the 31st Synod

**Calvary Christian College**

Mr Ted Burnett - reappointed for 1 year from 1 Mar 14 to 1 Mar 15

**General Secretary**

Rev John Cox – appointed from 31 Jan 14 until the 31st Synod

**General Secretary Selection Panel**

Ms Sharon Kirk (Chairperson)  
Rev David Baker  
Mr Craig Barke

Rev Heather den Houting  
Mr Peter Jones (Northern Synod General Secretary)

#### **Grace College Council**

Mrs Mona Black – extension of appointment as Queensland Synod representative to 31 Dec 14

#### **John Flynn College Council**

Rev Bruce Cornish - reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 1 Jan 14 to 31 Dec 16  
Rev Barry Cox – reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 1 Jan 14 to 31 Dec 16  
Mr David King – reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 1 Jan 14 to 31 Dec 16

#### **Moreton Bay College Board**

Mr Michael Hennessy – appointed for a 1st term from 7 Nov 13 to 30 Jun 16  
Ms Jackie Branch – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Jul 14 to 30 Jun 17  
Dr Tania Burgess – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Jul 14 to 30 Jun 17  
Mr Col Sutcliffe – reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 1 Jul 14 to 30 Jun 17

#### **Multi-Cross Cultural Committee**

Rev Viliami Mila - reappointed for 3 years from 1 May 14 to 30 Apr 17  
Pastor David Busch - appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 4 Apr 14 to 3 Apr 17

#### **Pastor Application Committee**

Pastor Jan Bryde - appointed for a 1st term of 3 years from 1 May 14 to 30 Apr 17  
Rev Helen Dick - appointed for a 1st term of 3 years from 1 May 14 to 30 Apr 17  
Dr Marilyn Healy - appointed for a 1st term of 3 years from 1 May 14 to 30 Apr 17  
Rev Dr Wendi Sargeant – appointed for 3 years from 1 May 14 to 30 Apr 17  
Pastor Terry Stanyer - reappointed for a 2nd term of 3 years from 1 May 14 to 30 Apr 17

#### **Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association (PMSA) Board**

Mr Greg Adsett - reappointed for 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Jul 14 to 30 Jun 17  
Mr Gary Lynch - appointed for 3 years from 1 Apr 14 to 31 Mar 17  
Mr Des Robinson – reappointed for a final term of 1 year from 1 Jul 13 to 30 Jun 14

#### **SCOTS PGC College Council**

Mr Peter D Campbell – reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 1 Jan 14 to 31 Dec 16  
Mr Peter J Campbell – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Jan 14 to 31 Dec 16

#### **Shalom Christian College Board**

Mr Mike Millard (Chairperson) – current member appointed chairperson from 6 Sep 13 to 5 Mar 14 and reappointed from 4 Apr 14 until 31 Dec 14  
Rev Bruce Cornish – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Sep 14 to 31 Aug 17  
Ms Emmakita Geia – appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 1 Jan 14 to 31 Dec 16  
Ms Jenny Pryor - appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 4 Nov 13 to 3 Nov 16  
Mrs Elaine Rae - appointed from 6 Sep 13 to 5 Mar 14 and reappointed from 4 Apr 14 to 31 Dec 14  
Rev Dr Richard Wallace - appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 1 Jun 14 to 31 May 17

#### **Synod Chaplaincy Commission**

Rev Kevin Bachler – reappointed for a 2nd term for 1 year from 1 Sep 13 to 31 Aug 14  
Rev Jenny Busch - reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Sep 13 to 31 Aug 16  
Rev Heather den Houting – appointed for 3 years from 6 Jun 13 to 5 Jun 16  
Rev Helen Dick – appointed for 3 years from 6 Jun 13 to 5 Jun 16  
Rev Gale Hall – reappointed for a 2nd term for 1 year from 1 Sep 13 to 31 Aug 14

#### **Synod Committee for Counselling**

Rev David Baker – reappointed until the 31st Synod only for cases referred to the Qld Synod by other Synods

Rev Peter Blauw - reappointed for a 2nd term for 2 years from 1 Aug 13 to 31 Jul 16  
Rev Douglas Foster - appointed for 3 years from 7 Nov 13 to 6 Nov 16  
Rev Lynne Gibson - reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Aug 13 to 31 Jul 16  
Rev Gerda Olafsen – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 6 Jun 13 to 5 Jun 16

#### **Synod Committee for Discipline**

Mr Ian Park (Convenor) - reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 3 Aug 13 to 1 Aug 16  
Rev Heather Allison - reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Ms Sue Crittall - reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Mr Gary Wallis - appointed for 3 years from 3 Apr 14 to 2 Apr 17  
Rev Paul Walton - reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Jan Whyte - reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17

#### **Synod Sexual Misconduct Complaints Committee - Members**

Rev Heather Griffin (Chairperson) – reappointed as chairperson for a 2nd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Peter Arnett – reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Mrs Lauris Clarke – appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 2 Sep 13 to 1 Sep 16  
Ms Jenny Field – reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Mr Ross Kerley – appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 2 Sep 13 to 1 Sep 16  
Rev Bob Miles – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Doug Winten – reappointed for a 3rd term for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Mr Bill Robinson – appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 2 Sep 13 to 1 Sep 16

