



together
on the way
enriching
community

28th synod

minutes

Rev Bruce Johnson - Moderator
Rev Douglas Jones - General Secretary

21 May - 25 May 2010
Alexandra Park Conference Centre



The Uniting Church in Australia
Queensland Synod

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
Twenty-Eighth Queensland Synod
Constituted at 7.30pm on Friday 21st May, 2010

Regulation 3.5.2 (a)
Assembly Ex-Officio

The President of the Assembly, Alistair Macrae

Regulation 3.5.2 (b) and By-Law Q1.1.3
Synod Ex-Officio

Bruce Johnson
David Pitman
Douglas Jones
Heather Watson
Andrew McBryde
Anne Cross
Robert Packer
David Rankin
Rob Bos
Sue Fairley
David MacGregor
Elaine Rae
John Cox
Apichart Branjerdporn
Leva Pat
Neil Dutney
Duncan MacLeod

Regulations 3.5.2 (c) & (d) and By-Law Q1.1.2
The Presbyteries

Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane

Ministers

David Baker
Paul Andrianatos
Christopher Barr
Bruce Bartleet
Lucie Bennett
Peter Blauw
Heather den Houting
Heather Griffin
Kath Hobson
Peter Hobson
Viliani Mila
Robin Osborne
Roselyn Smaill
Ian Smallbone
Costa Stathakis

Lay Members

Robert Bennett
Doug Brecknell
Lyn Campbell
Janice Charles
Ray Crompton
Beth Dutney
Robert Edwardson
Stephen Ferrant-Smith
Simon Gomersall
Doris Guldbranz
Gaile Hartridge
Graheme Kroll
V'aa Manu-Sione
Josie Nottle
Jim O'Grady

Henry Swindon
Geoff Thompson
Paul Walton
David Wiltshire
Peter Woodward
Marian Zaunbrecher

Nick Patselis
Joyce Rieck
John Roulston
Rona Sandilands
Ian Scorgie
Wendy Scott
Stephen Smith
Grahame Tainton

Presbytery of Calvary

Ministers

Shayne Blackman
Dennis Corowa
Saimoni Davui
Richard Wallace

Lay Members

Lurleen Blackman
Steve Geary
James Hughes
Isacc Kowerpta
Rodney Minniecon
Ralph Peinkenna
Richard Roughsey
Ellen Roughsey
Roberta Stanley
Palmer Wapau

Presbytery of Central Queensland

Ministers

Karyl Davison
David Ferguson
Glenn Ingram
Russell Reynoldson
Jan Rossow
Johan Loots
Euan McDonald
Jeanette Gillam
Kaye Ronalds
Wayne McHugh
Jan Whyte
Arthur Tutin
Ron Watson
Peter Taubner
Stanley Tuilovoni

Lay Members

Laura Brown
Gavin Caird
Philipa Core
John Cribb
Wayne Davidson
Shirley Doyle
Anita Ferguson
Brendan Hooper
Evan Hooper
David Horton
Lisa Loots
Monique Mawbey
Yvonne McDonald
Iola Sampson
Ken Whyte

Presbytery of Mary Burnett

Ministers

Scott Ballment
Pam Batson
Lloyd Beynon
Ainslie Bos
Andrew Fox

Lay Member

Sylvia Alderton
Margaret Angel
Gail Ayre
Fay Barton
Jenny Coombes

Brian Gilbert
Tim Griggs
Darren King
Allan Kuchler
Brian Nagel
Ray Nutley
Peter Overton
Schalk Pienaar
John Selwood
Heather Selwood
Graham Slaughter
James Stevenson
Iain Watt
George Woodward

Greg Cooney
Peter Crispin
Bruce Dingle
Vicki Diprose
Ian Drummond
Eamon Dunne
Jennifer Edwards
Ron Embrey
Leonie Gaffel
John Glover
Eddie Gresham
Ann Huth
Trevor Huth
Graham Huth
Ian Kerr
Glenys McKee
Frank Millett
Trish Milne
Jan Morcom
Sue Mulcahy
Margaret Sakrzewski
Luke Smallwood
Thelma Turpin
Ron Wright

Presbytery of Moreton Rivers

Ministers

Alan Anderson
Peter Armstrong
Lyn Burden
Peter Clark
Mark Cornford
Lynne Davis
David Fender
John Gill
Andrew Gunton
Bob Harriman
Stephen Henderson
Ray Herrmann
Chris Holden
Anne Hulbert
Sandra Jebb
Brian Kickbusch
Robyn Kidd
Peter Lockhart
Subramaniam Manopavan
Yvonne McRostie
Paddi Mullan
Sue Pickering
Kerry Pierce

Lay Members

Merle Anderson
Helen Barnard
Geoff Batkin
Robson Brunt
Suzie Castle
Betty Clark
Graham Clarke
Peter Cranna
Richard Davis
Paul Fletcher
Wendy Grummitt
Alan Grummitt
Michael Hewson
Paula Hukehuke
Andrew Johnson
Benny Lam Sam
Ian Laurie
Fay Laurie
Angus McKay
Fa Ngaluafe
Julie Packer
Margaret Pollock
Rob Profke

Tanya Richards
Wendi Sargeant
Keren Seto
Jenny Sims
Neil Sims
Peter Smale
Ben Webb

Barbara Profke
Wally Rea
Terrie Seymour
Terry Stanyer
Helen Tualau
Adam Wiseman

Presbytery of North Queensland

Ministers

Christy Allen
Paul Clark
Russell Clark
Michelle Cook
Bruce Cornish
Mark Dewar
Mosese Fangupo
Hedley Fihaki
Doug Foster
Anne Harley
Shane Kammermann
Glenn Louttit
Leo Newell
Jim Pearson
Irinale Tadulala

Lay Members

Louise Backhaus
Daniel Backhaus
Bob Baker
Ruth Beasley
Jenny Brown
Jan Bryde
Travis Cauchi
Viv Chapman
Max Christie
Michelle Cullen
Rod Faddy
Peter Harvey
Myeong Hee Seo
Bevan Lobley
Ian Ness
Bruce Peden
Ian Savage

Presbytery of South Moreton

Ministers

Sione Afu
Peter Arnett
Alan Baker
Colin Batt
Graham Beattie
Robert Brennan
Jenny Busch
Stu Cameron
Malcolm Coombes
Nigel Damant
Louise Edwards
Peter Elliott
Gwen Fisher
Bradley Foote
Trevor Gibson
Lynne Gibson
Glennis Johnston
Harold Kilah
Ian Lord

Lay Members

Peter Alfredson
Neil Ballment
Val Baxter
Heather Buchanan
David Busch
Aaron Comollatti
Michelle Comollatti
Ross Cope
Heather Dansie
Rodney Eivers
Ken Farquhar
Lynton Foulkes
Matt Gees
David Gibson
Robert Gilliland
Marlene Head
Mervyn Head
Geoff Hill
Glyn Irving

John Lucas
Ross Mackay
Ralph Mayhew
Bob Miles
Beth Nicholls
Robert Packer
Alan Robinson
Andrew Ross
Lu Senituli
Colin Shenfield
Dan Skippen
Bruce Warren
Ian Wilson
David Won Kim

Moses Leth
Noela Lister
Alyson Madsen
Allison McGaw
Anne McKay
Ken McKay
Fran Moss
John Oh
John Rae
Gregory Rowe
Glen Schweitzer
Beatriz Skippen
Ross Sutherland
Dave Thomas
Patricia Tschernez
Victor Wolfgramm

Presbytery of The Downs

Ministers

Michael Brumpton
Rob Callow
John Case
Kate Dix
David Ellis
Jackson Gill
Andrew Gillies
David Graham
Linda Hamill
Marius Kruger
May Morris
Tony Shumack
Allan Smith

Lay Members

John Agnew
Joy Agnew
Esme Armstrong
Michelle Beitz
Bob Burgess
Yvonne Cornford
Pauline Denning
Jean Dodd
Janette Ellis
Rob Hemming
Brian Henman
Iven Hewett
Sharon Kirk
Angela Lester
Allan Neale
Jenny Potter
Wilma Proudlock
Jean Reid
Margaret-Rose Ruben
Ron Skilton
Janice Webster

Regulation 3.5.2 (e) and By-Law Q1.1.4

FIP Board

Ralph Collins

Board for Christian Formation

Jenny Brecknell
Mike Hennessey

UnitingCare Queensland Board

Ian Airey
Colleen Geyer
Rick Strangman

Regulation 3.5.2 (g) & 3.5.3 (a) & (b) and By-Law Q1.1.6 (a) & (b)

Young Persons

Anna Mulcahy
Louise Newman
Stephen Rothery

Regulation 3.5.2 (f) and By-Law Q1.1.5

Candidates

Rod Fisher
Craig Batty

**THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND SYNOD**

THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SYNOD

Held at

Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Alexandra Headlands, Queensland

21 May – 25 May 2010

The Constitution of the Synod

- 10.01** At the Alexandra Park Conference Centre, Alexandra Headlands, Queensland, at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 21 May 2010, the Uniting Church in Australia (Queensland Synod) met in worship. The Synod was duly constituted by the Moderator, Rev Bruce Johnson, under the authority given by the Constitution and Regulations of The Uniting Church in Australia.

