

MINUTES

of the

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE

SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

Held at Melbourne
21 – 26 May 2010



Moderator: Ms Isabel Thomas Dobson

General Secretary: Rev Rob Brown

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THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SYNOD HELD IN MELBOURNE

21 to 26 MAY 2010

All activities, except for the opening service, were held at La Trobe University,
Kingsbury Drive, Bundoora

10.1 FRIDAY, 21 MAY 2010

10.1.1 PRE-SERVICE SINGING

A pre-service singing session took place at 6.30pm at the Church of Christ Melbourne City Conference Centre.

10.1.2 OPENING SERVICE

A Service of Worship, including the Eucharist, was held at 7.00pm at the Church of Christ Melbourne City Conference Centre and was attended by approximately 300 people.

The preacher was Rev Ken Sumner, National Chairperson of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.

10.2 SATURDAY, 22 MAY 2010

10.2.1 WELCOME

The Moderator occupied the chair, welcomed those present at the meeting and declared the Synod session open.

The traditional owners of the land, the Wurundjeri people, were acknowledged.

10.2.2 DEVOTIONS

The Moderator's Chaplains, Ms Sue Clarkson and Rev David Fotheringham led worship with a responsive psalm, hymn and prayer.

10.2.3 ORIENTATION SESSION

Dr Jill Tabart and Mr Drew Hanna led an orientation session regarding table groups, use of name tags, questions concerning reports, the facilitation group, responsibilities of the Synod, consensus decision-making, proposals, protocols, procedures, general information and the agenda.

Rev Steve Terrell, sound manager, addressed the meeting regarding the use of microphones and the sound system.

Dr Tabart and Mr Hanna were thanked for the orientation.

10.2.4 OPENING BUSINESS

The Moderator introduced the two general chaplains, Ms Jean Leeman and Rev Tim Angus.

The theological reflector, Rev Eseta Meneilly, was also welcomed by the Moderator.

Mr John Bridge, Synod Occupational Health and Safety Advisor, addressed the meeting regarding occupational health and safety issues and emergency procedures throughout the Synod.

10.2.4.1 Appointments and Associations

The General Secretary spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.1.1).

10.2.4.2 Greetings to and from other Synods

The General Secretary spoke to a proposal.

Verbal greetings were received from other Synods and the General Secretary noted that the Synod of Queensland was meeting at the same time as this Synod.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.2).

Greetings were received on behalf of the Presbyterian Church from Rev John Wilson, Clerk of the Assembly, Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

10.2.4.3 Confirmation of Synod 2010 Minutes

The General Secretary spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.3).

10.2.4.4 Roll of Synod

The General Secretary tabled the Roll of Synod and announced that it would be adopted at 1.45pm, Sunday 23 May.

10.2.5 BUSINESS COMMITTEE AND SYNOD 2010 PROCEDURES (REPORT C1)

Mr Geoffrey Grinton, Synod Business Manager, spoke to a written report.

Two resolutions were passed by consensus (10.7.23.1 and 10.7.1.2).

10.2.6 MODERATOR'S REPORT

The Moderator vacated the chair and the Ex-Moderator, Rev Jason Kioa, occupied the chair.

The Moderator spoke to a written report.

A Joint Statement of the Moderator and the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC), Tasmania (Appendix AA6) was presented by the Moderator and the Chairperson of the UAICC Tasmania Regional Committee, Auntie Eva Richardson.

The Moderator resumed the chair at the conclusion of her report.

10.2.7 SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE (REPORT C4a & C4b)

The General Secretary spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by a formal majority (10.7.6.1).



10.2.8 UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS (UAICC)

10.2.8.1 Tasmania (Report C5b)

Rev Grant Finlay; Auntie Eva Richardson, Chairperson, UAICC Tasmania; and Rev Tim Matton-Johnson spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.22.2.1).

10.2.9 WORKING GROUPS

The Synod met in working groups to discuss major concerns.

10.2.10 BIBLE STUDY

The Synod resumed in plenary session.

Bible study was led by Rev Prof Sean Winter, Professor of New Testament, Centre for Theology and Ministry.

10.2.11 CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY (REPORT B1a)

Rev Dr Jenny Byrnes, Executive Director, Centre for Theology and Ministry (CTM); Associate Professor David Beckett, Chairperson, CTM Board; Dr Peter Mallen, Director, Discipleship Education, CTM; and Rev Prof Randall Prior, Principal, Theological College, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.8.1).

10.2.12 BOARD OF MISSION AND RESOURCING (REPORT B3)

Mr Chris Begg, Chairperson, Board of Mission and Resourcing, and Ms Heather Ackland, Director, Accounting Services, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.9.1).

10.2.12.1 Changes to “Property Sale Proceeds Policy”

Rev Graeme Harrison, Convenor of the Mission Policy Committee, Board of Mission and Resourcing, spoke to a proposal.

The matter was adjourned for discussion in Working Groups.

10.2.13 INTRODUCTIONS – COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

The General Secretary introduced Ms Penny Mulvey, Director, Communications, and Mr Chip Henriss, Communications Manager.

10.2.14 REVIEW OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY (REPORT C4c)

The Associate General Secretary, Rev Dr Peter Blackwood took the General Secretary's chair. The General Secretary left the meeting.

Rev Terry Trewavas, Chairperson of the General Secretary's Review Group, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.7.1).

A resolution was passed by agreement [10.7.7.2 (a) & (b)].

Ballot papers were distributed.

10.2.15 COMMISSION FOR MISSION (REPORT B2a)

The General Secretary resumed his chair.

Rev Kate Tierney, Chairperson, Commission for Mission Board, and Rev David Pargeter, Executive Director, Commission for Mission, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.1).

10.2.16 BALLOT – DECLARATION OF GENERAL SECRETARY

The Returning Officer, Rev Dr Robert Johnson, announced the re-appointment of Rev Rob Brown for a further five year term as General Secretary. [10.7.7.2 (c)]

This was received with acclamation.

The General Secretary's Review Group was thanked by acclamation.

The General Secretary addressed the meeting.

10.2.17 UNITING AGED CARE (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA) (REPORT B5)

Dr Alan Wilkinson, Chairperson, Uniting Aged Care (Victoria and Tasmania) Board, and Ms Robyn Batten, Executive Director, Uniting Aged Care (Victoria and Tasmania), spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.11.1).

10.2.18 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Rev Eseta Meneilly presented a theological reflection.

10.2.19 GRACE

Rev David Fotheringham offered grace before dinner.

10.2.20 ASSEMBLY REPORT

The Synod welcomed Rev Terence Corkin, General Secretary, National Assembly who spoke to a report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.12).

10.2.21 DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: "JULIAN OF NORWICH"

Story teller Julie Perrin gave a dramatic presentation of the works and person of 14th century English mystic, Julian of Norwich. The Synod expressed its appreciation by acclamation.

10.2.22 MISSIONAL IMAGINATION

Mr John Emmett, Mission Catalyst, Commission for Mission, delivered a paper on "The Big Picture – Grounding our Missional Imagination".

10.2.23 CLOSING HYMN AND PRAYER

A closing hymn was sung and a prayer was led by Ms Sue Clarkson.

10.3 SUNDAY, 23 MAY 2010

10.3.1 OPENING

The Moderator occupied the chair.

10.3.2 DEVOTIONS

Devotions were led by Ms Sue Clarkson.

10.3.3 ADOPTION OF THE ROLL OF SYNOD

The General Secretary proposed the adoption of the Synod Roll.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.4).

10.3.4 PROPERTY AND INSURANCE SERVICES (REPORTS B4b)

Ms Kirsty Bennett, Manager, Major Projects and Architecture, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.13).

10.3.5 PROPERTY BOARD AND PROPERTY TRUSTS (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA) (REPORTS B4a, C2a & C2b)

Mr Sebert Ruddock, Executive Director, Administration and Finance, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.14.1).

10.3.6 PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION, DEFINITIONS, AND CLAUSES 49 AND 71 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UCA (REPORT C4d)

The Moderator welcomed Rev Ken Sumner, National Chairperson of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.

Rev John Rickard, Mr Vince Ross and Rev Ken Sumner made a presentation which included a video presentation from the President of the National Assembly, Rev Alistair Macrae.

There was discussion in table groups.