#### **Synod Sexual Misconduct Complaints Committee - Advisors**

Rev Dr Sue Algate – appointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Pastor Margaret Niethe – appointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Mr Gavin Caird – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Rob Callow – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Lynne Davis – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Mrs Caroline Holmes – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Brian Hoole – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Euan McDonald – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Ray Nutley – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Robin Osborne – appointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Russell Reynoldson – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Graham Slaughter – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17  
Rev Ian Wilson – reappointed for 3 years from 5 Jun 14 to 4 Jun 17

#### **Synod Standing Committee**

Rev John Cox (ex officio) – appointed from 31 Jan 14 until the 31st Synod  
Mr Matt Gees – appointed under Synod by-law Q1.2.19 from 24 Jan 14 until the 31st Synod  
Mr Greg Adsett – co-opted from 31 Jan 14 until the 31st Synod

#### **The Lakes College Board**

Mr Craig Mercer (Chairperson) – current member appointed as chairperson for 3 years from 1 Jan 14 to 31 Dec 16  
Ms Dayrelle Abbey - appointed for a 3rd term from 1 May 14 to 31 Dec 16  
Mrs Pam Hall – appointed for a 1st term for 3 years from 1 Sep 14 to 1 Sep 17  
Mr Mike Millard – appointed for 1 year from 1 Jan to 31 Dec 14 following his cessation as chairperson on 31 Dec 13  
Mr Neville Smith - reappointed for a 3rd term from 1 May 14 to 31 Dec 16

#### **UnitingCare Queensland Board (UCQ)**

Ms Heather Watson (Chairperson) – extended term as chairperson to 31 Mar 14  
Mr Craig Barke (Chairperson) – current member appointed as chairperson from 1 Apr 14 to 31 Mar 17  
Ms Maree Blake – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Apr 14 to 31 Mar 17

Rev Dr David Pitman – reappointed for a 2nd term from 1 Jul 14 to 31 Mar 17  
Mr Chris Townsend – reappointed for a 2nd term for 3 years from 1 Apr 14 to 31 Mar 17  
Mr Ray Richards – extended term to 31 Mar 14

### **Wontulp Bi-Buya College Management Committee**

Rev Dennis Corowa – reappointed from 5 Jul 13

### **31st Synod Business Committee**

Rev Brian Kickbusch (Chairperson) – appointed from 3 Apr 14  
Rev David Baker (ex officio) – appointed from 6 Feb 14  
Rev John Cox (ex officio) – appointed from 6 Feb 14  
Mr Peter Cranna – appointed from 3 Apr 14  
Rev Heather den Houting - appointed from 3 Apr 14  
Dr Michael Hewson - appointed from 3 Apr 14  
Rev Kaye Ronalds (ex officio) – appointed from 6 Feb 14

(CONSENSUS)

### **Thirty-Second Synod**

**14.24** Determines -

- (a) that the 32<sup>nd</sup> Synod will be held from 20 May to 25 May 2016 at Alexandra Park, Alexandra Headlands.
- (b) that the Synod Standing Committee be given authority to vary the dates/times and the venue if necessary.

(CONSENSUS)

### **Synod Standing Committee – Meetings**

**14.25** Determines –

- (a) that meeting dates/times of the Synod Standing Committees shall be –
  - 2014** 28-29 November 2014 (Live in)
  - 2015** To be determined
- (b) that authority be given to the Moderator and the General Secretary to vary the dates/times if necessary.

(CONSENSUS)

### **Presentation of 2015 Calendar Competition Winners**

**14.26** (a) Associates Ms Mardi Lumsden, Director of Uniting Communications, with the Synod for the purpose of presenting the Calendar Competition Winners  
(CONSENSUS)

(b) Congratulates the following winners of the Calendar Competition –

Shaunah Bao  
Emma Belgraver  
Bethany Callow  
Ella Currie  
Sela Finau  
Maehr Fofandi  
Emma Hill  
Ella John  
Mikayla Leonard  
Talia Maslen  
Gracie Ramage  
Alexander Simpson  
Cloe Yu

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

## RETIREMENT OF MINISTERS

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

### **Rev Dr Susan Algate**

- 14.27** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Dr Susan Algate to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 14 September 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Dr Susan Algate.

### **Rev Dr Graham Beattie**

- 14.28** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Dr Graham Beattie to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 24 April 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Dr Graham Beattie.

### **Rev Lucie Bennett**

- 14.29** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Lucie Bennett to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 September 2013 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Lucie Bennett.

### **Rev Shayne Blackman**

- 14.30** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Shayne Blackman to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 11 April 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Shayne Blackman.

### **Rev Mervyn Brooks**

- 14.31** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Mervyn Brooks to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 June 2013 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Mervyn Brooks.

### **Rev Iris Carden**

- 14.32** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Iris Carden to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of health from 6 November 2013 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(2).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Iris Carden.

### **Rev Lynne Davis**

- 14.33** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Lynne Davis to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 1 August 2013 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Lynne Davis.

### **Rev Louise Edwards**

- 14.34** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Louise Edwards to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of health from 31 August 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(2).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Louise Edwards.