Recognition of Traditional Owners of the Land

- 10.02** As part of the worship service, the Synod acknowledged the traditional owners of the land on which the 28th Synod met and gave thanks for their stewardship.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.03** Notes the appointment by the Council of Synod of the members of the Business Committee -

Rev Bruce Johnson (The Moderator)
Rev Douglas Jones (The General Secretary as Secretary)
Mr Michael Hewson
Mrs Michelle Comollatti
Mr Andrew Johnson

- (b)** Appoints Rev Peter Elliot as Convener of the Business Committee; and
- (c)** Authorises the Committee to co-opt other persons as necessary for specific business.

(Consensus)

- 10.04** Appoints the following as members of the Facilitation Group:

Mr Michael Hewson (Convenor)
Rev Stu Cameron
Mrs Philipa Core
Rev Dr David Ferguson
Rev Brian Gilbert
Mrs Sue Mulcahy
Rev Peter Taubner

(Consensus)

- 10.05** Appoints Mrs Ana Mila as Minutes Secretary. (Consensus)
- 10.06** Appoints Rev David Wiltshire as Convenor of the Ballot Committee and gives him authority to co-opt members for that Committee. (Consensus)
- 10.07** Appoints the following as Liaison Officers –
 Rev Linda Hamill
 Rev Viliami Mila
 Ms Josie Nottle
 Rev Keren Seto (Consensus)
- 10.08** Determines that the Roll of the Synod be as tabled at the first plenary session on Saturday 22nd May, 2010. (Consensus)
- 10.09** Determines that unless otherwise agreed, the hours of session for the Synod shall be -
- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Friday, 21 May | 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. |
| Saturday, 22 May | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
2.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
7.15 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. |
| Sunday, 23 May | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
1.30p.m. – 6.30 p.m. |
| Monday, 24 May | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
1.30 p.m. – 5.50 p.m. |
| Tuesday, 25 May | 8.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
1.45 p.m. – 3.00 p.m |
- (Consensus)
- 10.10** Determines that the Bar of the House be defined as the numbered tables in the auditorium. (Consensus)
- 10.11** Adopts the use of the procedures of *A Manual for Meetings in the Uniting Church (2001)*. (Consensus)
- 10.12** (a) Determines that all nominations for the election of representatives to the Council of Synod, the Synod Leadership Team will close at 4.00 p.m. on Saturday, 22 May 2010 and that the ballots will be held as determined by the Business Committee, and
- (b) Endorses the decision of the Business Committee that nominations to all other Boards and Committees closed on 23 April 2010. (Consensus)
- 10.13** Determines that any person nominated for membership of various Councils, Boards, Commissions and Committees, unless otherwise resolved, must receive at least 50% of the votes to be elected. (Consensus)

10.14 Determines that all nominations for ballots shall bear on the foot of the Nomination Form a short notice of present congregation and presbytery, and relevant service within the Church.

(Consensus)

10.15 Approves that Greetings be conveyed to other Synods within The Uniting Church in Australia.

(Consensus)

10.16 Determines that amendments to proposals contained in the Book of Reports and Proposals close at 5.00 pm. on Friday, 23 April 2010 (to be in the hands of the General Secretary, Synod Office, Auchenflower) and that all General Proposals will be submitted by 5.00 pm. on Monday, 26th April (to be in the hands of the Synod Business Convener at the c/- Synod Office, Auchenflower).

(Consensus)

GREETING TO THE GOVERNMENT/S OF THE DAY

It was resolved that the Synod –

10.17 (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) Crisis in Aged Care Funding (see Minute 10.62)

(ii) Support for those experiencing Marginalization (see Minute 10.61)

(iii) Support for School Chaplaincy (Schools Commission Report)

(iv) Support for Aid and Development (UnitingWorld)

(v) Situation in Fiji (UnitingWorld)

(Consensus)

10.18 Authorises the Moderator, General Secretary and the Business Committee Convener to confirm the Minutes of the 28th Synod.

(Consensus)

ASSOCIATION OF VISITORS

It was resolved that the Synod –

10.19 Associates the following visitors with this Synod –

Rev Glenda Blakefield, National Assembly, Associate General Secretary

Rev Dr Chris Budden, NSW/ACT Synod

Rev Kenneth Sumner, SA Synod

Rev Dr Kerry Enright, National Director, UnitingWorld

Dr Steve Taylor, Guest Speaker for Norman & Mary Millar Lecture

Rev Don Whebell, Secretary, Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee and Synod Inter-Faith Relationships Committee

Mr David Munro, Synod Risk & Insurance Manager

Rev Tom Kerr

Sister Margaret Endicott

Rev Allan Thompson

(Consensus)

MODERATOR'S REPORT

It was resolved that the Synod -

- 10.20** Receives the Report of the Moderator. (Consensus)

SYNOD MULTI-CROSS CULTURAL COMMITTEE

It was resolved that the Synod -

- 10.21** (a) Receives the Report of the Synod Multi-Cross Cultural Committee.
- (b) Acknowledges the time and support given by the presbyteries, agencies and the Synod to journeying together with the culturally and linguistically diverse Ministers and their faith communities.
- (c) Encourages the continuation of the ongoing mutual, loving relationship between the multi-cross cultural committee and the wider church and encourages active participation of multicultural people in the life of the Church. (Consensus)
- (d) Records its appreciation for the service of Rev Dr Apichart Branjerdporn as Convenor of the Multi-Cross Cultural Committee. (Consensus)

SYNOD ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.22** Receives the Report of the Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee. (Consensus)

SYNOD INTER-FAITH RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.23** Receives the Report of the Synod Inter-faith Relationships Committee. (Consensus)

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.24** (a) Receives the Report of the General Secretary, together with Appendices. (Consensus)
- (b) Records its appreciation for the contributions made to the ministry and mission of the Uniting Church in Queensland by Rev Jenny Tymms, Rev Dr

Graham Beattie, Rev Carol Bennett, Mr Andrew Johnson, Mr Michael Jeffrey, Rev Jeff Savage, Rev Tom Kerr, Rev Paul Yarrow, and Miss Colleen Castray, whilst they were in Synod placements or employment.

(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

- (c) Records its appreciation to Rev Douglas Jones, through the following address by Rev Peter Elliott –

Minute of Appreciation, Rev Douglas Jones

Moderator, I bring this Minute of Appreciation for the Rev Douglas Jones on behalf of the Queensland Synod for his ministry to Christ and the church as General Secretary.

Douglas, it was on the 27th October 2007, following a special 3 hour meeting of the Synod, that we appointed you as our General Secretary elect. You commenced your appointment in 2008 and will conclude it at the end of this year. So we take this opportunity to acknowledge your contribution to the life of this Synod.

Soon after coming into this role of General Secretary, we were challenged with a difficult financial situation that had not been foreseen. This Synod had to make some very hard and at times painful decisions that affected many people in many ways.

The issues we have faced have been large, and we are thankful for your diligence and faithfulness in seeking to implement the decisions that we have made as our response. There was pain and disappointment in not being able to fund continuing positions. You have felt the weight of having to implement these decisions knowing their impact upon individuals and families and the wider church. We are thankful for the careful way that you have exercised your ministry and for the pastoral gifts you have employed amongst us.

We have valued your meticulous attention to detail. Yet, we have also valued your individual care of others. You have brought to this role your significant depth of theological reflection and sense of justice which has flowed into the pastoral situations you have engaged in, and pastoral letters you have written. We thank you for your frankness with us at times when we needed to hear the whole truth for it helped us to see with clarity what the issues were and helped to build trust between us.

Douglas, you have brought to us your extensive experience, trust earned across the diversity of the Synod, excellent management skills, the ability and experience to work with complexity and a passion for the ministry of the Church.

Vivien, we also express our thanks to you today for your support of Douglas during this ministry. For your prayers for him and the church and your willingness to support him we thank you. We acknowledge that not only has Douglas borne the toll but you have shared in that also.