10.3.7 SERVICE OF TRIBUTES AND THANKSGIVING

The Moderator welcomed the special guests to the Service of Thanksgiving for the life and witness of ministers and deaconesses, including those:

- (a) who have died since the 2008 meeting of Synod;
- (b) who have retired since the 2008 meeting of Synod;
- (c) who have celebrated 50, 60, 65 and 70 years since ordination or commissioning, since the 2008 meeting of Synod;
- (d) who have been ordained since the 2008 meeting of Synod; and
- (e) who have been received from another denomination since the 2008 meeting of Synod.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.5).

Rev Dr Norman Young responded on behalf of those recognised in the tributes.

10.3.8 ON THE WAY TOGETHER (REPORT D2.8)

Rev Jason Kioa took the Moderator's chair.

Rev Rob Brown, the General Secretary and Mr John Emmett, On the Way Together Consultant, gave a presentation, followed by table group discussions.

Rev Scott Guyatt, Presbytery Minister – Mission Development, Presbytery of Tasmania and Rev Steve Terrell, Presbytery Minister – Mission & Education, Presbytery of Port Phillip East spoke of the experience of the process in their presbyteries.

10.3.9 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

The Moderator resumed the chair.

Rev Eseta Meneilly presented a theological reflection.

10.3.10 GRACE

Ms Sue Clarkson offered grace before dinner.

10.3.11 HYMN

The Moderator occupied the chair.

A hymn was led by Ms Sue Clarkson.

10.3.12 PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION, DEFINITIONS, AND CLAUSES 49 AND 71 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UCA

Discussion of this matter resumed.

Three resolutions were passed by consensus [10.7.6.2(a), (b) & (d)]

A resolution was passed by agreement [10.7.6.2(c)].

10.3.13 UNITINGCARE HOUSING VICTORIA (REPORT B6)

Ms Sue Norman, Chairperson, UnitingCare Housing Victoria (trading as Uniting Housing Victoria) spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.15)

10.3.14 UCA FUNDS MANAGEMENT (REPORT D2.6)

Mr Graeme Rough, Executive Director, Funds Management, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.16.1).

10.3.15 MINUTE OF APPRECIATION – MS SUE NORMAN

Mr Dick Carter, Chairperson, UCA Funds Management, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by acclamation (10.7.16.2).

Ms Sue Norman, former Executive Director, UCA Funds Management, addressed the meeting in reply.

10.3.16 UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS (UAICC)

10.3.16.1 Victoria (Report C5a)

Mr Vince Ross, Rev John Rickard and Rev Willie Pickett, Chairperson, UAICC Victoria, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.22.1.1).

10.3.17 ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE (REPORT D2.1)

Mr Sebert Ruddock, Executive Director, Administration and Finance, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.17).

10.3.18 ACCOUNTING SERVICES – ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (REPORT D2.2)

Ms Heather Ackland, Director, Accounting Services, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.18).

10.3.19 CLOSING HYMN AND PRAYER

A closing hymn was sung and a prayer was led by Rev David Fotheringham.

10.4 MONDAY, 24 MAY 2010

The Moderator occupied the chair.

10.4.1 DEVOTIONS

Devotions were led by Ms Sue Clarkson.

10.4.2 BIBLE STUDY

Bible study was led by Rev Prof Sean Winter, Professor of New Testament, Centre for Theology and Ministry.

10.4.3 BETHEL PASTORAL CENTRE

Rev Jacob de Ridder, Chairperson of the Board of Bethel Pastoral Centre, introduced Ms Jacqui Morse, the Coordinator of Bethel Pastoral Centre. Ms Morse addressed the meeting.

10.4.4 MINISTERS IN CRISIS TASK GROUP

Rev Joan Wright Howie and Rev Dr Peter Blackwood presented the report of the Ministers in Crisis Task Group.

Prof Barry Fallon was thanked for his research and development of the report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.19).

10.4.5 BALLOTS - SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE

Ballot papers for the preliminary (majority support) Synod Standing Committee election were distributed.

10.4.6 GENERAL SECRETARY (REPORT D1)

The General Secretary spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.20)

10.4.7 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL PLACEMENTS (REPORT D3)

Rev Dr Peter Blackwood spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.25.1)

10.4.8 CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

Rev Dr Jenny Byrnes, Executive Director, Centre for Theology and Ministry (CTM), and Rev Neil Peters, member of the Review of Education for Ministry Committee, made a presentation on "The Review of Education for Ministry".

There was discussion in table groups.

10.4.9 WORKING GROUPS

The Synod met in working groups to discuss proposals related to changes to the "Property Sales Proceeds Policy".

10.4.10 HYMN

The Synod resumed in plenary session.

A hymn was led by Rev Susan Malthouse.

10.4.11 AUDIT COMMITTEE (REPORT C3)

Mr Ben Cohen, Chairperson of the Audit Committee, and Rev Julie Ross, member of the Audit Committee, spoke to a written report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.21).

10.4.12 UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS (UAICC)

10.4.12.1 Transfer of Powers - Victoria

Rev John Rickard and Rev Willie Pickett, UAICC Victoria, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.22.1.2).

10.4.12.2 Transfer of Powers – Tasmania

Rev Grant Finlay, Auntie Eva Richardson and Rev Tim Matton-Johnson, UAICC Tasmania, spoke to a proposal.

There was discussion in table groups.

The matter was adjourned.

10.4.13 INTERVIEW – MR MILTON WYNNE

Mr Milton Wynne, Youth Worker with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress at Narana, was interviewed by Mr Chip Henriss, Communications Manager.

10.4.14 BALLOT - DECLARATION OF PRELIMINARY BALLOT (MAJORITY SUPPORT) - SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE

Rev Dr Robert Johnson, Synod Returning Officer, announced the result of the preliminary ballot for the Synod Standing Committee as follows:

All candidates in Groups A and B had received the support of a majority of those participating in the ballot.

10.4.15 THANKS – REV KEN SUMNER

Rev Colin Gurteen from the Presbytery of Tasmania offered thanks to the guest preacher at the Opening Worship service, Rev Ken Sumner, National Chairperson of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.

The Moderator thanked Rev Ken Sumner and presented him with a gift.

Rev Ken Sumner addressed the meeting.

10.4.16 COMMISSION FOR MISSION

10.4.16.1 Justice and International Mission Unit (JIM)

Mr Antony McMullen, Social Justice Officer, spoke to a proposal regarding “Fair Trade and the Christian Community”.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.2.2).

Dr Mark Zirnsak, Director, JIM Unit spoke to proposals regarding “Religious exceptions to the Equal Opportunities Act” and “Religiously motivated discrimination” (Report B2b).

These proposals were referred to forthcoming working groups.

10.4.17 PRESBYTERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP (REPORT C6)

Rev Ian Brown, Chairperson of the Presbyteries Consultative Group, spoke to a written report. There was discussion in table groups.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.24).

10.4.18 APOLOGY

Rev Sharon Hollis and Ms Lauren Mosso, members of the Facilitation Group spoke to negotiated amendments to the proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.22.2.2).

A prayer was led by Rev David Fotheringham, Passing of the Peace was shared and the meeting gathered together in song.

10.4.19 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Rev Eseta Meneilly presented a theological reflection.

10.4.20 CLOSING HYMN AND PRAYER

A hymn was sung and a prayer was led by Rev David Fotheringham.

10.5 TUESDAY, 25 MAY 2010

The Moderator occupied the chair.

10.5.1 DEVOTIONS

Devotions were led by Ms Sue Clarkson.

10.5.2 BIBLE STUDY

Bible study was led by Rev Prof Sean Winter, Professor of New Testament, Centre for Theology and Ministry.

10.5.3 BOARD OF MISSION AND RESOURCING – PROPERTY SALES PROCEEDS

Rev Sharon Hollis introduced the Facilitation Group.

Rev Sharon Hollis spoke to an amended proposal and discussion followed. The matter was adjourned.

10.5.4 BALLOT – SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE

Ballot papers were distributed for the second ballot (nominal three-year term).

10.5.5 SHARE APPEAL

Mr David Hickey, Director of SHARE, addressed the meeting on the 30th birthday of SHARE and a birthday cake was shared.

10.5.6 BIOETHICS COMMITTEE

Rev Ross Carter, Chairperson, Committee on Bioethics, presented a report. Discussion followed.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.3).