**Rev Gwendolyn (Gwen) Fisher**

- 14.35 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Gwendolyn Fisher to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 June 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Gwendolyn Fisher.

**Rev Stuart (Glenn) Ingram**

- 14.36 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Stuart (Glenn) Ingram to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 9 March 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Stuart (Glenn) Ingram.

**Rev Harold Kilah**

- 14.37 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Harold Kilah to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 November 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Harold Kilah.

**Rev Allan Kuchler**

- 14.38 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Allan Kuchler to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 31 December 2013 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Allan Kuchler.

**Rev Ian Lord**

- 14.39 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Ian Lord to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 November 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Ian Lord.

**Rev Patrick (Paddi) Mullan**

- 14.40 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Patrick (Paddi) Mullan to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 September 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Patrick (Paddi) Mullan.

**Rev Colin Munns**

- 14.41 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Colin Munns to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 September 2013 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Colin Munns.

**Rev Beryl Nielsen**

- 14.42 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Beryl Nielsen to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 1 May 2013 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Beryl Nielsen.

**Rev Yvonne Sutherland**

- 14.43 (a) Notes the advice of Rev Yvonne Sutherland Mullan to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 30 June 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Yvonne Sutherland.

### **Rev Janice Whyte**

- 14.44** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Janice Whyte to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 31 May 2014 under Reg. 2.6.1(d)(i)(1).
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Janice Whyte.
- (CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

### **MEMORIAL MINUTES**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod -

- 14.45** Adopts the Memorial Minutes as presented concerning ministers who have died since the Thirtieth Synod.

Rev Ellis Bramley  
Rev Allan (Ken) Cutmore  
Rev Louise Jane Edwards  
Rev Dr Moira Laidlaw  
Rev Ken Neill  
Rev Corin Nyree Svenson  
Rev Keith Thompson  
Rev Ronald Wallace  
Rev Godfrey Williams

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

### **BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.46** (a) Receives the Report of the Board for Christian Formation, together with the Report of Trinity College Qld;
- (CONSENSUS)
- (b) (i) Establish a process for reviewing the resourcing and structuring of Continuing Education for Ministry (CEM); and
- (ii) Consider in that review the following matters:
- how ministry agents engage in ongoing learning;
  - how CEM is funded and how funding is most effectively distributed for ministry and mission outcomes;
  - whether the Synod can improve ministry and mission outcomes through new CEM models.
- (CONSENSUS)

### **FINANCE, INVESTMENT AND PROPERTY BOARD**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.47** (a) Receives the Report of Finance, Investment and Property Board.
- (CONSENSUS)
- (b) Records its appreciation to Mr Robert Packer, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Mr Andrew McBryde.

## **Minute of Appreciation, Mr Robert Packer**

*Robert Packer commenced his role as Director of the Department of Finance and Property Services of the Queensland Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia on the on 28 May 2007.*

*Robert had sought another role in the life of the church, but God's plan was different, and Robert was offered the position of Director, which he thankfully accepted.*

*Robert's working journey through large and complex organisations honed that great technical capacity he has brought to this role. He has demonstrated the ability to translate experience in finance and in commercial management, systems and leadership into the context of the mission of God through God's church.*

*The past seven and a half years have not been easy, and Robert has walked some hard yards through some tough spaces to guide the church through our financial crisis; provide leadership as the Synod Office has reshaped; and offered support and counsel to Moderators and General Secretaries throughout this time.*

*One of Roberts's gifts is to see beyond the present decision to the longer term impacts on the life of the Church, all the while holding that in tension with the polity and mission of the Church such that the actions taken support and encourage the Church's mission and growth.*

*Robert has often been called "Pastor Packer". He loves the church, and loves the people in the church. Robert's personal care within the Synod has been wonderfully received by many a person who has been struggling. Robert's care for the church has been expressed both in Robert's work, and in the way he works with and supports people across the life of the church.*

*Robert has been willing to be personally generous with his time and talents to serve the church in whatever way the church has asked. Those of us that have worked closely with Robert clearly see that it is that love of the Church and passion for the church to go forward that drives Robert.*

*Robert leads in a gentle and humble manner which has earned him the respect of his team at the Synod office, the Finance, Investment and Property Board, the Synod Standing Committee and more broadly across the Synod and beyond.*

*He has been serving our God sincerely and faithfully and he will be greatly missed in the life of the Queensland Synod. Robert's transition to retirement, commencing on 28 November, will bring significant changes to Rob's life and to the life of our church. The Synod expresses its enormous appreciation and prays God's blessing for him, for Julie and his family and for his future service in the life of the church.*

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

- (c) Records its appreciation to Mr Andrew McBryde, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Rev John Cox.