Douglas, we will continue to pray for you as you serve us in this role, and we pray that whatever God has for you and Vivien when you do finish will be a blessing to you both as you continue to serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

Ministerial Changes

10.25 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

Mosese Fangupo, 6 February 2010

Kath Hobson, 30 January 2009

Jennifer Sims, 5 April 2009

Presbytery of Central Queensland

David Ferguson, 7 May 2010

Stanley Tuilovoni, 22 January 2009

Presbytery of Moreton Rivers

Jock Dunbar, 13 May 2010

John Gill, 7 December 2008

Linda Hamill, 13 May 2010

Melanie Perkins, 13 December 2009

Kerry Pierce, 13 May 2010

John Saunders, 6 December 2009

Keren Seto, 13 May 2010

Presbytery of South Moreton

Viliani Mila, 31 January 2009

Sue Pickering, 20 September 2009

Jennifer Roberts, 9 May 2009

Ministry of Deacon

Presbytery of Central Queensland

Denise Savage, 24 January 2009

Presbytery of South Moreton

Heather den Houting, 28 February 2010

Bob Mitchell, 23 January 2010

Sue Pickering, 20 September 2009

RECEIVED BY ORDINATION (TRANSITIONAL PHASE)

Ministry of the Word

Presbytery of Central Queensland

Euan McDonald, 24 July 2009

Presbytery of Mary Burnett

Kate Dix, 19 December 2009

Andrew Fox, 6 March 2009

Presbytery of Moreton Rivers

Richard Cassady, 13 May 2010

Presbytery of North Queensland

Anne Harley, 20 March 2009

Presbytery of South Moreton

Jim Haak, 1 August 2009
Ross Mackay, 18 December 2008
Paul Yarrow, 9 August 2009

Ministry of Deacon

Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane

Tom Kerr, 10 December 2009
Rosalyn Smail, 12 September 2009

Presbytery of Central Queensland

Karyl Davison, 17 April 2009

Presbytery of South Moreton

Jenny Busch, 19 October 2009
Louise Edwards, 9 August 2009

2. RECEIVED BY COMMISSIONING

Youth Worker

Joanne Nottle, 16 August 2009

3. DEATHS

Ministers of the Word

John Gillingham
Frank Harmon
Dik (Dirk) Morreau (Previously acknowledged)
Eric Linford (Lin) Reilly
Ian Russell
Bert Wade

4. RETIREMENTS

Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane

David Bernard
Werner Haase
John Patton
Peter Ralphs

Presbytery of Mary Burnett

Peter Hall

Presbytery of Moreton Rivers

Donald McKay
Ruth O'Sullivan
David Pitman

Presbytery of North Queensland

Gordon Burley

Presbytery of South Moreton

Ruth Tracey
Barry Walker

5. MINISTERS / DEACONS / INTERNS / YOUTH WORKERS / LAY PASTORS RECEIVED FROM OTHER SYNODS

Synod of New South Wales / ACT

Judith Dalton
John Ruhle
Ian Stehbens (retired)
Margaret Stehbens (retired)
Marian Zaunbrecher

Synod of South Australia

Shane Kammermann
David Kelly

Synod of Victoria / Tasmania

Bevan Lobley
Subrananiam Manopavan

6. MINISTERS / DEACONS / INTERNS / YOUTH WORKERS / LAY PASTORS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER SYNODS

Northern Synod

Jenny Tymms

Synod of Victoria / Tasmania

Carol Bennett
Colin Gurteen
Rowena Harris
Devadosan Sugirtharaj

Synod of Western Australia

Greg Ross
Denise Savage
Jeff Savage

7. MINISTERS ON SECONDMENT FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS

From 26th Synod to 27th Synod

Bruce Bartleet
Helen Dick
Stephen Henderson
Woong-Jae Kim
Darren King
Marius Kruger
Heeg-Sang Kwoun
Brian Nagel
Peter Overton
Leva Pat
Tino Scanlan
John Walker

Since 27th Synod

Paul Cho
Kwang Ko
Paul Macgregor
Linda McWilliam
Schalk Pienaar
Costa Stathakis
Annette Wood

8. MINISTERS WHOSE RECOGNITION HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN

Resignation

Alister Cameron
Ross Davies
Chris Jones
Dominique Watson

(Consensus)

Appointments

10.26 Notes the following appointments made by the Council of Synod since the 27th Synod contained in Appendix II to the report of the General Secretary –

Associate General Secretary (0.6)

Rev Dr Marian Zaunbrecher

Calvary Christian Calvary Council

Appointed for a 1 year term from 1 January 10

Rev Wendi Sargeant

Council of Synod

Mrs Sue Mulcahy

Cromwell College Council

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09

Mr Lindsay Farrell

Mr Joe Goodall

Reappointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09

Mr Ben de Jong

Mr Barrie Rollason

Mrs Barbara Merefield

Rev Graham Cole

General Secretary Search Committee

Rev Bruce Johnson (Chairperson)

Rev Gwen Fisher

Rev Bob Harriman

Mr Andrew McBryde

Mr Roy Evans

Grace College Council

Appointed 23 May 09 – June 10

Ms Ruth Grieve

John Flynn College Council

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09

Mr Lachlan Marsh

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09

Ms Olive Jones

Mr Martin Price

Reappointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09
Mr Geoff Webell
Mrs Annette Ireland
Mr Peter Phillips

Kings College Council

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09
Mr David Addis

Reappointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09
Mr Steve Costello
Rev Ray Herrmann

Legal Reference Committee

Appointed for a 3 year term from the 9 Jun 09
Mr Jim Demack

Reappointment 3 years term from the 26 Nov 09
Mr Neil Dutney
Mr Peter Burden

Moreton Bay College Council

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09
Mr Peter Davey
Mrs Kerry Harding

Appointed for a 2 year term from 1 Jan 09
Mrs Rhonda Richards
Mrs Elizabeth Stannard (chair)

Appointed for a 1 year term from 1 Jan 09
Mr Greg Johnson

Appointed for a 3 year term from Jan 10
Mr John Bland

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 10
Mr Col Sutcliffe

Appointed for 2010 to fill a casual vacancy
Mrs Sylvia Griggs

Moderatorial Candidature Task Group

Rev Dr David Pitman (Convenor)
Mrs Sharon Kirk
Mrs Jenny Brecknell
Mr Ron Skilton
Mr Peter Burden

Multi-Cross Cultural Committee

Appointed until the 28th Synod from 2 Jun 09

Rev Dr Apichart Branjerdporn

Appointed for a 3 year term from 5 Mar 09

Mrs Terani Lima

Rev Lu Senituli

Mr Aisea Tuinona

Rev Bradley Foote

Appointed for a 2 year term from 5 Mar 09

Rev Marius Kruger

Rev Ben Lo

Mr Vili Waqainabete

Appointed for a 1 year term from 5 Mar 09

Rev Hedley Fihaki (corresponding)

Rev Andrew Ross

Pastor Moses Leth

Rev David Won Kim

Mrs Lyn Chew

Reappointed for a 3 year term from 20 Feb 10

Mrs Lyn Chew

Rev David Won Kim

Mr Moses Leth

Pastor Candidature Committee

Appointed 20 Feb 10

Rev Lucie Bennett

SCOTS PGC Council

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09

Mr Robert Wild

Mr John Brown

Ms Ann Oneton

Mr Geoff Willett

Reappointed for a 3year term from 1 Jan 10

Ms Jenny Garde

Mr Andrew Credland

Mr Hugh Rose

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 10

Mrs Bonnie Locke

Synod Business Committee

Mr Michael Hewson

Mrs Michelle Comollatti

Mr Andrew Johnson

Rev Peter Elliott

Synod Chaplaincy Commission

Mrs Robyn Solomon

Appointed for a 3 year term from 20 Feb 10

Rev Andrew Gunton (Chair)

Synod Counselling Committee

Rev Allan Kuchler (Chair)

Reappointed 3 year term from 22 May 09

Rev David Baker

Rev Dr Neil Pembroke

Appointed 3 year term from 22 May 09

Rev Gerda Olafsen

Synod Discipline Committee

Appointed 3 year term from 23 March 09

Mr Alan Demack (Convenor)

Appointed 3 year term from 22 August 09

Ms Jenny Fitzgerald

Mr Ian Park

Synod Ecumenical Relationship Committee

Mr John Agnew

Synod Interfaith Relationship Committee

Rev Anne Hulbert

Rev Don Whebell

Rev Paul Walton

Rev Ray Richmond

Rev Heather Griffin

Rev Bob Harriman

Rev Peter Lockhart

Mrs Dorothy Demack

Mr Neil Ballment

Mr John Agnew

Synod Sexual Misconduct Complaints Committee

Reappointment for a 3 year term from the Nov 09

Rev Glennis Johnston

The Lakes College Council

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09

Rev Gale Hall (Chairperson)

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 09

Mr Scott Johnson

Mr Andrew Aitken

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 Jan 10

Ms Melinda Harrison

UCA Directors on the Board of EDUCANG Ltd
Ms Robyn Solomon
Mr John Tainton

UCA reps on PMSA Council
Appointed 3 year term from 1 July 09
Mr Bernie Stein

UnitingCare Board
Appointed from 21 Feb 09 until Feb 10
Appointed from 20 Feb 10 until Feb 11
Mrs Heather Watson (Chair)

Appointed for a 3 year term from October 09
Mr Stephen Cantwell

Appointed for a 3 year term from February 10
Ms Jude Munro

Appointed for a 3 year term from 1 March 10
Mr Dawson Petie

(Consensus)

Twenty-Ninth Synod

10.27 It was resolved that the Synod determines–

(a) that the 29th Synod will be held from Friday, 7 October to Wednesday, 12 October 2011 at Alexandra Park, Alexandra Headlands.

(Consensus)

(b) that the Council of Synod be given authority to vary the date and the venue if necessary.

(Consensus)

Synod Leadership Team - Meetings

10.28 It was resolved that the Synod determines–

(a) that meetings of the Synod Leadership Team be held on the following days –

2010 2 June
7 July
4 August
1 September
6 October
3 November
1 December
2011 2 February
2 March
6 April
4 May
1 June

6 July
3 August
7 September
5 October

(Consensus)

- (b) that authority be given to the Moderator and the General Secretary to vary the dates if necessary.