10.5.7 ECUMENICAL AWARDS

Ms Joan McRae, Chairperson of the Ecumenical Relations Committee, introduced Rev Dr D'Arcy Wood to outline the awards. The Moderator presented the following awards:

Individual Award	Doug Down, Keilor East-Airport West Uniting Church, founder of CrossSing ecumenical choir
Group Award	
Highly Commended	Gisborne, Mount Macedon and Riddell's Creek Service of Thanksgiving and Blessing of the Emergency Services
Highly Commended	Mansfield Initiative to support Bonnie Doon Churches
Highly Commended	Maribyrnong City Linked Congregations Initiative with the Ethiopian Orthodox Church
Winner	Echuca-Moama "Christmas on the River"

10.5.8 WORKING GROUPS

The Synod met in working groups to discuss Justice and International Mission Unit proposals related to religious exceptions to the Equal Opportunity Act and religiously motivated discrimination.

10.5.9 HYMN

The Synod resumed in plenary session.

A hymn was led by Rev David Fotheringham.



10.5.10 BOARD OF MISSION AND RESOURCING – PROPERTY SALES PROCEEDS

Rev Sharon Hollis, Convenor, Facilitation Group, spoke to an amended proposal.

A resolution was passed by agreement (10.7.9.2).

10.5.11 MINUTE OF APPRECIATION – REV DEACON PAM WHITE

Rev Dr Peter Blackwood, Associate General Secretary, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by acclamation (10.7.25.2).

Rev Deacon Pam White, former Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placements, addressed the meeting in reply.

10.5.12 UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS (UAICC)

10.5.12.1 Transfer of Powers – Tasmania

Discussion of this matter resumed.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.22.2.3).

10.5.13 TERMS OF PLACEMENT COMMITTEE (REPORT D4.3)

Rev Sharon Hollis, Chairperson, Terms of Placement Committee, spoke to a written report and to two proposals.

Rev Dr Peter Blackwood, Secretary, Terms of Placement Committee, offered thanks to Rev Sharon Hollis on the conclusion of her term as Chairperson of the committee.

Three resolutions were passed by consensus (10.7.26.1, 10.7.26.2, 10.7.26.3).

10.5.14 BENEFICIARY FUND REPORT (REPORT F1)

Mr Robert Runco, Executive Director of the Beneficiary Fund, presented the Beneficiary Fund report.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.27).

10.5.15 NCYC 2011 PRESENTATION

Mr Drew Hanna, Youth Ministry Coordinator, gave a visual presentation on NCYC 2011.

10.5.16 UNITING AGED CARE (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA)

10.5.16.1 Campaign for older Australians

Dr Alan Wilkinson, Chairperson, Uniting Aged Care (Victoria and Tasmania) Board, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.11.2).

10.5.17 MINUTE OF APPRECIATION – REV ALISTAIR MACRAE

Rev Prof Randall Prior, Principal, Theological College, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by acclamation (10.7.8.2).

10.5.18 PRESBYTERY MINISTERS

Rev Jen Pretty and Mr Rohan Pryor presented the Presbytery Ministers' joint presentation "What is at the heart of the matter?"

There was discussion in table groups.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.28.1).

Rev Steve Terrell, Rev Jen Pretty and Mr Rohan Pryor spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.28.2).

10.5.19 PROPERTY BOARD AND PROPERTY TRUSTS (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA)

Rev Sue Withers, retiring Chairperson of the Property Board and Mr Sebert Ruddock, Executive Director, Administration and Finance, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.14.2).

10.5.20 TERTIARY CHAPLAINCY INITIATIVE (REPORT E8)

Mr Geoffrey Grinton, Chairperson of the Presbytery of Yarra Yarra; Rev John Smith, Convenor of the Tertiary Chaplaincy Group; Mr Rohan Pryor, Presbytery of North East Victoria; Rev Jay Robinson, Chaplain at Monash University Peninsula Campus; and Rev Dr John Evans, Presbytery of Yarra Yarra, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.29.2).

10.5.21 TIMING OF SYNOD

Rev Susan Malthouse and Mr John Curnow, Presbytery of Western Victoria, spoke to a proposal.

There was discussion in table groups.

The matter was adjourned.

10.5.22 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Rev Eseta Meneilly presented a theological reflection.

10.5.23 DECLARATION OF BALLOT – SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE

The Returning Officer, Rev Dr Robert Johnson, announced the results of the election for members of the Synod Standing Committee. This was received with acclamation.

Elected:

Group A

Mr Alan Bawden
Mrs Patricia Begg
Mr Brian Clarkson
Mr Gavin Faichney
Mrs Marge Goldsworthy
Rev Susan Malthouse
Rev John Mann
Ms Merinda Speedy

Presbytery

Tasmania
Port Phillip East
Port Phillip East
Port Phillip East
Loddon Mallee
Western Victoria
Yarra Yarra
North East Victoria

Group B (2013)

Rev Dr John Evans
Rev Carol Bennett
Dr Jill Tabart

Yarra Yarra
Tasmania

10.5.24 GRACE

Rev David Fotheringham offered grace before dinner.

10.5.25 INTERVIEW – MS JOAN GUINTO

Ms Joan (Jo) Guinto, St Albans Filipino Uniting Church congregation, was interviewed by Mr Chip Henriss, Communications Manager.

10.5.26 COMMISSION FOR MISSION

10.5.26.1 Justice and International Mission Unit (JIM)

Dr Mark Zirnsak, Director, JIM Unit, spoke to a proposal regarding “Alcohol reform”.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.2.1).

Mr Antony McMullen spoke to a proposal regarding “Mental health matters for people in prison”.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.2.4).

Dr Mark Zirnsak spoke to a proposal regarding “Israel and the laws of war”.

The proposal was amended and a resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.2.3).

10.5.27 CLOSING HYMN AND PRAYER

A hymn was sung and a prayer was led by Ms Sue Clarkson.

10.6 WEDNESDAY, 26 MAY 2010

10.6.1 DEVOTIONS

The Moderator occupied the chair.

Devotions were led by Rev David Fotheringham.

10.6.2 BIBLE STUDY

Bible study was led by Rev Prof Sean Winter, Professor of New Testament, Centre for Theology and Ministry.

Ms Merril Clayton, Presbytery of Tasmania, thanked him for his contribution and the Moderator presented a gift.

10.6.3 COMMISSION FOR MISSION

10.6.3.1 Justice and International Mission Unit – Religious exceptions to the Equal Opportunity Act

Rev Sharon Hollis, Convenor, Facilitation Group, spoke to an amended proposal and discussion followed. The matter was adjourned.

10.6.3.2 Justice and International Mission Unit – Religiously motivated discrimination

Rev Sharon Hollis, Convenor, Facilitation Group, spoke to an amended proposal and discussion followed.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.2.7).

10.6.3.3 Justice and International Mission Unit – People Trafficking

Rev Sharon Hollis, Convenor, Facilitation Group, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.2.5).

10.6.4 WELCOME

The Moderator welcomed Rev John Wilson, Clerk of the Assembly, Presbyterian Church of Victoria, who addressed the meeting.

The Synod responded with acclamation and a standing ovation.

The Moderator responded to Mr Wilson's message of reconciliation and led the Synod in prayer.

10.6.5 ON THE WAY TOGETHER

Rev Rob Brown, the General Secretary, presented a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.30.1).

10.6.6 PRESBYTERY REPORTS (REPORTS E1-E8)

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.29.1).

10.6.7 TIMING OF SYNOD

Rev Susan Malthouse spoke to an amended proposal.

A resolution was passed by agreement (10.7.29.3).

10.6.8 DATE OF SYNOD 2011

The General Secretary spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.23.2).

10.6.9 CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY (REPORT B1b)

10.6.10 Future of ministry to children/families and youth/young adults

Mr Drew Hanna, Youth Ministry Coordinator, and Rev Dr Jenny Byrnes, Executive Director, CTM, spoke to a proposal and discussion followed.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.8.3).

10.6.11 ONE MINUTE SPEECHES

Twenty-eight members made one minute speeches to the Synod.

10.6.12 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Rev Eseta Meneilly presented a theological reflection.

The Moderator thanked Ms Meneilly for her reflections. A multi-cultural group sang a Fijian song and the meeting responded with acclamation.