## **Minute of Appreciation, Mr Andrew McBryde**

*Andrew was appointed by the 26th Synod, May 2007, to be Chair of the newly formed Finance Investment and Property (FIP) Board and Chair of The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q.). The predecessor board was abolished after a Synod Review in 2006. The new board had one carry-over member, a new, but unclear charter, and a new Director Finance and Property Services.*

*After having served as Chair of the Wesley Mission Brisbane Board, Andrew was enthusiastic about developing the role of the new board, recruiting appropriately qualified*

*members, forming an effective team, challenging the existing bureaucratic processes and delivering outcomes to support the mission of the Church in Queensland. It was also during this time that a combination of loan impairments and the global financial crisis challenged the financial viability of the Synod.*

*Andrew is a rock whose steadfast faith in God and passion for this Church was always apparent in everything he did. He used his God given talents to reassure, reframe issues, advocate and hold together many varied and dynamic views. He has spent untold hours outside of chairing meetings supporting the Director FAPS, understanding the issues, listening to other perspectives and networking with interested parties.*

*Andrew is a truly faithful servant who took his role as Chair of the FIP Board to heart. He kept in contact with board members outside of meetings to listen and support. Meetings were fun even though some of the issues dealt with appeared devastating. The board culture was open, challenging and trusting. The focus was always on the issues and not on people. All invited participants were engaged respectfully and purposefully. Andrew was always positive, keeping the board on the strategic issue and out of the operational detail.*

*Andrew has prepared the board for succession after his departure, but his presence will be sorely missed. Thank you Andrew.*

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

## **GOVERNANCE, NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.48** Receives the Report of the Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee.  
(CONSENSUS)

## **UNITINGCARE QUEENSLAND**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.49** (a) Associates the following people with the Synod for the purpose of the UnitingCare Queensland report and break-out group sessions:  
Ms Robyn Batten, Executive Director, Blue Care  
Mr Bob Gilkes, Executive Director, UnitingCare Community  
Ms Anna Moynihan, Director of Strategy, UnitingCare Queensland  
Mr Terence Seymour, Chief Strategy Office, UnitingCare Health  
Mr Geoff Rogers, Group HR Director, UnitingCare Queensland  
Ms Sue McKean, Director of Governance, UnitingCare Queensland  
Ms Lorna Sullivan, Director Disability Services, UnitingCare Community  
Mr Peter Gunn, Group Chief Financial Officer, UnitingCare Queensland  
(CONSENSUS)
- (b) Receives the Report of UnitingCare Queensland.  
(CONSENSUS)
- (c) Requests Ms Anne Cross to make an addendum to her report regarding St Stephens Hospital closure.  
(CONSENSUS)
- (d) Records its appreciation to Mrs Heather Watson, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Mr Craig Barke.

## **Minute of Appreciation, Mrs Heather Watson**

*Heather Watson has been embedded in the Uniting Church throughout her life. As a teenager in Townsville she participated in Youth Groups and joined with youth group members to represent the local Church in sporting events. Along with her family who were extensively involved in Blue Care and Lifeline, Heather was involved in committees and fundraising from a young age.*

*On leaving school, Heather's chosen vocation was to study law and use those skills to improve the lives of vulnerable people.*

*Heather learned about the Councils of the Church through early participation. She has served on local Church Councils and Presbytery Leadership Team in North Queensland. Growing up in North Queensland meant that Heather had relationships with many people in Regional communities and from Calvary Presbytery and Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.*

*She has been a delegate to the Queensland Synod for decades. Her professional work as a mediator and her careful thinking around issues of polity, policy and service equipped her for roles in the wider Church.*

*Not surprisingly Heather was elected to serve on the Council of Synod later named the Synod Standing Committee. Heather served on that committee from 1999 until 2014 as either an elected member or as an ex-officio and she was also a member of the Synod Leadership Team.*

*She has served as the Convenor or member of the Facilitation Committee that assisted the Synod in Session with the consensus approach to decision making. She also convened the Facilitation Committee for the meeting of the National Assembly when it met in Brisbane in 2006.*

*In various ways Heather has participated in the journey of UnitingCare Queensland. While living in Townsville she served a term on the Wesley (Park Haven) Hospital Board. After coming to Brisbane she was appointed to the Uniting HealthCare Board and participated in the difficult but necessary transitions of forming Uniting Care Queensland into the organisation it is today.*

*Heather was appointed to serve on the UnitingCare Queensland Board by the Synod Standing Committee commencing on 1 March 2005.*

*She was then appointed Chair of UnitingCare Queensland Board by the Standing Committee and served as Chair from 1 December 2006 until 31 March 2014.*

*Her role as Chair also meant she was a member of Synod Standing Committee and Synod in Session presenting the strategic issues to the Synod and interpreting and translating the context and challenges of UnitingCare Queensland to the wider church.*

*Heather's understanding of the polity of the church has enabled her to strengthen the bridges of understanding across the church.*

*She has sought to assist the Synod to understand its obligation and opportunity of remaining engaged with UnitingCare Queensland.*

*Heather has left her footprints in many places in the not for profit sector and the networks of engagement of her professional work with McCulloch Robinson have provided the basis for relationships with others who provide health care and community services. That means that Heather has examined many models and ways of thinking about how the Church and its*

*service organisations can be “expressions of mission” and the “contexts for being the people of God.”*

*At points of crisis Heather has carved out hours of time to assist and work through possibilities to craft a viable future for some of the churches community services ministry including the community services of Congress Community Development and Education Unit and Frontier Services.*

*Heather has chaired the meetings of UnitingCare Board with clarity of thought and a capacity to enable all the voices around the table to be heard. She has demonstrated her respect for the staff, her compassion for the needs of clients and a deep understanding of the government’s compliance and regulation frameworks and the sectors in which UnitingCare works.*