(Consensus)

Council of Synod - Meetings

10.29 It was resolved that the Synod determines–

- (a) that meetings of the Council of Synod be held on the following days –

2010 20-22 August
27 November

2011 19 February
21 May
20 August

(Consensus)

- (b) that authority be given to the Moderator and the General Secretary to vary the dates if necessary.

(Consensus)

Youth and Children's Ministry Unit

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.30** (a) Gives thanks to God for all those who have offered ministry through the Youth and Children's Ministry Unit;

- (b) Records its appreciation to all the staff and volunteers who have worked with the Youth and Children's Ministry Unit;

(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

- (c) Commits to take up the challenge to instigate a radical reprioritisation of the Church's mission to and ministry with youth, young adults, children and families, so that they are of a very high priority in all the Synod's activities and planning of order to enable young people to know the transforming love of God in Jesus Christ;

- (d) Requests that the Council of Synod, Synod Leadership Team, Board of Christian Formation and other synod bodies build this radical reprioritisation into the agenda for each of their meetings;

- (e) Encourages presbyteries, congregations and faith communities to take up the challenge outlined in (c) and to build this into the agenda of each meeting of the council;

(Consensus)

- (f)** Requests that all reports to the 29th Synod (including Council of Synod, Synod Leadership Team and other Synod bodies) give a high and distinct priority to how they have taken up the challenge and of any positive outcomes that have resulted;
- (g)** Invites presbyteries that take up the challenge outlined in (c) to give high and distinct priority in their report to the 29th Synod on how they have taken up the challenge and of any positive outcomes that have resulted;
- (h)** Suggests the following approaches as ways of engaging with the challenge referred to in (c) and (e) above:
 - i. times of listening to young people;
 - ii. focus groups formed that include young people;
 - iii. brain storming sessions;
 - iv. new ministry projects;
 - v. camps;
 - vi. outreaches;
 - vii. establishing combined regional or presbytery youth worship congregations;
 - viii. actively supporting both prior to and afterwards the participation of young people in Summer Madness discipleship camps, NCYCs and other wider church opportunities;
 - ix. forming productive networks or task groups to stimulate ministry to youth, young adults, children or families;
 - x. actively learning from and tapping into the approaches of churches or para-church organisations who are providing effective ministry to young people, (whether from our denomination or another);
 - xi. encouraging, resourcing and valuing ministries to individual young people, pairs or small groups in mentoring relationships as much as large group ministries;
 - xii. new outreach courses for young people similar to Youth Alpha so that our young people have a vehicle to learn about evangelism by doing it;
 - xiii. strategic planning groups who will give the lead to each council in how to tackle the challenge in their time together.
- (i)** Encourages every council of the Church in Queensland to pray for specific guidance in relation to the Church's mission to and ministry with youth, young adults, children and families and how these can be incorporated into any strategic vision emerging out of the *Together on the Way - Enriching Community* discernment process.

(Consensus)

BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.31** (a) Receives the report of the Board for Christian Formation including the Appendix *Offering our best to God and the Church - Continuing Education for Ministry*.
(Consensus)
- (b) Records a Minute of Appreciation for the significant contribution that Rev Dr David Rankin has made to the worship, witness and service of the Uniting Church in Queensland, particularly through his teaching and leadership at Trinity Theological College.
(Consensus – carried by acclamation)
- (c) Records its appreciation to Rev Dr David Rankin, through the following address by Dr Sue Fairley –

Minute of Appreciation, Rev Dr David Rankin

The Synod records its deep appreciation for the ministry of Rev Dr David Rankin during his placement, first as Head of Department – Church History and then as Director of Studies - Church History at Trinity Theological College between 1992 and 2010. In doing so, the Synod notes the following:

- *David has brought to his teaching and research both a keen intellect and his internationally-recognised scholarship. His three scholarly monographs have all been published during his tenure at Trinity: *Tertullian and the Church* (1995), *From Clement to Origen: the social and historical context of the church fathers* (2006), and *Athenagoras: philosopher and theologian* (2008). His thorough grounding in the theological debates of the early church has provided a sound basis for all his teaching and thinking. It has constantly nourished his commitment to the theological formation of the UCA and those training for its specified ministries. Students of “Early Church” and “Fathers and Heretics” will remember David as an enthusiastic teacher with a comprehensive knowledge of and a deep love for his discipline.*
- *David has also served for significant periods as Academic Dean (1993-2003) and Principal (2004-2010). He also completed terms as Head of the School of Theology of Griffith University and President of the Brisbane College of Theology. In these various roles the combination of his continuing presence, his knowledge of the tertiary sector, and his intentional leadership have provided stability to the College during periods of significant uncertainty and major institutional transitions.*
- *In each of these roles David has brought a capacity for big-picture and clear thinking, attention to detail, prompt discernment of the key issues, healthy negotiation, and efficient formulation of policy. Nowhere were these skills more clearly on display than during 2008/09 when he led the development of Trinity’s Affiliation Agreement with Australian Catholic University following the unexpected decision to close the BCT. The exercise of these skills has been*

accompanied by his strong support of College staff and faculty colleagues, and a pastoral sensitivity to the needs of staff and students alike.

- *In his leadership of the college David has invested considerable energy in new projects. He initiated the shaping of postgraduate theology and ministry programs for Griffith University. He developed learning opportunities through Presbytery-based regional campuses of Trinity (now operated through Pilgrim Learning Community). He shaped and instigated formation intensives (contributing to the formation of candidates and lay ministers from beyond south-east Queensland through live-in weekends).*
- *David has readily shared in the wider ministry of the Uniting Church through his active membership of numerous committees as well as in visiting Presbyteries, leading seminars, preaching, and serving as a Minister-in-Association in his home congregation.*
- *David will also be remembered for his deep commitment to his family, his quick and witty sense of humour, his enjoyment of conversation (especially over coffee at approved coffee-shops), and his support of the Collingwood Football Club.*
- *Above all, however, David will be remembered for his dedication to Jesus Christ and his church. For all this, and more, the Synod thanks God for the ministry of David Rankin amongst us, and prays God's blessing on his future ministry.*

(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

Continuing Education for Ministers

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.32** (a) Urges Presbyteries (and others such as the Chaplaincy Commission) to allocate significant meeting time to study and discuss the document *Offering our best to God and the Church - Continuing Education for Ministry*.
(Consensus)
- (b) Requests the Board for Christian Formation in light of the feedback received from the process in (a) to bring proposals to the 29th Synod.
(Consensus)

SYNOD SCHOOLS COMMISSION

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.33** (a) Receives the report of the Synod Schools Commission.
(Consensus)
- (b) Records a minute of appreciation for the educational ministry provided through EDUCANG Ltd, the joint venture between the Queensland Synod and the Anglican Church, and acknowledges with deep gratitude the significant commitment to that ministry by teachers, administrators and other staff over the past sixteen years.
(Consensus)

- (c) Records a minute of appreciation to those who have served on the Board of EDUCANG Ltd and particularly in recent years, Mr Col Sutcliffe, Mr Neville Smith, Mr John Tainton and Mrs Robyn Solomon.
(Consensus)
- (d) Notes the distribution of the brochure outlining the role of the Schools Commission.
(Consensus)
- (e) Recognises the significant contribution the Schools Commission Executive Officer has made to strengthen the relationship between the Synod and Uniting Church related schools and urges the Council of Synod to consider ongoing funding for the position from April 2011 to assist the Schools Commission and to resource Uniting Church related schools.
(Consensus)
- (f) Associates the following people with the Synod for the purpose of the Synod Schools Commission report:
Dr Rod Crouch, Principal of Moreton Bay College
Ms Chris O’Gorman, Chaplain of Somerville House
Ms Karen Harrison, Head of Secondary, Unity College
(Consensus)

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT FUNDS COMMITTEE

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.34** Receives the report of the Ministerial Support Fund.
(Consensus)

SYNOD BIOETHICS COMMITTEE

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.35** Receives the report of the Synod Bio-Ethics Committee.
(Consensus)

SYNOD CHAPLAINCY COMMISSION

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.36** (a) Receives the Report of the Synod Chaplaincy Commission.
(Consensus)
- (b) Reaffirms the important place of Chaplaincy within the life and ministry of the Uniting Church in Queensland.
(Consensus)
- (c) Records its thanks to Rev Dr Ray Reddicliffe for his service to the Commission as its Chairperson over the past four years.
(Consensus)
- (d) Records its appreciation to the Churches of Christ for partnering with the Synod Chaplaincy Commission in the provision of Certificate IV in Pastoral Care.