10.6.13 INTERVIEW – MR UZEMBE BYAMASU

Mr Uzembe (Jack) Byamasu, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo now residing in Shepparton, was interviewed by Mr Chip Henriss, Communications Manager.

10.6.14 NOMINATIONS PANEL (REPORT C7)

Rev Margaret Blair, Convenor of the Nominations Panel, spoke to a proposal.

Two resolutions were passed by consensus (10.7.31.1 and 10.7.31.2).

10.6.15 COMMISSION FOR MISSION

10.6.15.1 Justice and International Mission Unit – Religious exceptions to the Equal Opportunity Act

Rev Sharon Hollis, Convenor, Facilitation Group, spoke to an amended proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.10.2.6).

10.6.16 STANDING COMMITTEE

10.6.16.1 Change to the Constitution – Clause 39

Rev Rob Brown, General Secretary, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by agreement (10.7.6.3).

10.6.16.2 Nominating Committee for Moderator 2013-2016

Rev Rob Brown, General Secretary, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.6.4).

10.6.17 THEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PREAMBLE

Rev Dr Wes Campbell, Presbytery of Yarra Yarra, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.32).

10.6.18 CONCERN ABOUT AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Mr Alan Bawden, Presbytery of Tasmania, spoke to a proposal.

The proposal was amended and a resolution was passed by consensus (10.7.33).

10.6.19 MINUTE OF APPRECIATION

Mr Scott Guyatt, Presbytery Minister – Mission Development, Presbytery of Tasmania, spoke to a proposal.

A resolution was passed by acclamation (10.7.34).

10.6.20 CLOSING WORSHIP AND EUCHARIST

Members and visitors joined in a closing service at which the Moderator preached and the Eucharist was celebrated with the General Secretary presiding.



10.7 RESOLUTIONS

10.7.1 PROCEDURAL

10.7.1.1 Appointments and Associations

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To appoint the following people for the whole of the 2010 Synod Meeting:

Minute Secretaries:	Ms Robyn Hansen and Ms Natalie Brown
Returning Officer:	Rev Dr Robert Johnson
Deputy Returning Officer:	Mr Jim Milne
Stewards:	Ms Joan McRae Mr Gavin Faichney Mrs Lorraine Threlfall Rev Dr Elizabeth Nolan Mr Kevin Chapman Ms June Gillard Ms Rhonda McInerney Ms Merrill Clayton Ms Mary Sullivan Ms Janette Smith Ms Sue Walker
Timer Operator and notices:	Rev Kevin Dobson

- (b) To associate the following people for the whole of the 2010 Synod Meeting:

Rev Don Ikitoelagi
Ms Cheryl Lawrie
Dr Mark Zirnsak
Mr Vince Ross
Ms Kym Dyson
Rev Ken Sumner
Ms Josie Crisara
Mr Charlie Navallo
Mr Andrew McGuckian
Rev Terry Trewavas

- (c) To associate the following people for specific sessions of the 2010 Synod meeting:

Ms Cath James	For the business of the Commission for Mission
Ms Tess Keam	For the business of the Commission for Mission
Mr Antony McMullen	For the business of the Commission for Mission
Ms Jill Ruzbacky	For the business of the Commission for Mission
Mr John Emmett	For business relating to On the Way Together
Rev Jacob de Ridder	For business relating to Bethel and the Ministers in Crisis group

Ms Jacqui Morse	For business relating to Bethel and the Ministers in Crisis group
Rev Sharon Hollis	For business relating to the Terms of Placement Committee and the Facilitation Group reports
Rev Dr D'Arcy Wood	For the presentation of the Ecumenical Awards
Rev Joan Wright Howie	For the business of the Ministers in Crisis Task Group
Rev Ross Carter	For the business of the Bioethics Committee
Rev Dr Ji Zhang	For the business of the Proposed changes to the Preamble, Definitions, and Clauses 49 and 71 of the Constitution of the UCA
Mr Tim Atkins	For business related to Property Services

10.7.1.2 Synod 2010 Procedures

The Synod resolved:

- (a) That any proposal which may include a financial commitment not at present included in the Mission Support Fund of the Synod be subject to comment by a representative of the Board of Mission and Resourcing (BOMAR);
- (b) That the closure time for receiving nominations for the Standing Committee be 6.00pm on Saturday 22 May 2010;
- (c) That the closure time for receiving proposals be 6.00pm on Saturday 22 May 2010;
- (d) That any necessary elections for chairpersons be held at 10.20am on Monday 24 May, and that the ballot close at 2.00pm on that same day;
- (e) That any elections for members of boards, commissions and committees be held at 4.00pm on Tuesday 25 May and that the ballot close at 7.30pm on that same day;
- (f) That the election of members of Standing Committee be conducted in accordance with the Standing Committee by-laws, clause 5, as follows:

Event	Ballot commences	Ballot closes
Determine majority support for nominees	9.45am Monday 24 May	2.00pm Monday 24 May
Election of Group B members (nominal 3-year term)	10.15am Tuesday 25 May	2.00pm Tuesday 25 May
Election of Group A members (until the next ordinary meeting of the Synod)	4.00pm Tuesday 25 May	7.30pm Tuesday 25 May

- (g) That the business of the Synod be dealt with in accordance with the following timetable unless the Synod specifically determines otherwise:
 - (i) regular items throughout the Synod meeting will be as follows:

Event	Times
Devotions	Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed 9.00am
Bible study	Sat 2.00pm; Mon, Tues, Wed

Event	Times
Morning tea	9.15am Sat, Mon, Tues, Wed 10.30am-11.00am
Lunch	1.00pm–2.00pm
Afternoon tea	Sat, Mon, Tues 3.30pm-4.00pm; Sun 3.15pm-3.45pm
Dinner break	Sat, Sun, Tues 6.00pm-7.30pm
Start of evening session	Sat, Sun, Tues 7.30pm
Close of evening session, unless extension of time is approved by Synod	Sat, Sun, Tues 9.30pm

- (ii) The close of business will be 3.00pm Wednesday 26 May 2010, prior to the closing Eucharist; and
 - (iii) The timetables for Saturday 22 May, Sunday 23 May, Monday 24 May, Tuesday 25 May and Wednesday 26 May will be distributed daily by the Business Committee.
- (h) That the report of the UAICC Tasmania will be presented in the same session, or in the next session, as that of the Standing Committee.

10.7.2 GREETINGS TO AND FROM OTHER SYNODS

The Synod resolved:

- (a) to receive the messages of greetings from other Synods; and
- (b) to send greetings to all other Synods.

10.7.3 CONFIRMATION OF SYNOD 2010 MINUTES

The Synod resolved:

That the Moderator, General Secretary, Associate General Secretary and Business Manager be authorised to confirm the minutes of the 2010 meeting of Synod.

10.7.4 ADOPTION OF THE ROLL OF SYNOD

The Synod resolved:

That the Roll of Synod as finalised on the morning of Sunday 23 May be adopted. (Refer to Appendix AA1.1.)

10.7.5 SERVICE OF TRIBUTES AND THANKSGIVING

The Synod resolved:

to give thanks to God for the life and witness of ministers and deaconesses who:

- (a) have died since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev Roy Barrows
Rev Marilyn Boatman

Rev John MacLeavy
Rev Norman Marshall

Rev Graham Clark	Deaconess Joan Mawhinney
Rev Alan Coulson	Rev Gordon McGregor
Rev Kenneth Cross	Rev Dr Melville McMaster
Rev Jacobus J den Houting	Rev William McMillan
Deaconess Evelyn Ellemor	Rev Robert Mitchell
Rev Dudley Fox	Deaconess Nancy Rouse
Rev Graham Gall	Rev Deacon Malcolm Scott
Rev Wilfred Griffiths	Rev Dr Douglas Tasker
Rev Anne Haberl	Rev Aminiasi Volau
Rev William Howden	Rev Stanley Waite
Rev Bernadette Hurley	Rev Allan Wendelken
Rev Don Kube	Rev Matthew Willicombe