*We acknowledge this long season of service. As a church we express our thanks to Heather and to her husband, Stephen, and children, Ellen, Robert, Gillian and Charlotte who have sometimes given up family time to release her for this work. I leave you with some words sent by Paul to the Church in Thessalonica.*

*“For we remember before our God and Father how you put your faith into practice, how your love made you work so hard, and how your hope in our Lord Jesus is firm.”  
1 Thessalonians 1:3 Good News Bible*

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

#### **Presentation of Moderator’s Medals for Community Service**

- 14.50** Congratulates the following persons who have been awarded the Moderator’s Medal for Community Service in recognition of their work within community services –

Isobel Mary (Pixie) Annat  
Una Valmant Bryant (posthumous award)  
Doreen Coker  
Jane Frazer Cosgrove  
Joyce Mavis Cunningham  
Darcy Howe  
Paul Kennedy  
Don Leckenby  
Mary Lowe  
Gail Morrison  
Aunty Jean Phillips  
Shirley Wyatt

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

#### **ASSEMBLY**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.51** Receives the Report of the Assembly. (CONSENSUS)

#### **PRESBYTERIES**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.52 (a)** Receives the Report of the Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane. (CONSENSUS)

- (b) Directs the Synod Standing Committee to initiate a review of the Placements process to seek to deal with issues such as:
- the length of supply ministry between placements;
  - the availability of suitable leadership for church plants/re-development projects and specialist placement venues;
  - the decreasing influence of Uniting Church in Australia in leadership in provincial cities and regions.

(CONSENSUS)

14.53 Receives the Report of the Presbytery of Calvary.

(CONSENSUS)

14.54 (a) Receives the Report of the Presbytery of Central Queensland

(CONSENSUS)

- (b) Requests Trinity College Queensland to investigate possibilities which might encourage students to experience ministry in a rural context.

(CONSENSUS)

14.55 Receives the Report of the Presbytery of Mary Burnett.

(CONSENSUS)

14.56 Receives the Report of the Presbytery of Moreton Rivers.

(CONSENSUS)

14.57 Receives the Report of the Presbytery of North Queensland.

(CONSENSUS)

14.58 Receives the Report of the Presbytery of South Moreton

(CONSENSUS)

14.59 Receives the Report of the Presbytery of The Downs.

(CONSENSUS)

#### **SYNOD CHAPLAINCY COMMISSION**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

14.60 Receives the Report of the Synod Chaplaincy Commission.

(CONSENSUS)

#### **SYNOD ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

14.61 Receives the Report of the Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee.

(CONSENSUS)

## SYNOD INTERFAITH RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.62** Receives the Report of the Synod Inter-faith Relationships Committee. (CONSENSUS)

## SYNOD MULTI-CROSS CULTURAL COMMITTEE

It was RESOLVED that the Synod -

- 14.63** (a) Receives the Report of the Synod Multi-Cross Cultural Committee.
- (b) Notes the Synod-wide 2015 Event: 30th anniversary of “We are a Multicultural Church”; and
- (c) Requests the General Secretary to provide an opportunity for the Multicultural and Cross Cultural Ministry to present theological papers on ministry within the context of a multi-cross cultural theology forum during the 32nd Synod in session. (CONSENSUS)

## SYNOD SCHOOLS COMMISSION

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.64** (a) Receives the report of the Synod Schools Commission. (CONSENSUS)
- (b) Associates Ms Annette Dale for the Minute of Appreciation for Ms Elaine Rae. (CONSENSUS)
- (c) Records its appreciation to Ms Elaine Rae, through the Minute of Appreciation read by Rev David MacGregor

### Minute of Appreciation, Ms Elaine Rae

*The Synod of Queensland records its appreciation for the ministry of Mrs Elaine Rae as the first Executive Officer of the Synod Schools Commission.*

*Elaine commenced in this role in April 2008 having been a founding member of the Schools Commission established in 2000. Elaine will retire in April 2015.*

*Elaine has worked assiduously and devotedly with the Schools Commission over this period.*

*It's no understatement to say that come her retirement, Elaine will have accomplished an astounding and tireless, amount of work in growing the connections between the Church and its schools and residential colleges, as part and parcel of the mission of God through the teaching ministry of the church.*

*Elaine has brought to this role a truly amazing skillset... a mind-blowing array of gifts from God. She has offered these to this part-time role well over and beyond the call of duty. Make no mistake.*

*Gifts, skills, insight, experience in such areas of governance, strategic planning, school management, curriculum, Christian Education, IT, timetabling, board evaluation... and that's just a start.*

*Elaine has done more than grow connections; she has built relationships - partnerships with our schools and colleges; especially with principals, board and council chairs, chaplains and business managers.*

*Along the way, Elaine has dialogued surely, assertively yet pastorally in ways that have enriched, enhanced and our Church's presence and voice in our school and college communities. Clear thoughts and confident decisive actions have mapped intentional change towards delivering the good news of Christ to school and college communities*

*Our schools and colleges have a greater sense of being part of God's mission through the Uniting Church as a result.*

*Through these seven years, Elaine has journeyed with schools through difficult pastoral times - whether that be with school fires or with staff challenges. Of particular note is firstly, the healthy relationship the synod now has with the Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association, such is the hard work Elaine has invested into this.*