- (e) Conveys to the Commonwealth Government its desire that funding for school chaplaincy continues. (Consensus)
- (f) Sends greetings to Rev Alamoti Lavaki (who is deployed in Afghanistan) and Rev Craig Collas, who will soon be deployed overseas. (Consensus)

UNITING CHURCH FOUNDATION

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.37** Receives the report of the Uniting Church Foundation. (Consensus)

PRESBYTERIES

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.38** (a) Receives the report of the Presbytery of Bremer Brisbane. (Consensus)
- (b) Records its appreciation for the ministry of Mrs Mabel Walker when she was a Deaconess with the Methodist Church. (Consensus)
- 10.39** Receives the report of the Presbytery of Calvary. (Consensus)
- 10.40** (a) Receives the report of the Presbytery of Central Queensland (Consensus)
- (b) Requests the Assembly to initiate conversations with representatives of government (Federal, State and Local) regarding employment practices within the mining sector with a view to diminishing the social impact on families and communities. (Consensus)
- 10.41** Receives the report of the Presbytery of Mary Burnett. (Consensus)
- 10.42** (a) Receives the report of the Presbytery of Moreton Rivers. (Consensus)
- (b) Records its appreciation to Rev Murray Fysh as the former Presbytery Minister. (Consensus)
- (c) Records its appreciation to Rev Lu Senituli as the former Presbytery Chairperson. (Consensus)
- 10.43** Receives the report of the Presbytery of North Queensland. (Consensus)
- 10.44** Receives the report of the Presbytery of South Moreton. (Consensus)
- 10.45** Receives the report of the Presbytery of The Downs. (Consensus)

UNITINGCARE QUEENSLAND

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.46 (a)** Associates the following people with the Synod for the purpose of the UnitingCare Queensland report:

Ms Jude Munro
Mr Steve Muggleton
Mr Paul Mulooly
Mr Richard Royle
Mr Trevor Carlyon
Mr Greg Mackay

(Consensus)

- (b)** Receives the report of UnitingCare Queensland.

(Consensus)

Presentation of Moderator's Medals for Community Service

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

William Afeaki
Beth Baker
Robyn Everest
Lew Huth
Andrew and Anne Jeays
Phyllis Johnson
Elizabeth Landers
Heather Newby
Vera Otto
Dorothy Pickering
Ann Pratt
Wally Reid
Frank Robinson
Laurie Ward

(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

FINANCE, INVESTMENT AND PROPERTY BOARD

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.48** Receives the Report of Finance, Investment and Property Board.

(Consensus)

Finance, Investment and Property Board Membership

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.49 (a)** Agrees to increase the appointed membership of the Finance, Investment and Property Board from five to six by replacing the ex-officio position of the Executive Officer with an appointed member.

(Consensus)

- (b)** Notes that five of the six appointed members of the Finance, Investment and Property Board will be nominated for membership of The Uniting Church Property Trust (Q.) to be appointed by the Synod.

(Consensus)

- (c)** Agrees that the term of one of the two new nominees to be appointed to the Finance, Investment and Property Board will conclude at the end of the 29th Synod to ensure that the principle of rotational membership is maintained.

(Consensus)

- (d)** Authorises the Council of Synod to make any consequential changes to the Synod By-Laws to give expression to (a) to (c), subject to their ratification by the Synod Legal Reference Committee.

(Consensus)

Financial Position of the Synod

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.50 (a)** Recognises the significance and the complexity of the financial position of the Synod.

(Consensus)

- (b)** Supports the process which has been commenced with presbyteries and agencies to identify underutilised assets and to reallocate those resources.

(Consensus)

- (c)** Requests the Council of Synod, resourced by the FIP Board to:

- (i)** progress the work outlined in (b) with presbyteries, congregations and agencies with a view to achieving a significant capital injection sufficient to:

- a.** deal with the current financial deficit; and
- b.** sustain resourcing for mission and ministry into the future.

- (ii)** develop, approve and implement a new model for contributions by presbyteries, congregations and agencies to the Synod.

(By Agreement)

GENERAL SECRETARY SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Synod Leadership Team

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.51** Thanks Rev Lyn Burden, Rev Dr Apichart Branjerdporn and Mr Gavin Caird for the contribution they have made to the life of the Queensland Synod through their membership of the Synod Leadership Team.
(Consensus)

Vision for Mission Advocate

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.52** Records its appreciation for the contribution that Rev Duncan Macleod has made to the ministry and mission of the Uniting Church across Queensland, particularly in his role as Vision for Mission Advocate.
(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

Process for Appointment of General Secretary

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.53** (a) Receives the report of the Search Committee outlining its process;
(Consensus)
- (b) Receives one nomination from the Search Committee;
(By Agreement)
- (c) Determines that the nomination for the position of General Secretary receives not fewer than 65% of the votes cast to be deemed to have been elected.
(By Agreement)

Membership of the Assembly

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.54** Determines that each Presbytery within the bounds of the Synod of Queensland shall appoint one Minister and one lay member as members of the Assembly under the provisions of Reg. 3.6.2(c)(v).
(Consensus)

SYNOD BY-LAW REVIEW WORKING GROUP REPORT

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.55** (a) Adopts the framework as described in Schedules 2 and 3 of the Synod By-Law Review Working Group Report as the basis upon which a review of the current bylaws is to be undertaken;
(Consensus)

- (b) Requests the Working Group to continue its work and apply the principles of the framework (Schedule 3) in its process to review and redesign the By-Laws, and to make recommendations to the Council of Synod (Standing Committee) for its implementation; (Consensus)
- (c) Authorises the Council of Synod (Standing Committee) to amend / approve the revised By-Laws recommended to it by the Working Group; (Consensus)
- (d) Requests the Council of Synod (Standing Committee) to advise the 29th Synod of the revised By-Laws that it has amended / approved. (Consensus)
- (e) Adopts the change of name from “Council of Synod” to “Standing Committee” in the redrafting of the By-Laws relating to that body. (Consensus)

GENERAL PROPOSALS

PREAMBLE TO CONSTITUTION

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.56** Agrees to amend the Preamble to the Constitution by deleting the existing Preamble and replacing it with:

The Uniting Church in Australia was formed on 22 June, 1977 by the union of the Congregational Union of Australia, the Methodist Church of Australasia and the Presbyterian Church of Australia after the approval of “The Basis of Union” by the Councils and Courts of those three churches, guided by the belief that they had been called by God into this union.

The Church in accordance with the Basis of Union accepts that the responsibility for government in the Church belongs to the people of God by virtue of the gifts and tasks which God has laid upon them and so organises its life that locally, regionally and nationally, government is entrusted to representatives, men and women, bearing gifts and graces, with which God has endowed them for the building up of God’s Church and that therefore the Church shall be governed by a series of inter-related councils, each of which has its tasks and responsibilities in relation to the Church and the world.

The Church in accordance with the Basis of Union acknowledges that the demand of the Gospel, the response of the Church to the Gospel and the discipline which it requires are partly expressed in the formulation by the Church of its law, the aim of which is to confess God’s will for the life of Christ’s Church.

As the Church believes God guided it into union so it believes that God is calling it to continually seek a renewal of its life as a community of First Peoples and of Second Peoples from many land, and as part of that to

RECOGNISE THAT

1. When the churches that formed the Uniting Church arrived in Australia as part of the process of colonisation they entered a land that had been created and sustained by the Triune God they knew in Jesus Christ.
2. Through this land God had nurtured and sustained the First Peoples of this country, the Aboriginal and Islander peoples, who continue to understand themselves to be the traditional owners and custodians (meaning 'sovereign' in the languages of the First Peoples) of these lands and waters since time immemorial.
3. The First Peoples had already encountered the Creator God before the arrival of the colonisers; the Spirit was already in the land revealing God to the people through law, custom and ceremony. The same love and grace that was finally and fully revealed in Jesus Christ sustained the First Peoples and gave them particular insights into God's ways.
4. Some members of the uniting churches approached the First Peoples with good intentions, standing with them in the name of justice; considering their well being, culture and language as the churches proclaimed the reconciling purpose of the Triune God found in the good news about Jesus Christ.
5. Many in the uniting churches, however, shared the values and relationships of the emerging colonial society including paternalism and racism towards the First Peoples. They were complicit in the injustice that resulted in many of the First Peoples being dispossessed from their land, their language, their culture and spirituality, becoming strangers in their own land.
6. The uniting churches were largely silent as the dominant culture of Australia constructed and propagated a distorted version of history that denied this land was occupied, utilised, cultivated and harvested by these First Peoples who also had complex systems of trade and inter-relationships. As a result of this denial, relationships were broken and the very integrity of the Gospel proclaimed by the churches was diminished.
7. From the beginning of colonisation the First Peoples challenged their dispossession and the denial of their proper place in this land. In time this was taken up in the community, in the courts, in the parliaments, in the way history was recorded and told, and in the Uniting Church in Australia.
8. In 1985 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of the Uniting Church in Australia formed the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.
9. In 1988 the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress invited the other members of the Church to join in a solemn act of covenanting before God.
10. After much struggle and debate, in 1994 the Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia discovered God's call, accepted this invitation and entered into an ever deepening covenantal relationship with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress. This was so that all may see a destiny together, praying and working together for a fuller expression of our reconciliation in Jesus Christ.

AND THUS the Church celebrates this Covenantal relationship as a foretaste of that coming reconciliation and renewal which is the end in view for the whole creation.