(b) have retired since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev Anne Amos	Rev John McRae
Rev Lyn Barnes	Rev Brian Morgan
Rev Deacon Beverley Bellchambers	Rev Dr Des Parker
Rev Gillian Crozier	Rev Dr Lorraine Parkinson
Rev Reg Davies	Rev Grahame Pogue
Rev Deacon Pat de Ramos Bremond	Rev Deacon Jenny Preston
Rev Jacob de Ridder	Rev John Rowland
Rev Dr Allen Edwards	Rev Paul Sanders
Rev Keith Ellisdon	Rev Greg Shanahan
Rev Geoff Giddings	Rev John WH Smith
Rev Prof Robert Gribben	Rev Jim Stevens
Rev Richard A Johnston	Rev J Allan Thompson
Rev David Leach	Rev Maxwell Woolcock
Rev Murray Little	

(c) have celebrated 50 years of ordination or commissioning since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev Robert Anderson	Rev Donald McLean
Rev Kenneth Bingham	Rev Dr David Merritt
Rev Robert Catford	Rev John Newnham
Rev Alan Coulson (Dec)	Rev Ian Parton
Rev Weston Elvins	Rev William Perry
Rev Elsie French	Rev Maxwell Spry
Rev George Grimmett	Rev Ian Steer
Rev Garry Jacobs	Rev Dr Ronald Sunderland
Rev R Graeme James	Rev Siupeli Taliai
Rev Colin Knox	Rev Harold Taylor
Rev Douglas Lloyd	Deaconess Dorothy Underwood
Rev Robert Maclachlan	Rev Dr Nigel Watson
Rev Dr Francis MacNab	Rev Ravanel Weinman
Rev Norman Marshall (Dec)	Rev Ian Williamson
Rev James Martin	Rev Dr Norman Young

Rev Graham McAnalley

- (d) have celebrated 60 years of ordination since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev Jack Flentje

Rev G Rex Sharrad

Deaconess Doreen Galbraith

Rev Keith Shuey

Rev Jack Lutge

- (e) have celebrated 65 years of ordination since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev John (Jock) Lavender

Rev David Ryrie

Rev William Morgan

- (f) have celebrated 70 years of ordination since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev J Edwin Davies

- (g) have been ordained since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev Bronwyn Ambrose

Rev Deacon Bronwyn Morton

Rev Deacon Michael Bastin

Rev Dr Deacon Rajitha Perera

Rev Deacon Steve Crump

Rev Jay Robinson

Rev Caro Field

Rev Julie Ross

Rev Dr Avril Hannah-Jones

Rev Lorraine Saultry

Rev Gi Won Kang

Rev Ann Scull

Rev Linley Liersch

Rev Jan Sebastian

Rev Susan Malthouse

Rev Robin Yang

Rev Fiona Morrison

- (h) have been received from another denomination since the 2008 meeting of Synod and to record their names as follows:

Rev Tony Johnson

Rev Lingky Widodo

Rev Deacon Darryn Hickling

10.7.6 SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE

10.7.6.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Synod Standing Committee.

10.7.6.2 Proposed changes to the Preamble, Definitions, and Clauses 49 and 71 of the Constitution of the Uniting Church in Australia

The Synod resolved:

- (a) to agree to the Assembly resolution to amend the Preamble to the Constitution by deleting the existing Preamble and replacing it with:

PREAMBLE TO CONSTITUTION

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 lands, 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.

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.

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.

- (b) to agree to the Assembly resolution 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.

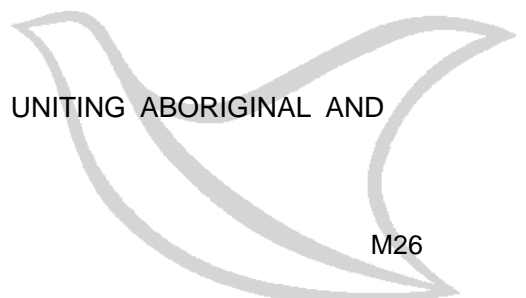
First Peoples are the Aboriginal and Islander peoples of Australia who are the indigenous peoples of this land. These peoples are a diverse group with many languages and communal identities.

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.

- (c) to agree to the Assembly resolution to amend Division 4 of the Constitution to read:

DIVISION 4

COVENANTAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS



49. Noting the Preamble and the Church's desire to build on its covenantal relationship with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, and in order to serve more effectively the purposes of God in the land of Australia, the Church shall remain open to the ways in which the covenantal relationship may find fuller expression in its life.
- 49A. (a) A Synod may, at the request of a Regional Committee of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, prescribe that the Regional Committee or the National Executive of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress may have and exercise all or specific rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Synod or Presbytery under this Constitution and the Regulations (including ordination and other rights, powers and responsibilities relating to Ministers) for the purpose of fulfilling any responsibility of the Regional Committee or of the National Executive of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress for Uniting Church work with Aboriginal and Islander people within the bounds of the Synod.
- (b) Any such prescription may be
- (i) made subject to such limitations as may arise from the nature of the Congress or the Regional Committee and such limitations or conditions as may be required by the Synod and
- (ii) withdrawn or varied from time to time by the Synod, after negotiation with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress.
- (c) If a Synod declines a request from a Regional Committee made under (a) above the Assembly shall at the request of the Regional Committee seek to negotiate a resolution of the dispute in the spirit of the Covenantal relationship;
- (d) and if the Regional Committee remains unsatisfied the Assembly may direct the Synod to make the transfer of some or all of the specific rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Synod or Presbytery as requested by the Regional Committee.
- (d) to agree to the Assembly resolution to amend Clause 71 (Re: Presidential Rulings) of 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.

10.7.6.3 Proposed changes to Clause 39 of the Constitution of the Uniting Church in Australia

The Synod resolved:

to agree to the Assembly resolution 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 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.

10.7.6.4 Nominating Committee for Moderator 2013-2016

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To appoint the Rev J Allan Thompson as Convenor of the Nominating Committee for Moderator 2013-2016, which is to bring at least two nominations for the position of Moderator-elect to the Ninth Meeting of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania.
- (b) To delegate to the Synod Standing Committee the responsibility of appointing the remaining members of the Nominating Committee for Moderator by the end of 2010.

10.7.7 REVIEW OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

10.7.7.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the General Secretary Review Group.

10.7.7.2 Review of the General Secretary

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To affirm the integrity, commitment, competency, and vision the Rev Rob Brown has exercised through his pastoral care and leadership since being appointed as General Secretary of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania in 2006.
- (b) To congratulate the General Secretary on his growth into the position, the stability he has fostered at a time of change and resource stress, the pattern of consultation he has encouraged and used, the strengthening and building up of the Senior Leadership Team, the strengthening of accountability among Synod staff, the insistence that Synod life be driven by proper process, his support and facilitation of strategic planning, his availability to staff, and the autonomy he has encouraged and respected in the life of the Councils of the Church.
- (c) To extend the placement of the Rev Rob Brown as General Secretary for a further five years from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2015.

10.7.8 CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

10.7.8.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Centre for Theology and Ministry.

10.7.8.2 Minute of Appreciation – Rev Alistair Macrae

The Synod resolved (by acclamation):

To give thanks to God for the significant contribution of the Rev Alistair Macrae as the founding Executive Director of the Centre for Theology and Ministry (CTM), for the way in which he brought the community of the CTM into being, for his personal commitment to education for ministry for the whole church, and for the many and diverse ways in which he gave creative witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Rev Alistair Macrae was appointed as the Executive Director of the Centre for Theology and Ministry from the beginning of 2005. His task was three-fold. First, he was to oversee to completion the construction of the building of the new centre in Parkville. Secondly, he was to bring into a single community the existing distinct and different entities of education for ministry of the Synod: Otira Ministries, Christian Education and Congregational Mission (CECM), and the Theological College. At the same time, he was to be the public face of the new centre across the Synod and to encourage the wider church to own the CTM as its own.

In all three areas of responsibility, Alistair has given outstanding leadership. Not only was the building completed within the allocated time, it now provides the Synod with excellent educational and meeting facilities of which the church can be proud, and is debt-free. The fact that this outcome has been accomplished is due in no small part to Alistair's capacity to work through a host of small and large challenges – organisational and relational – which mark such a building enterprise.

Under Alistair's leadership, and as a measure of the respect with which he was held by all parties, the diverse entities of education for ministry were brought together into the community of the new centre in such a way that children, youth and family ministries, lay ministries and continuing education, and the theological college faculty, all became part of the same community. Although the work of integration is still ongoing, Alistair laid the foundations to enable the various personnel to make the CTM their new home.