*It's important to secondly record a deep note of appreciation for the time over the past two years that Elaine has journeyed with Shalom Christian College in particular as with staff and board alike, and with others in this Synod, she has helped move this unique school ministry through incredibly demanding and difficult waters to a more-optimistic future.*

*Elaine has taken the need for ongoing professional development conscientiously, successfully completing a rigorous governance course during her tenure, with the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Elaine's skills in not-for-profit governance are widely acknowledged and respected*

*Without fail, Elaine has called the boards and councils to higher standards in their governance; and to aspire to more authentically live out the Christian mission and calling of their school or college.*

*Elaine has been a long serving member of the Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) education committee, generously assisting schools in the independent sector, facilitating their strategic planning, and community consultations. Elaine has been a valued member of the Ecumenical School Leaders network (Lutheran, Catholic, Anglican and UCA).*

*She has been an active voice on the Assembly National Schools Reference Group and the synod task group connecting with the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, where she has been generous in sharing her professional knowledge with her counterparts in other Synods.*

*There, in every area, Elaine has brought information and understanding across curriculum developments, Christian ethos and the links between schools and Synod, the intricacies of government funding, school governance and relationships with and support for School Chaplains and teachers of religious education. She has provided timely advice and wise counsel to colleagues across Synods and her work within her own Synod with the Indigenous education groups has been acknowledged and has provided insight and guidance to others.*

*Through all this time, Elaine has maintained an active involvement, including serving as Church Council chair at her local Bayside Uniting Church and been a keen member of the Emmaus Community. This is not to mention that she and husband John have managed to walk across England and much of the Camino Way in northern Spain.*

*With Elaine, fruitfulness - professional, relational and spiritual go hand-in-hand... pressed down, shaken together, running all over!*

*Elaine is a faithful, authentic and devoted servant of our Lord. No doubt her gifts will not be lost to the wider educational community. That said, the ministry of Elaine as Schools Commission Executive Officer will be greatly missed in the life of our synod.*

*The Synod expresses its enormous appreciation and prays God's blessing for Elaine, John and family; as Elaine, blessed so abundantly by our Creator God, continues to be an incredible blessing to God's kingdom and God's glory.*

(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

## GENERAL PROPOSALS

### MENTAL HEALTH

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.65**
- (a) Affirms the ongoing provision of mental health services by UnitingCare Queensland agencies and Wesley Mission Brisbane
  - (b) Requests Uniting Communications to identify and disseminate resources, training information and guidelines to assist congregations to engage with the issues outlined in the rationale, and coordinate the development of necessary additional resources
  - (c) Requests Uniting Communications to conduct a consultation process across congregations and agencies to further develop a background paper
  - (d) Requests all congregations to actively participate in the National Day of Prayer for Mental Health held during Mental Health Week in October each year.

(CONSENSUS)

### FREEDOM SUNDAY

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.66**
- Invites congregations to participate in Freedom Sunday on 19 October 2014 and each year on the Sunday closest to World Anti-slavery Day (18 October) through awareness and fund raising, worship, prayer and action – all poised against slavery and exploitation.

(CONSENSUS)

### RECOGNISE CAMPAIGN FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.67**
- (a) Join with UnitingCare Queensland to support the campaign to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution of Australia.
  - (b) Become an official *Recognise* campaign partner and encourage congregations, presbyteries, and all other Uniting Church entities to join in the *Recognise* campaign.
  - (c) Encourage all Church members and staff to sign up as a supporter of the *Recognise* campaign and further encourage congregations to listen to Indigenous peoples as they engage the question of constitutional recognition.
  - (d) Call on the Government to work with urgency towards holding a referendum.
  - (e) Work with Uniting Justice to ensure this issue is considered by the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

(CONSENSUS)

## **RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod -

- 14.68**
- (a)** Asserts that positive and respectful relations between members of world religions is an imperative.
  - (b)** Directs the Synod Interfaith Relationships Committee, as a matter of priority, to continue disseminating educative resources.
  - (c)** Asks Presbyteries to encourage congregations to explore being Christian in a multi-religious world and to seek opportunities to promote understanding and positive relationships among people of all faiths in their communities.
- (CONSENSUS)

## **GENERAL SECRETARY SELECTION NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.69**
- (a)** Determines that not less than 65% of ballots received is required to appoint a candidate as General Secretary  
(CONSENSUS)
  - (b)** Determines that the ballot for the appointment of the General Secretary will be conducted by a written ballot; and  
(CONSENSUS)
  - (c)** Receives the report of the General Secretary Nomination Committee.  
(CONSENSUS)

### **General Secretary Appointment**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod under Regulation 3.6.3.3 (a) and (b):

- 14.70**
- (a)** Appoints Mr Gary DOYLE as the General Secretary for a period of 5 years from a date to be determined by the Synod Standing Committee;  
(CONSENSUS)
  - (b)** Appoints Rev John Cox as the General Secretary until the commencement of duties by Mr Gary Doyle; and  
(CONSENSUS)
  - (c)** Approves the destruction of the General Secretary ballot papers.  
(CONSENSUS)

## **BALLOT COMMITTEE REPORT**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

- 14.71** Receives the Report of the Ballot Committee.  
(CONSENSUS)