(Carried by Formal Majority)

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION - DEFINITIONS

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.57** Agrees to amend the Constitution by adding the following definitions to Clause 3 –

Covenantal relationship is the relationship which exists between the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and the Assembly, which began in the invitation of 1988 and response of 1994, in which both groups commit themselves to developing more just, inclusive and equal relationships in the Church that recognise the place of First Peoples, the difficult history of this nation since invasion, and the particular responsibility of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress for ministry with and among Aboriginal and Islander peoples.

First Peoples are the Aboriginal and Islander peoples of Australia who are the indigenous peoples of this land. These peoples are a diverse group with many languages and communal identities.

Second Peoples are all those peoples who have come after the First Peoples and who are beneficiaries in some way of the invasion and dispossession of the lands of the First Peoples. Among Second Peoples within the Church are many whose racial, cultural and linguistic backgrounds, experiences and expression of Christian faith are not those originating in Western forms of thought and theological expression.

(Carried by Formal Majority)

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION - DIVISION 4 (CLAUSE 49)

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.58** Does not agree to amend Division 4 of the Constitution.

(Carried by Formal Majority)

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION - CLAUSE 71

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.59** Agrees to amend the Constitution to read:

71. All rulings as to the interpretation of this Constitution or any of the Regulations made by the Assembly shall be made by the President after taking appropriate advice, and noting the Preamble, provided however that any such ruling may be confirmed, varied, modified, rescinded or over-ruled by the Assembly or by the Standing Committee on its behalf.

(Carried by Formal Majority)

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION - CLAUSE 39

It was resolved that the Synod –

10.60 Agrees to amend the Constitution by the addition of the following sub-clause to clause 39:

(b) (i) If within six months of a decision of the Assembly, or its Standing Committee, at least half the Presbyteries within the bounds of each of at least half the Synods, or at least half the Synods, notify the President that they have determined that in their opinion

- a decision includes a matter vital to the life of the Church; and
- there was inadequate consultation prior to the decision

the President shall notify the Church that the decision is suspended until the Assembly has undertaken further consultation;

(ii) Following this consultation, the Assembly shall determine whether to affirm, vary or revoke the original decision and report its decision and reasons to the Church;

(iii) No action taken in reliance on a the original decision of the Assembly prior to the President's notification to the Church under clause 39(b)(i) shall be invalid by virtue of that notification;

(iv) This sub-clause can only be used a second or subsequent time on the same matter if the Assembly determines to vary the original decision.

(Consensus)

THEOLOGY AND FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES FOR RELATING TO PEOPLE EXPERIENCING MARGINALIZATION

It was resolved that the Synod –

10.61 (a) Adopts the paper 'Theology and Foundational Principles for Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization'. (See Appendix I)

(Consensus)

(b) Encourages congregations and presbyteries to reflect upon the paper 'Theology and Foundational Principles for Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization' in the light of their communal life, ministry and mission.

(Consensus)

(c) Forwards the paper 'Theology and Foundational Principles for Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization' to the following UCA community services, as a basis for the community services of the Church to develop policy and procedure in response to people experiencing marginalization, including people with a disability:

- UnitingCare Queensland (Blue Care, UnitingCare Health, Lifeline Community Care)

- Wesley Mission Brisbane
 - Synod Schools Commission
 - Any congregation or Presbytery that conducts community services with people experiencing marginalization, including people with a disability.
(Consensus)
- (d)** Determines to establish a Synod Advisory Group Regarding People Experiencing Marginalization, including the following Terms of Reference:
- To offer expert advice
 - To assist the agencies, commissions, presbyteries and congregations with the development and review of relevant policy and procedure consistent with the ‘Theology and Foundational Principles for Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization’
 - To develop resources for congregations and presbyteries, to assist with their engagement with people experiencing marginalization, including people with a disability, in ways that are consistent with the paper ‘Theology and Foundational Principles for Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization’.
(Consensus)
- (e)** Authorises the Council of Synod to appoint members to the Synod Advisory Group Regarding People Experiencing Marginalization.
(Consensus)
- (f)** Requests that the Synod Advisory Group Regarding People Experiencing Marginalization undertake further work in how to include, serve, and respond to other groups of people experiencing marginalization consistent with the above approach in relation to people with a disability.
(Consensus)
- (g)** Requests the Council of Synod arrange for a review of the paper ‘Theology and Foundational Principles for Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization’ in five years time and report to the 32nd Synod.
(Consensus)

RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.62 (a)** Notes the Assembly Statement *Dignity in Humanity: Recognising Christ in Every Person* which states:

The Uniting Church believes that every person is precious and entitled to live with dignity because they are God’s children, and that each person’s life and rights need to be protected or the human community (and its reflection of God) and all people are diminished;

and

Through the prophets and the life and words of Jesus, God calls people to work for justice for the poor and vulnerable;

and

We note that the internationally recognised human rights are indivisible, universal and inalienable:

No rights are possible without all that is necessary for a decent life, including the rights to work with just pay and conditions, adequate food and health care, adequate, appropriate and accessible housing and a safe environment, education for the full development of the human potential and the right of people to participate fully in decision-making about their common future. Civil and political rights cannot be separated from economic, social and cultural rights;

and

We pledge to assess current and future national public policy and practice against international human rights instruments, keeping in mind Christ's call and example to work for justice for the oppressed and vulnerable.

(Consensus)

- (b)** Affirms our belief that aged people who need support to maximise their health and wellbeing and engage in daily life, should be able to stay in their own home and community as long as possible and:
- i. have a positive experience of life
 - ii. have the opportunity for full community inclusion
 - iii. maintain cultural practices that are integral to their identity
 - iv. continue to learn, grow and develop regardless of frailty or disability
 - v. be respected as unique and valuable individuals, with their strengths and capacities honoured and utilised
 - vi. have valued roles – both 'relational' and 'doing' roles
 - vii. be as healthy as possible and able to recover well from illness or disabling events
 - viii. be in control of their lives and involved in all decisions that affect them
 - ix. be empowered through access to information
 - x. have meaning and purpose in life
 - xi. be able to meet their basic needs for food, shelter and assistance

(Consensus)

- (c)** Notes that the Australian Government's current policies and funding for aged care are inadequate to support these aims

(Consensus)

- (d)** Notes that for some years, multiple reviews, organisations and industry groups have expressed great concern about the long-term viability of the residential aged care industry, and called for significant reform

(Consensus)

- (e)** Notes that Queensland's population is ageing faster than that of any other state in Australia and that therefore the crisis in residential aged care is hitting this state first

(Consensus)

- (f) Notes that the Australian Government has acknowledged the need for reform of the aged care sector
(Consensus)
- (g) Requests other councils of the Church (including Presbyteries and Congregations) participate in campaigns on aged care reform
(Consensus)
- (h) Calls on the Government to commit to significant reform which will ensure
- i) aged people are able to stay in their own home and community as long as possible
 - ii) real choice is available for aged people and their families in the type of services they receive, including both community aged care and residential aged care
 - iii) real opportunity for aged people and their families to choose from among service providers
 - iv) aged people and their families have confidence in the quality of services they access
 - v) viability of aged care providers, by ensuring funding reflects real costs and is appropriately indexed
 - vi) appropriate services are available throughout Queensland, particularly in regional and remote communities
 - vii) people who are disadvantaged or vulnerable have full access to the services they require
- (Consensus)
- (i) Requests the Moderator bring to the attention of the Australian government the concerning state of aged care in Queensland.
(Consensus)

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.63** In order to strengthen the relationship and mutual understanding between the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) and the broader non-Indigenous life of the Uniting Church in Australia, and in the event that the proposed *Preamble to the Constitution of the Uniting Church in Australia* (the Preamble) is adopted, requests the Assembly Standing Committee to, facilitate the continuation and deepening of the theological conversation across the life of the whole Church initiated by the Preamble by exploring the relationship between the claims of the Preamble and the christological confession of the *Basis of Union* by:
- (a) initiating an exploration through a joint conversation between the Working Group on Doctrine and the UAICC;
(Consensus)
 - (b) requesting the Working Group on Doctrine and the UAICC to jointly develop appropriate resources which facilitate mutual understanding of the theological issues raised by the Preamble;
(Consensus)

- (c) reporting to the 14th Assembly (2015) on the outcome of that exploration
(Consensus)

INCREASE IN THE THRESHOLD FOR MINOR PROPERTY WORKS ABLE TO BE APPROVED BY PRESBYTERY

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.64** Increases the threshold from \$30,000 to \$50,000 for minor works able to be approved by the Presbytery.
(By Agreement)

ASSEMBLY

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.65** Receives the report of the Assembly.
(Consensus)

ASSEMBLY BENEFICIARY FUND

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.66** (a) Associates Mr Ian Glenny with the Synod for the purpose of presenting the Assembly Beneficiary Fund.
(b) Receives the report of the Assembly Beneficiary Fund.
(Consensus)

RETIREMENT OF MINISTERS

It was resolved that the Synod –

Rev Gordon D Burley

- 10.67** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Gordon D Burley to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 31 December 2008 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
(b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Gordon D Burley

Rev Werner Haase

- 10.68** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Werner Haase to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 26 November 2009 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
(b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Werner Haase

Rev Peter Hall

- 10.69** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Peter Hall to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 8 November 2009 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Peter Hall

Rev Donald McKay

- 10.70** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Donald McKay to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 31 July 2009 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Donald McKay

Rev Ruth O’Sullivan

- 10.71** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Ruth O’Sullivan to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 31 December 2009 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Ruth O’Sullivan

Rev John Patton

- 10.72** (a) Notes the advice of Rev John Patton to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 29 July 2010 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev John Patton

Rev Dr David Pitman

- 10.73** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Dr David Pitman to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 31 January 2009 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Dr David Pitman

Rev Dr Peter Ralphs

- 10.74** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Dr Peter Ralphs to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 31 January 2010 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Dr Peter Ralphs

Rev Ruth Mary Tracey

- 10.75** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Ruth Mary Tracey to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of age from 18 September 2009 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(i)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Ruth Mary Tracey

Rev Barry Walker

- 10.76** (a) Notes the advice of Rev Barry Walker to become a minister retired permanently on the grounds of health from 31 December 2009 under Reg. 2.4.7(a)(ii)
- (b) Receives a minute of appreciation of the Ministry of Rev Barry Walker
(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

MEMORIAL MINUTES

It was resolved that the Synod -

- 10.77** Adopts the Memorial Minutes as presented concerning ministers who have died since the Twenty-Seventh Synod.