Perhaps the most important feature of Alistair's leadership was his commitment to ensure that the new CTM served the Synod's vision of education for ministry for the whole people of God. He made himself readily and frequently available to respond to invitations to preach, to teach and to advocate for the new centre across the whole Synod. If the CTM enjoys a positive reputation as a servant of the Synod, much of this is due to Alistair's own commitment to the Synod vision of lifelong education for ministry of the whole church.

In selecting Alistair Macrae as the founding Executive Director of the CTM, the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania has been greatly blessed. In its embryonic stage, Alistair has served the Synod faithfully and energetically, and the foundations of the new CTM have been well laid. Now, as Alistair assumes the Presidency of the Uniting Church in Australia, he carries our respect, our admiration, and our gratitude for the quality of his leadership as the very first head of the CTM.

10.7.8.3 Future of ministry to children/families and youth/young adults

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To request the Standing Committee to establish a Ministry to Younger Generations Task Group which includes representatives from across the many facets of the UCA in Victoria and Tasmania including presbyteries, the Commission for Mission, the Centre for Theology and Ministry, UnitingCare and UCA schools; and
- (b) That the terms of reference for the group include:
- Exploration of the major issues underpinning the vitality of the ministry to children, family, youth and young adults within this synod, including levels of remuneration and support, vocational pathways, resourcing, training and continuing education;
 - Development of a multifaceted plan for a Synod-wide approach to address these issues; and
 - The preparation of a report and recommendations for presentation to Synod Standing Committee by May 2011.

10.7.9 BOARD OF MISSION AND RESOURCING

10.7.9.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Board of Mission and Resourcing.

10.7.9.2 Changes to “Property Sales Proceeds Policy”

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To note
- (i) the significant disadvantage faced by many rural congregations and presbyteries in respect of property sales, which has a negative impact on funding local mission, and the previous Synod’s desire to rectify this; and
 - (ii) that those with properties of lesser value are able to share less from property sale proceeds with the wider church, and that those with much higher property values are able to share more;
- (b) To authorise BOMAR:
- (i) To change the Property Sale Proceeds policy to reduce the proportion of the net proceeds being shared with the wider church as “Shared Proceeds” in respect of sales of low value properties by changing the rate at which property sale proceeds are shared with the wider church from the current minimum flat rate of 33¹/₃% to a tiered rate of sharing as indicated in Table 1;

Table 1	Net proceeds:	Shared Proceeds Contribution:
Tier 1	The portion of net proceeds between \$0 and \$200,000	10%
Tier 2	The portion of net proceeds between \$200,001 and \$2,000,000	40%
Tier 3	The portion of net proceeds exceeding \$2,000,000	55%

- (ii) To include a third tier of “Shared Proceeds” from property sale proceeds which shall apply except in extraordinary circumstances;

- (iii) To review annually the set amounts and percentages to maintain the intention of this policy; and
- (c) Noting the need to improve relationships between councils of the Uniting Church when working on issues of property and resourcing, and the priority being placed on “Partnership” for the next 5 years,
 - (i) To endorse the BOMAR policy that recognises related councils of the church as "Discernment Partners" of God's work, and
 - (ii) To encourage greater collaboration and partnership among councils of the church when working on issues of property sales, redevelopment, and resourcing mission and ministry;
- (d) (i) To increase opportunities for congregations and councils of the church to resource mission by developing more flexible use of property sales proceeds; and
 - (ii) To authorise BOMAR:
 - a) To allow property sale proceeds from a beneficial user (congregation, presbytery or parish mission) to be used to form an “Interest Only Mission Fund” (IOMF) when requested by the Beneficial User and their “Discernment Partners” in order to resource mission with the understanding that an “Interest Only Mission Fund” is a sum of money that a Beneficial User (presbytery, congregation, Synod body) has set aside with the intent of preserving the capital and utilizing only the net interest. Net interest is what remains after an amount has been taken from the gross interest to preserve the fund against loss by inflation as defined by the Consumer Price Index. It is set aside in consultation and with the agreement of the Discernment Partner.
 - b) To ensure all IOMFs are invested in UCA Funds Management; and
 - c) To ensure that the capital of an IOMF is not used other than for accruing income. However, where exceptional circumstances apply for a fixed term mission project which the Beneficial User and Discernment Partner believe provides an extraordinary opportunity, permission may be granted for use of some of the capital.
- (e) (i) To endorse partnership and encourage congregations to look for opportunities to use the proceeds from property sales not only on their local mission but also on mission being done by other congregations, presbyteries and Synod bodies; and
 - (ii) To authorise BOMAR to include in the Property Sales Proceeds Policy the ability for Beneficial Users with concurrence from Discernment Partners :
 - a) To share some or all Property Sales Proceeds with another body of the UCA for a capital project or to help form an IOMF;
 - b) To share net interest from an IOMF with another congregation, presbytery or Synod body of the Uniting Church for a particular project; and
 - c) To transfer the beneficial use of an IOMF to another congregation, presbytery or Synod body of the UCA;
- (f) To authorise the Standing Committee to grant approval of the “Allocation of Shared Proceeds” component of the Property Sales Proceeds Policy;
- (g) To extend application of the Property Sales Proceeds Policy normally to include property under the beneficial use of a presbytery;

- (h) To request the Synod Standing Committee to undertake a review of the role and place of parish missions within the Synod, and that the review consider whether the property Sale Proceeds policy should apply to parish missions; and
- (i) To request BOMAR to consider allowing congregations to share net interest from an IOMF with Assembly and ecumenical bodies and report to the next Synod.

10.7.10 COMMISSION FOR MISSION

10.7.10.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Commission for Mission.

10.7.10.2 Justice and International Mission Unit

10.7.10.2.1 Alcohol reform

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To become a member of the Community Alcohol Action Network (CAAN) that has the aim of reducing cultural pressures that encourage Australians to drink unsafely, including the alcohol industries' marketing strategies, popular culture's celebration of binge drinking, and social expectations that lead to complacency regarding alcohol problems.
- (b) To call on the Federal Government:
 - (i) To replace the industry voluntary Australian Alcoholic Beverages Advertising Code (ABAC) with legislation or an industry mandatory code under the Trade Practices Act to eliminate unethical advertising by the alcohol industry;
 - (ii) To ban alcohol advertisements from being shown on television before 9.30pm;
 - (iii) To change the taxes on alcoholic beverages so that all of them are taxed on the basis of their volumetric alcohol content with an increasing rate as the alcoholic content increases; and
 - (iv) To implement the recommendations of the National Preventative Health Taskforce Report, Australia: The Healthiest Country by 2020, which recommended ways to address alcohol misuse in our community.
- (c) To write to the Prime Minister, the Federal Minister for Health and Ageing, the Leader of the Opposition and the Federal Shadow Minister for Health and Ageing informing them of this resolution.

10.7.10.2.2 Fair Trade and the Christian community

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To urge Australian and multinational enterprises sourcing and/or producing Christian goods, as well as Christian communities, Christian organisations, Christian consumers (and other enterprises in any way involved in the trade of Christian items), to commit to sourcing, producing or purchasing only items that are made in ways that are consistent with a Christian understanding of the human person and creation;

- (b) To urge support for the World Fair Trade Organisation (WFTO) and encourage purchase of products made by 'Fair Trader' members of the WFTO; and
- (c) To urge, support and encourage the purchase of products that comply with the Fairtrade Certification and Labelling system.

10.7.10.2.3 Israel and the Laws of War

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To call on the Government of Israel to:
 - (i) Become a full party to the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and Relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II) and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court to reassure the international community that Israel is willing to be held accountable to the standards of armed conflict set by international law;
 - (ii) Abolish the practice of Administrative Detention and either unconditionally release the current detainees or prosecute them in accordance with the due-process standards set out in international law;
 - (iii) Repeal the Incarceration of Unlawful Combatants Law of 2002 that allows for detainees to be held without charge or trial;
 - (iv) End the use of live ammunition against Palestinian protestors in circumstances where the protestors do not pose a life-threatening danger; and
 - (v) Make torture a crime under Israeli law in compliance with Article 1 of the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and thoroughly and impartially investigate all allegations of the use of torture by security forces.
- (b) To write to the Israeli President, Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for Defence and the Israeli Ambassador to Australia to inform them of this resolution.