## **Synod Standing Committee**

**14.72** Elects the following members of Synod to the Synod Standing Committee –

Ministers: Rev Russell CLARK  
Rev Heather DEN HOUTING  
Rev Linda HAMILL  
Rev David MACKAY-RANKIN

Lay: Mr Gregory ADSETT  
Mr John AGNEW  
Mr Neil BALLMENT  
Mr Christopher BARNARD  
Mr Geoffrey BATKIN  
Mr John LISTER

## **SYNOD COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COUNCILS**

**14.73 Finance, Investment & Property Board**

Elects the following persons to the Finance, Investment & Property Board –

Chair: Mr Ralph COLLINS

Member: Mr Ian BUSCH  
Rev Linda HAMILL  
Mr Allan HANSON

**14.74 The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q.)**

Elects the following persons to The Uniting Church Property Trust (Q.) –

Chair: Mr Ralph COLLINS

Member: Mr Ian BUSCH  
Mr Robert (Bob) CAMBRIDGE  
Rev Linda HAMILL  
Mr Allan HANSON

Secretary: Mr Robert PACKER (until 28 November 2014)

## **Board for Christian Formation**

**14.75** Elects the following persons to the Board for Christian Formation –

Members: Rev Peter ARMSTRONG  
Rev Gwendolyn (Gwen) FISHER  
Rev Linda HANSON  
Rev Dr Elizabeth NOLAN

## **Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee**

**14.76** Elects the following persons to the Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee –

Chair: Mr Andrew MCBRYDE

Members: Mr John LISTER  
Mr Timothy (Tim) LONGWILL  
Prof Myles MCGREGOR-LOWNDES

#### **14<sup>th</sup> Assembly Members**

**14.77** Notes the following Presbytery appointments and Ex-officios to the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly –

Ex-officio: Rev David BAKER (Moderator)  
Mr Gary DOYLE (General Secretary)

Presbytery Ministerial: Rev Brian HOOLE (BB)  
Rev Dennis COROWA (CAL)  
Rev Brian GILBERT (CQ)  
Rev David THOMAS (MB)  
Moreton Rivers Presbytery Minister \*  
Rev Christy ALLEN (NQ)  
Rev Alan ROBINSON (SM)  
Rev Faye TALATONU (TD)  
*\* Or nominee if appointed Presbytery Minister is not ordained*

Presbytery Lay: Dr John ROULSTON (BB)  
Mr Herbert YUNKAPORTA (CAL)  
Ms Donna MUSTON (CQ)  
Mr Phil SMITH (MB)  
Mr David GREIG (MR)  
Ms Lyn ANDERSON (NQ)  
Ms Gaye PITMAN (SM)  
Mr John Agnew (TD)

**14.78** Elects the following persons as members to the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly –

Ministerial: Rev Peter ARMSTRONG  
Rev John COX  
Rev Linda HANSON  
Rev Shane KAMMERMAN  
Rev David MACGREGOR  
Rev Hohaia MATTHEWS  
Rev Viliami MILA  
Rev Kaye RONALDS  
Rev Lu SENITULI

Lay: Mrs Jenny BRECKNELL  
Mr David BUSCH  
Ms Colleen GEYER  
Mrs Elaine RAE  
Mr Glen SCHWEITZER  
*Plus 4 x 25yo or less appointed by SSC*

#### **SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

**14.79** Receives the Report of the Synod Standing Committee appointments presented by Rev John Cox.

(CONSENSUS)

### **Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee**

**14.80** Notes the appointment of the following persons to the Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee –

Ex-officio Chair: Rev David BAKER

Members: Mr John AGNEW  
Rev Dr Clive AYRE  
Mr Neil BALLMENT

### **Synod Inter-Faith Relationships Committee**

**14.81** Notes the appointment of the following persons to the Synod Inter-Faith Relationships Committee –

Ex-officio Chair: Rev David BAKER

Members: Mr John AGNEW  
Mr Neil BALLMENT  
Rev Heather GRIFFIN  
Rev Ann HEWSON  
Mrs Julie MACKAY-RANKIN  
Rev Sue PICKERING  
Rev Garth READ

### **Synod Multi-Cross Cultural Committee**

**14.82** Notes the appointment of the following person to the Synod Multi-Cross Cultural Committee –

Member: Ms Beatriz SKIPPEN

### **Synod Schools Commission**

**14.83** Notes the appointment of the following person to the Synod Schools Commission –

Member: Mr Peter J CAMPBELL

### **Synod Chaplaincy Commission**

**14.84** Notes the appointment of the following person to the Synod Chaplaincy Commission –

Chair: Rev Heather DEN HOUTING

## **THE NORMAN AND MARY MILLAR MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**14.85** The Moderator welcomed Mr Brendan McKeague, the 2014 Norman and Mary Millar Lecturer, and invited him to address the Synod.