Rev John Gillingham
Rev Dik (Dirk) Morreau
Rev Eric Linford (Lin) Reilly
Rev Ian Alexander Russell
Rev Bert Wade

(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

BALLOT COMMITTEE REPORT

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.78** Receives the Report of the Ballot Committee.

(Consensus)

Moderator-Elect

- 10.79** Elects the Rev Kaye Ronalds as Moderator-Elect.

General Secretary

- 10.80** Appoints Dr Shirley Coulson as the next General Secretary.

Synod Leadership Team

- 10.81** Elects the following members of Synod to the Synod Leadership Team –

Continuing Members: Rev David Baker
Rev Bob Harriman
Rev Lu Senituli

New Members: Mr Geoff Batkin
Rev Gwen Fisher
Ms Heather Watson

Council of Synod

- 10.82** Elects the following members of Synod to the Council of Synod –

Ministers

Rev Shayne Blackman
Rev Bruce Cornish
Rev Andrew Gunton
Rev Sue Pickering

Lay

Mr John Agnew
Mr Gavin Caird
Mr Paula Hukehuke
Mrs Sharon Kirk

Mrs Sue Mulcahy
Mr Bruce Peden
Mr Kenneth Whyte

SYNOD COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COUNCILS

Synod Schools Commission

10.83 Elects the following persons to the Synod Schools Commission –

Chairperson: Rev David MacGregor

Members: Term concludes at the 29th Synod
Mr Gregory Adsett
Rev Dr Noel Davis

Term concludes at the 30th Synod
Mrs Annette Dale
Mr Brian Hedges

10.84 Finance, Investment & Property Board

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

Chairperson: Mr Andrew McBryde

Member: Term concludes at the 29th Synod
Mr Allan Hanson

Term concludes at the 30th Synod
Mr Bob Cambridge
Mr Ralph Collins
Mr Bruce Peden

The Uniting Church Property Trust (Q.)

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

Chairperson: Mr Andrew McBryde

Secretary: Mr Robert Packer

Members: Mr Ian Busch
Mr Bob Cambridge
Mr Ralph Collins
Mr Allan Hanson

Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee

10.86 Appoints the following persons to the Synod Ecumenical Relationships Committee –

Members: Mr John Agnew
Mr Neil Ballment

Mrs Dorothy Demack
Rev Jock Dunbar
Rev Heather Griffin
Rev Anne Hulbert
Rev Ray Richmond
Rev David Won Kim
Rev Don Whebell

Synod Inter-Faith Relationships Committee

10.87 Appoints the following persons to the Synod Inter-Faith Relationships Committee –

Members: Mr John Agnew
Mr Neil Ballment
Mrs Dorothy Demack
Rev Lynette Burden
Rev Jock Dunbar
Rev Heather Griffin
Rev Anne Hulbert
Rev Ray Richmond
Rev David Won Kim
Rev Don Whebell

Synod Multi-Cross Cultural Committee

10.88 Appoints the following person to the Synod Multi-Cross Cultural Committee –

Convenor: Mrs Terani Lima

THE NORMAN AND MARY MILLAR MEMORIAL LECTURE

10.89 The Moderator welcomed Dr Steve Taylor, the 2010 Norman and Mary Millar Lecturer, and invited him to address the Synod. Dr Taylor's topic was "*Where Does the Hope Come From?*".

TOGETHER ON THE WAY ENRICHING COMMUNITY

It was resolved that the Synod –

- 10.90**
- (a)** Receives the report of the "Together on the Way: Enriching Community" process.
 - (b)** Affirms the amended "Call and Gospel Values" as the church proceeds to the next step on the "Together on the Way: Enriching Community" process (See Appendix II); and
 - (c)** Requests the Facilitation Group to forward all feedback to the Steering Committee.

(Consensus)

UNRESOLVED PROPOSALS REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL OF SYNOD

It was resolved that the Synod –

Refers the Proposals listed below (Proposals 2.13(b) to (i) and 11) to the Council of Synod –

10.91 **Proposal 2.13(b) to (i): Continuing Education for Ministers**

- (b) Reminds ministers Continuing Education for Ministry (CEM) is required by the Code of Ethics (see Code of Ethics 3.4(a) and the Assembly document *Seeking a Heart of Wisdom*).
- (c) Urges Presbyteries to require annual reports and learning plans from all people in placement, asking:
 - i. What continuing education experiences have you engaged with this past year?
 - ii. Indicate how these experiences relate to your 3 to 5 year plan of continuing education
 - iii. What areas of study do you plan to take up in the coming year(s)?
 - iv. Are you experiencing any difficulties meeting your CEM requirements? If so, what are they?
- (d) Asks Presbyteries to raise CEM issues in all congregational reviews.
- (e) Urges Presbyteries to encourage Joint Nominating Committees to ask about CEM when considering placements.
- (f) Determines to cease the practice of including CEM funds as a component of stipend from January 2011.
- (g) Requests the Council of Synod in consultation with Pilgrim Learning Community (and other relevant bodies) to devise a system which links payments to approved CEM learning plans, completion of study and actual expenditures by November 2010 for implementation in January 2011.
- (h) Requests the Council of Synod to ensure travel funds are available to assist ministers in more remote areas to engage in CEM.
- (i) Commends to ministers the undergraduate and post-graduate courses offered through the Synod's Network for Christian Formation (Trinity Theological College and its association with Australian Catholic University, Pilgrim Learning Community, the various Presbytery Campuses for Christian Formation).

(Consensus)

LAY PREACHERS ASSOCIATION PROPOSAL

10.92 **Proposal 11: Lay Preachers Association Proposal**

- (a) Requests all Queensland Uniting Church Organisations co-operate to ensure a flow of information, maintenance of co-ordinated lists and encouragement of Lay Preachers to study and contribute as local team members.
- (b) Requests the Assembly review the Regulations 2.8.12 to 2.8.13 to ensure that they are relevant to current and anticipated needs of the Church.

- (c) Recognises that the Queensland Synod Lay Preachers' Association has a list of Lay Preachers for Queensland.
- (Consensus)

COURTESIES EXTENDED

It was resolved that the Synod –

10.93 Places on record its sincere appreciation of –

The Moderator, the Rev Bruce Johnson, for his leadership of the Twenty-Eighth Synod

The General Secretary, the Rev Douglas Jones, for the preparation of, and assistance in processing the business of the Synod

The Business Committee Convenor, Rev Peter Elliott, and the members of the Business Committee

The members of the Facilitation Group, chaired by Mr Michael Hewson

The Small Group Convenor, Rev Beth Nicholls

Rev Robyn Kidd, who co-ordinated the Celebration of Ministries

The President of Assembly, Rev Alistair Macrae who presented the Synod Bible Studies

The Moderator's Chaplain, Rev Kaye Ronalds

Rev Glennis Johnston and Rev Doug Foster, the Pastoral Coordinators

Ms Megan Thomson, Mrs Sharon Kirk and Rev David Macgregor, for coordinating the Synod Opening

Indigenous and Multi-Cross Cultural Congregations who participated in the Opening Worship

The members of the Ballot Committee chaired by Rev David Wiltshire

The Synod Liaison Officers: Rev Linda Hamill, Rev Viliami Mila, Ms Josie Nottle, Rev Keren Seto

The Communication Services Unit: Ms Mardi Lumsden and Mr Osker Lau for their commitment to the daily updating of the Synod website for those who could not attend Synod

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, the daily running of the Synod venue and for the co-ordination of the Shuttle Bus. Alex Park chefs and kitchen staff who provided superb meals for the Synod. All staff at Alexandra Park Conference Centre for their hard work and hospitality.

Dr Steve Taylor who presented the Norman and Mary Millar Memorial Lecture for 2010

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

The worship leaders and musicians co-ordinated by Rev David MacGregor and Mrs Sharon Kirk

Messrs Ken Griggs, Peter Evans, Derek Griffin, Greg Shea, Paul Lenahan, who provided technical support for the Synod

And finally, the members of staff of the Office of the Moderator and General Secretary – Mrs Ana Mila, Ms Kristine Bromiley, Mrs Shayne Hearley and Rev Dr Marian Zaunbrecher.