10.7.10.2.4 Mental health matters for people in prison

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To urge the Victorian and Tasmanian Governments to strengthen the capacity of their criminal justice systems to provide treatment and support to people with a mental illness;
- (b) To support the full implementation of the Victorian Government's *Because mental health matters: Victorian Mental Health Reform Strategy 2009 – 2019*; and
- (c) To write to the Premiers, Leaders of the Opposition, and Ministers and Shadow Ministers relevant to mental health services and corrections in Victoria and Tasmania informing them of this resolution.

10.7.10.2.5 People trafficking

The Synod resolved:

- (a) In keeping with an understanding of the gift of dignity that God has given to all people, to oppose all forms of human trafficking;
- (b) To support a three-pronged approach in combating human trafficking of:
- (i) Preventing trafficking;
 - (ii) Prosecuting the traffickers; and
 - (iii) Protecting the victims of trafficking.
- (c) To call on the Australian Government to:
- (i) Fulfil its obligations under the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, including ensuring that the survivors of human trafficking in Australia have ready access to adequate crimes compensation;
 - (ii) Support an effective review mechanism to the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime that:
 - Allows input from UN agencies, civil society groups and the survivors of trafficking themselves without needing permission from the government under review;
 - Includes country visits, where relevant state facilities are reviewed and stakeholders consulted;
 - Is carried out by international, independent experts;
 - Makes recommendations to improve implementation of the Protocol;
 - Allows the findings of the review to be made public;
 - Puts in place effective follow up mechanisms; and
 - Is fully funded through the UN regular budget.
 - (iii) Fulfil its commitment to work with the Government of India on combating human trafficking by encouraging the Indian Government to:
 - Ratify the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, noting that India has taken the commendable step of signing the Protocol, but is yet to ratify;
 - Amend the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act so that the legislation makes all human trafficking an offence, and not just trafficking for the purposes of sexual servitude, and does not treat the victims of trafficking as criminals;
 - Introduce a visa category to provide protection to the victims of trafficking; and
 - Ratify International Labour Organization Convention No. 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- (d) To write to the Prime Minister, the Attorney General, the Minister for Home Affairs, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Leader of the Opposition, the

Shadow Attorney General and the Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs to inform them of this resolution.

10.7.10.2.6 Religious exceptions to the Equal Opportunity Act

The Synod resolved:

While acknowledging that a balance needs to be struck between freedom to practise religious beliefs and the right not to be discriminated against in relation to certain characteristics in the areas of employment, education, provision of goods and services, and accommodation; and notwithstanding the Uniting Church's support for religious liberty, its support for UN human rights treaties through the National Assembly Resolution *Dignity in Humanity: Recognising Christ in Every Person* 2006, and Synod resolution 93.5.1.1–3(c),

- (a) (i) To support the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination in its assertion that “any doctrine of superiority based on racial differentiation is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous” and therefore to oppose all forms of harmful racial discrimination and all laws that legalise harmful racial discrimination, even when such discrimination is religiously motivated;
- (ii) To recognise that all people are created in the image of God and therefore to oppose all forms of harmful discrimination against people with disabilities, even when religiously motivated, except where not discriminating would place unreasonable costs on a body to accommodate such persons and, in the area of employment, where a person with a disability is unable to fulfil the genuine inherent requirements of the role;
- (iii) While noting that the current polity of the Uniting Church would not allow discrimination in ordination in any of the areas below, to oppose harmful discrimination and laws that accommodate harmful discrimination in education, clubs and club membership, sport, provision of goods and services, local government, accommodation, employment and employment-related areas, excluding ordination, on the grounds of:
- age
 - breastfeeding
 - industrial activity
 - status as a carer
 - physical features
 - political belief or activity
 - parental status
 - pregnancy
 - gender identity
 - marital status
 - sex
 - sexual orientation

even where such discrimination is religiously motivated. The only exception to this opposition to discrimination on the above grounds is in the area of employment where, as a result of one of the above characteristics, the person is unable to fulfil the inherent requirements of the role.

- (b) To write to the Victorian and Tasmanian Attorneys General and Shadow Attorneys General to inform them of this resolution.

- (c) To ask the Justice and International Mission Unit through the Commission for Mission to keep these matters under review and report to future Synods

10.7.10.2.7 Religiously motivated discrimination

The Synod resolved:

While acknowledging that a balance needs to be struck between freedom to practise religious beliefs and the right not to be discriminated against in relation to certain characteristics and notwithstanding the Uniting Church's support for religious liberty, its support for UN human rights treaties through the National Assembly Resolution *Dignity in Humanity: Recognising Christ in Every Person* 2006 and Synod resolution 93.5.1.1–3(c),

- (a) To oppose religiously motivated harmful discrimination generally and to commend the Justice and International Mission Unit for their work in the following areas:
 - (i) Anti-Semitic discrimination;
 - (ii) Discrimination against Coptic Christians in Egypt;
 - (iii) Discrimination against Christian and Muslim Dalits in India;
 - (iv) Discrimination against Palestinians in Israel and the Occupied Territories; and
 - (v) Discrimination against Christians in Indonesia, especially in the construction of churches
- (b) To support laws that would prevent the forms of discrimination listed in clause (a); and
- (c) To note that the absence of a situation of religiously motivated harmful discrimination from this list does not indicate the Synod's support for such discrimination.

10.7.10.3 Committee on Bioethics

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of Bioethics Committee.

10.7.11 UNITING AGED CARE (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA)

10.7.11.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of Uniting Aged Care (Victoria and Tasmania).

10.7.11.2 Campaign for older Australians

The Synod resolved:

To request congregations to participate in the Campaign for Older Australians at a local level in order to inform their community and politicians about reforms needed in the aged care services so that all older Australians receive access to services of their choice which are financially sustainable.

10.7.12 ASSEMBLY

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Assembly.



10.7.13 PROPERTY AND INSURANCE SERVICES

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of Property and Insurance Services.

10.7.14 PROPERTY BOARD AND PROPERTY TRUSTS (VICTORIA AND TASMANIA)

10.7.14.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the reports of the Property Board, Property Trust (Victoria) and Property Trust (Tasmania).

10.7.14.2 Future focus of the Property Board

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To endorse the following guiding principles for future decisions concerning property matters:
 - (i) There is a place in the Synod for mission motivated development.
 - (ii) As all property is held in trust, the sharing of the common wealth needs to be taken into account in every property development.
 - (iii) Missional use of property must be considered in any proposal before the Property Board.
 - (iv) BOMAR and the presbyteries have a key missional role in the life of the Synod and so are to be consulted as part of any Property Board discussion about the missional use of property.
- (b) To request the Property Board to establish a clear process to request, receive and make decisions about advice from BOMAR and presbyteries regarding missional use of property; and
- (c) To request the Property Board to form project teams involving Presbytery Property Committees, BOMAR, the Synod Commission for Mission and other relevant bodies when in the view of the Property Board a project is sufficiently complex to require a coordinated response.

10.7.15 UNITINGCARE HOUSING VICTORIA

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of UnitingCare Housing Victoria.

10.7.16 UCA FUNDS MANAGEMENT

10.7.16.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of Funds Management.

10.7.16.2 Minute of Appreciation – Ms Sue Norman

The Synod resolved (by acclamation):

To give thanks to God for the contribution of Ms Sue Norman:

- (a) To the life of the Synod through the leadership she offered in her role with UCA Funds Management from 1992 to August 2009;
- (b) To the mission of the Church through the stewardship of the Synod's financial resources, through her involvement in the management of the Synod operations; and
- (c) To the life of the wider community through the generous offering of her expertise and her willing participation in many church and community boards and committees.

Sue Norman, who retired in August 2009 as Executive Director of the UCA Funds Group, is best known in the Uniting Church community for her work at UCA Funds Management. However, her contribution to the Synod began at Hotham Parish Mission in 1983 where she was the Business Manager. In 1986, Sue moved to Kildonan Homes, again as Business Manager. Further study and family commitments interrupted her service to the Synod in 1988.