## **OPEN SPACE**

**14.86** At 9.30am on Tuesday, 14 October the Members of the 31st Synod responded to the question, “Our church is on life support: what’s our call now?” through an Open Space process facilitated by Mr Brendan McKeague. In the two day, priority setting exercise, the members of Synod identified the following eight priorities:

- Worship gatherings that can include people who have never attended worship or belonged with church
- Making faith sharing a priority for the Uniting Church
- Church Planting
- Developing Church Planters – Pioneers and Entrepreneurs
- Holy Spirit as Defibrillator
- Formation for Ministry
- Resource Sharing Urban/Rural
- Children, youth, young adults and family ministry as a priority

### **COURTESIES EXTENDED**

It was RESOLVED that the Synod –

**14.87** Places on record its sincere appreciation of:

The Moderator, the Rev David Baker, for his leadership of the Thirty-First Synod

The General Secretary, Rev John Cox, for the preparation of, and assistance in processing the business of the Synod

The Business Committee Convenor, Rev Brian Kickbusch, and the members of the Business Committee

Ms Annette Dale, 31<sup>st</sup> Synod Project Officer for her co-ordination and logistics

The members of staff of the Office of the Moderator and General Secretary: Ms Kellie Broderick, Mrs Ana Mila, Ms Anne Osborne and Miss Kristine Bromiley

The Convenor of the Facilitation Committee, Dr Michael Hewson and the members of the Facilitation Committee

The Small Group Co-ordinator, Rev Lyn Burden

The Convenor of the Ballot Committee, Mr Scott Guyatt and the Scrutineers

Rev Schalk Pienaar and Pastor Terrie Seymour, the Pastoral Coordinators

Rev Andrew Gunton, Rev Suzie Castle and the Moderator, who co-ordinated the Celebration of Ministries

Staff of UnitingCare Queensland for facilitating the Moderator's Medals

Rev Dr Malcolm Coombes, Rev Dr Wendi Sargeant and Dr Janice Rees who presented the Synod Bible Studies

Rev Wayne McHugh and Proserpine Whitsunday Uniting Church Compassion Candles Team for the gift of candles for the Synod

The Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Ian Smallbone

Rev Yvonne McRostie for coordinating the Synod Worship Celebration

The worship leaders and musicians co-ordinated by Rev David MacGregor and Mrs Sharon Kirk, for providing and leading our daily worship at Synod

The Principal, staff and students of Unity College for the use of the auditorium and assisting in our Synod Worship Celebration

Mr Ian Edgar, Manager, Alexandra Park Conference Centre for support in preparation and hosting the Synod

Mr Ian Edgar and Mr Peter Stockland for their logistical co-ordination and the daily running of the Synod venue. Mr Shane Thompson, Catering Manager and Alex Park kitchen staff who

provided superb meals for the Synod. All staff at Alexandra Park Conference Centre for their hard work and hospitality

Mr Brendan McKeague who presented the Norman and Mary Millar Memorial Lecture for 2014 and also facilitated the Open Space conversations

Rev Dr David Mackay-Rankin and Rev Peter Armstrong who were Guest Speakers at the Minister's Convocation 2014

Rev Andrew Gunton for co-ordinating the sessions on "Conversations on the Work of God/Spotlight"

Mr David Munro, Synod Risk and Insurance Manager, for his coordination of security with Mr Ian Edgar during the Synod

The members of staff of Uniting Communications for their commitment to the daily updating of the Synod website for those who could not attend Synod as well as their work, creativity and ideas in promoting our Synod activities, the Calendar competition as well as co-ordinating marketing and sponsorship of the 31<sup>st</sup> Synod: Ms Mardi Lumsden, Ms Holly Jewell, Mr Rohan Salmond, Ms Raushen Perera, Ms Ashley Thompson, Ms Sue Hutchinson, Mr Osker Lau and Mr Bruce Mullan

Mr Peter Evans, Mr Paul Lenahan, Mr Matthew Hogg, Mr Derek Griffin, Mr Rob Ver Maas, Ms Leisel Evans and Mr Richard Biggs, who provided significant technical support for the Synod

Rev Mark Cornford and the coffee crew for providing coffee in support and fundraising for Summer Madness 2015

Rev Barry Cox and Rev Garry Hardingham for co-ordinating the airport shuttle bus

Synod Volunteers: Patsy Dale, Judith Finden, Enid Bell, Cathy Wright, Colin and Adele Toft, Noela Francis, Bryan & Jean Lendrum, Elizabeth Edgar, Louisa Finau, Sela Finau and Kotoni Fihaki, for their willingness to assist the Synod office

Volunteers from the Anglican Church: Heather Johnston, Pamela Davey, Marilyn Redlich and Peter Catt for their assistance with the Open Space conversation

Special thanks to Wesley Mission Brisbane for their sponsorship and support of Synod including the provision of funds for the lanyards and portable torch

We are also grateful for the contribution made by NGS Super and Canon & IPG.

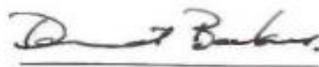
(CONSENSUS – CARRIED BY ACCLAMATION)

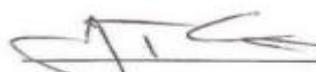
## CLOSE

The Thirty-First Synod was closed with a Service of Holy Communion led by the Moderator and Rev Dennis Corowa.

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The 31<sup>st</sup> Synod Minutes were confirmed by the Moderator, General Secretary and the Business Committee Convenor (as per Min 14.16) on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

  
Moderator

  
General Secretary

  
Convenor, Business Committee