(Consensus – carried by acclamation)

CLOSE

The Twenty-Eighth Synod was closed with a Service of Holy Communion led by the Moderator and the General Secretary.

APPENDIX I

The following Theology and Foundational Principles adopted by the 28th Synod is in addition to the Policy Principles for working with people with a disability adopted by the 15th Synod in 1991.

Theology and Foundational Principles for Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization

Theology and Foundational Principles Relating to People Experiencing Marginalization

Theology

If theology is “faith seeking understanding”, then a theology of persons needs to embrace the diversity of persons that life presents.

We are made in the Image of God. We are not made physically perfect, nor morally perfect, rather we are made with a desire to love and be loved: to be in relationships of Grace.

Therefore the spiritual quest of life’s journey may be finding answers to three basic questions, Whose am I? Who am I? and Why am I?

Answers to these questions can be found in an exploration of three basic Christian beliefs: the Incarnation, the Holy Trinity, and Resurrection.

The Incarnation declares to us that God has come to us as a human being in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. This physical identification of the creator with the created, is not for God’s sake, but is a revelation of divine love for our sake. Although God is a mystery to us and as unattainable as the wind, this same God has become personal and as close to us as our breath: an ever-present presence. We can begin to know God’s loving embrace in and through the love of other persons.

Therefore all persons ought to be respected and engaged with compassionately.

The self revelation of God as the Trinity of Grace is a further invitation to persons to participate in the life of a relational God bound to each other by Grace: a love that is a self giving for the benefit of the other.

Hence, we are welcomed into communities of Grace: the body of Christ in the world: the church where each person has a part to play, however hidden or humble that part may be. Everyone has a place to belong.

Therefore we ought to work together for the common good: humbly, seeking justice, through a calling to be peacemakers.

The Resurrection is God’s powerful declaration that love is stronger than death: that new life in Christ begins here and now.

We do not have to fatalistically accept what life has to offer, rather there is always hope.

This is the beginning of learning, change for the better, and the path to wisdom.

The Uniting Church in Australia, as a new denomination of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic church has some particular characteristics. One such characteristic is group leadership exercised through a system of interrelated councils, supported by a consensus decision making approach.

Therefore the Church is not dominated by clergy. The Church ensures that the minority voice and the dissenting voice are heard.

Under the banner of Uniting, we in the Uniting Church are committed to seeking unity and embracing diversity.

Therefore we ought embrace persons of difference and seek unity through reconciliation and healing of relationships.

We are on a journey of faith and covenant-making together with Christ, in Christ and through Christ to worship God, give moral witness and serve others, which connects our head with our heart with our hands on an authentic mission in the company of persons and God.

Therefore in the living out of God’s mission we will engage personally, act locally and behave ethically.

Foundational Principles

To identify foundational principles we need to know what marginalization is, who is impacted and how those impacts are likely to be.

WHAT IS MARGINALIZATION?

The process in which groups of people are excluded (marginalized) by wider society

Society struggles to truly include and embrace all members; there is a tendency to dismiss and exclude those who are perceived as different. This is widely termed as marginalization. It refers to the relationship between the individual and society and focuses on the process of excluding people through the use of structures, policies, practices and attitudes.

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE LIKELY TO BE MARGINALIZED?

People or groups more likely to experience marginalization include people with disability, older people, Indigenous people, people experiencing homelessness, asylum seekers, people experiencing mental ill-health, people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, young people especially those who have had limited access to education and employment, and anyone who comes under the gaze of the law.

WHAT ARE THE LIKELY IMPACTS ON THOSE PEOPLE?

The likely impacts on people arising from the process of marginalization include experience of significant disadvantage such as material poverty, educational poverty, social and relational poverty, and more broadly, poverty of opportunities and experiences. People will often have heightened vulnerability to poor health and multi-generational poverty.

For many people, living on the margins means they experience more challenges in everyday life; they have fewer options and their situation is worsened by policies and attitudes which they encounter every day. Our service systems struggle to offer the flexibility and helpfulness people need. Often just one more yet small setback is enough to tip people experiencing marginalization into such things as homelessness or pursuing crime as a way of surviving. Such vulnerabilities can be addressed through system reform but also through personal action being taken by ordinary citizens.

PEOPLE WHO ARE VULNERABLE AND/OR MARGINALIZED:

- Have worthwhile views about what is important to them
- Have a human spirit that can sustain them through devaluing experiences
- Share needs in common with all other human beings
- Belong in ordinary neighbourhoods, embedded in friend and family networks
- May express choices and ways to meet their needs that have potential negative impacts for them
- Choose valuation over devaluation; humanisation over dehumanisation, given the chance.

HOWEVER, PEOPLE WHO ARE VULNERABLE AND/OR MARGINALIZED ARE MORE LIKELY TO:

- Experience rejection and marginalization
- Experience material poverty and poverty of typical life experiences
- Be the less powerful party in any relationship, but particularly with the human service sector
- Have abnormal life experiences, missing out on typical developmental opportunities, which in turn can effect the capacity to judge human service quality or have high expectations about what life can provide
- Experience harm by human services and other social systems
- Have heightened vulnerability
- Be kept safe by freely given relationships

- Be at risk of early death through poverty (for example financial, resource, relationship, cultural, opportunity and health), the actions of science and human service systems.

Given this understanding about marginalization the Uniting Church and its agencies are committed to the following principles as the foundation for engaging with people experiencing marginalization, their families, advocates and allies.

Along life's journey people experience ranges of ability and capacity, insight and understanding, which change with time and circumstance. Therefore, there can be no fixed or universal solutions when meeting the needs of the whole person. Particular attention needs to be paid to people in rural Queensland.

In order to develop and implement appropriate responses, individuals, congregations and agencies, who engage with people experiencing marginalization particularly including people with a disability, their families and friends, need to develop policy and procedures that are not only responsive to the needs of people, but also give value to their individuality, and enrichment to their lives in community.

The community services of the UCA are participating in the call of God for justice making, by faithfully working together for the good of all, by remaining open to mutual learning, in the Spirit of humility, through respectful engagement with people, and driven by the compassion of Christ,

Mutual learning will occur in the various relationships which will be established between and amongst members and staff of the Church and people experiencing marginalization (particularly including people with a disability) who might or might not receive services. This learning will be further enhanced through scholarship, and from engagement with members of the community; and will take into consideration the standards of Government and national and international agreements. Further learning will occur through regular examination of process and practice, evaluated by and with people with disabilities.

APPENDIX II

Together on the Way Enriching Community

Together on the Way Enriching Community Call and Gospel Values

The Church's Call at this Time

"... in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their sins against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us." (2 Corinthians 5:19)

As part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic church, we acknowledge God's mission to the world in Jesus Christ and share its commitment to serve the world for which Christ died.

As a fellowship of the Holy Spirit confessing Jesus as Lord through worship witness and service we journey as a pilgrim people towards God's reconciliation and renewal of the whole creation.

In response to God's call at this time, the Uniting Church in Queensland is committed to:

Uniting in Christ
acting with love
working for justice
living with hope
witnessing in faith.

Gospel Values

As the Uniting Church in Queensland sharing in God's mission in the world, we will be guided by values that derive from and give expression to God's reconciling action in Jesus Christ.

In response to God's grace, we are called to live out these values:

Faithfulness
Compassion
Humility
Truthfulness
Justice

These gospel values will inform our lives as individuals and as the community of the Uniting Church in Queensland.

Faithfulness

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. (John 3:16)

We respond to God's faithfulness to us by living the gospel story by gathering in worship and sharing good news.

Related themes: prayer, renewal, community, belonging, hope

Compassion

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:32)

Caring for others and being cared for is at the heart of our Faith. Caring is the ultimate basis for true community. Compassion is the force that drives us to eliminate suffering and encourage new ways of being in the world.

Related themes: love, action, respect, reconciliation, inclusion

Humility

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness, and being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. (Phil 2:5-8)

We are called to reflect a Christ-like life towards others, through service, sharing the gospel and demonstrating servant leadership.

Related themes: grace, wisdom, insight, service, generosity, forgiveness, wonder

Truthfulness

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14-15)

As Jesus is revealed to us as the light of the world, coming in glory truth and unfailing love and faithfulness, so we will be known for our integrity truth telling and honour for all people.

Related themes: integrity, advocacy, reconciliation, honesty, forgiveness, peace

Justice

Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit is upon him and he will proclaim justice to the nations... He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering wick until he brings justice to victory. (Matthew 12: 18, 20)

Because God requires that we do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God, so we understand that all we have is to be shared with others and the resources of our planet directed to the benefit of all. We will achieve this in word, deed and action.

Related themes: mercy, hope, risk-taking, commitment, mission, advocacy, action

Note 1: The “related themes” above are drawn from contributions from the workshops held in February to April, 2010, for this process.

Note 2: Scripture texts are from New Revised Standard Version (1989)