Late in 1992, Sue returned to the Synod and set about her work in Funds Management. When she arrived, total funds under management were \$190 million. By the time of her retirement from Funds Management in August 2009, they had increased to \$650 million. Importantly, Sue transformed the organisation into a professional funds manager, allowing the business to attract external clients (both retail and wholesale). This transformation included separate incorporation of the funds management companies, and the establishment of independent boards with an Investment Committee as well as an Audit and Compliance Committee. Whilst putting funds management on a professional footing, Sue also ensured that investments fell within the Synod's Ethical Investment Policy. Under her leadership, performance of the funds was exceptional with investment returns consistently exceeding benchmarks and peer groups. During the period of her stewardship, UCA Funds, contributed \$34 million in grants and fees towards sustaining Synod's budget.

Sue has a passion for ethical investing and for community welfare, and has worked tirelessly in these areas along with her work in Funds Management. In 1978, Sue was a founding member and subsequently chairperson of the Management Committee of the Flemington Community Health Centre. From 1987 until 1993 she was on the Council of St Hilda's College at the University of Melbourne (her *alma mater*). In 2002, she became the treasurer of the Christian Society for Socially Responsible Investment, a position she held until 2008, when the society became part of the Responsible Investment Association of Australasia where she became a founding member of the Responsible Investment Academy Council. From 1989 until 2007, Sue was on the Board of Trustees of the Uniting Church in Australia Beneficiary Fund. In 2006, Sue joined the Council of the Melbourne College of Divinity, a position she retains to this day. She will speak at the Synod on her work in community housing, an ongoing activity. Furthermore, Sue is presently assisting the Centre for Theology and Ministry with some accounting work.

Sue's contribution to the life of the Synod is immeasurable. As a member of the Senior Leadership Team within the Synod operations, her wisdom and insight has been greatly appreciated and she has helped to shape the life of our Church in many different ways. Sue has won numerous academic prizes and in 2002 was a finalist in the Telstra Businesswoman of the Year. Whilst working tirelessly for the Synod and associated community organisations, Sue leads an active family life and enjoys her hobby of bushwalking. We commend Sue to the Synod.

10.7.17 ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of Administration and Finance.

10.7.18 ACCOUNTING SERVICES – ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of Accounting Services.

10.7.19 MINISTERS IN CRISIS TASK GROUP

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Ministers in Crisis Task Group.

10.7.20 GENERAL SECRETARY

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the General Secretary.

10.7.21 AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Audit Committee.

10.7.22 UNITING ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHRISTIAN CONGRESS

10.7.22.1 UAICC Victoria

10.7.22.1.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (Victoria).

10.7.22.1.2 Transfer of rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Presbytery

The Synod resolved:

Noting Clause 49 of the UCA Constitution, to transfer to UAICC Victoria Regional Committee the following rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Presbytery:

- (a) To have responsibility for such pastoral and administrative oversight as is necessary to the life and mission of the Congress within the bounds of the State of Victoria and to stimulate and encourage the Congress congregations within the bounds, in their strengthening and assistance of one another and in their participation in the wider aspects of the work of the Church (as per Constitution Clause 26); and
- (b) To have pastoral and administrative oversight of all Ministers and pastoral charges within the bounds, including responsibility for counselling and, together with the Synod, discipline of Ministers in accordance with Constitution Clause 15 and Regulations 7.6.1-7.6.4 and for ensuring Ministers receive regular professional supervision, as per Regulation 3.4.4(a).

10.7.22.2 UAICC Tasmania

10.7.22.2.1 Report

The Synod resolved:



To receive the report of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (Tasmania).

10.7.22.2.2 Apology

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To apologise to the minister and his family, the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) Tasmania Regional Committee and members of the UAICC Tasmania, to the officers of the Synod and of the Presbytery of Tasmania and others who have been involved in the process, for the unduly long and complex process by which complaints directed against a Minister serving in placement in the UAICC were dealt with.
- (b) To apologise to UAICC Tasmania Regional Committee whose experience was that they were not offered meaningful and effective participation in the councils of the church.
- (c) To commit to seeking to ensure meaningful and effective participation for UAICC Tasmania in the life of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania and to encourage the Presbytery of Tasmania to ensure UAICC Tasmania has meaningful and effective participation in the life of the Presbytery.

10.7.22.2.3 Transfer of rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Presbytery

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To affirm the appropriateness and wisdom of transferring to UAICC Tasmania some of the rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Presbytery; and
- (b) To authorise the Synod Standing Committee to approve the transfer of some or all of rights, powers, duties and responsibilities described in proposals 36 and 39 to the UAICC Tasmania Regional Committee subject to advice on final wording from the Synod Legal Reference Committee and acceptance of that final wording by the UAICC Tasmania Regional Committee.

PROPOSAL 36

That the Synod resolve:

Noting Clause 49 of the UCA Constitution and without any delegation or transfer of any of the powers of a synod pursuant to Clauses 15 and 70 (c) of the Constitution, to transfer to UAICC Tasmania Regional Committee the following rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Presbytery so far as they relate to the responsibilities of the Congress prescribed in 3.6.40. Such transfer assures to the Presbytery of Tasmania a right of meaningful and effective participation whenever Congress wishes to consider or act upon a transferred power that relates to Presbytery or Presbytery people."

- (a) The responsibility for the discipline of members and adherents in relation to matters of sexual misconduct, as per UCA Constitution Clause 10 (c);
- (b) the responsibility for Ministers and Lay Pastors in matters of faith and discipline, as per UCA Constitution Clause 15;
- (c) the power to call to Ministers to placements, as per UCA Constitution Clause 18 (a)(ii) and (iii);
- (d) the responsibility to authorise more than one Congress Congregation to form a joint Church Council, as per UCA Constitution Clause 24(b);
- (e) such oversight as is necessary to the life and mission of the Congress and the Aboriginal community in Tasmania; it shall stimulate and encourage the

Congregations within the bounds, providing them with opportunities for counsel in the strengthening and assistance of one another and in their participation in wider aspects of the work of the Church. The UAICC Tasmania Region shall also have such further responsibilities as may be assigned to it by the Assembly or Synod or Presbytery of Tasmania and may do such other things as are consistent with the purposes of the Church, not being the exclusive responsibility of any council or body within the Church, as per UCA Constitution Clause 26;

- (f) the right to appoint a Standing Committee or other committees or bodies for such purposes and for such term as it may determine and may assign to them or to other councils of the church such responsibilities of UAICC Tasmania as may be so delegated for the better fulfilment of those responsibilities, as per UCA Constitution Clause 30;
- (g) the power to make rules not inconsistent with this Constitution or with any relevant Regulations and by-laws prescribing all matters which are required, permitted, necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to the Constitution in respect of all matters within the oversight and responsibility of the UAICC Tasmania Region, as per UCA Constitution Clause 64;
- (h) to delegate any rules of UAICC Tasmania to any specified body power to make rules for any of the purposes for which rules may be made under this Constitution, as per UCA Constitution Clause 65;
- (i) to rescind or vary any rules made by UAICC Tasmania in such manner as may be prescribed by UAICC Tasmania, but any such rescission or variation shall not affect any act, matter or thing done prior to the rescission or variation, as per UCA Constitution Clause 66;
- (j) to adopt, amend or repeal standing orders regulating procedures at meetings of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Constitution Clause 68;
- (k) the power to inspect the rolls of a Congress Congregation at such intervals as UAICC Tasmania determines. In the event of a Congress Congregation being disbanded its roll shall be forwarded to UAICC Tasmania Region for safe keeping (UCA Regulation 1.1.16);
- (l) to receive reports annually from every Minister enrolled with UAICC Tasmania Region on the ways in which the duties of the Minister are being exercised, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.4;
- (m) to recommend to the Placements Committee as to whether a Minister is in active service or not, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.5;
- (n) to recommend to the Placements Committee the granting of a leave of absence from active service, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.6;
- (o) to have its concurrence sought in regard to the temporary or permanent retirement of a Minister, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.7 (a) (iii);
- (p) to recommend, or have its concurrence sought, in determining the defined period in which the Minister shall not be in active service, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.8 (a);
- (q) to list on the roll of UAICC Tasmania the name of each Minister in Placement with Congress Tasmania to which the Minister shall be answerable in matters of faith and discipline, such Ministers to include Ministers in approved placements of UAICC Tasmania, Ministers in approved placements in Congregations or other pastoral charges within the bounds of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.11 - 14;

- (r) to approve of a Minister becoming a Minister-in-Association within a pastoral charge, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.15 and 16;
- (s) to receive the referral of a disagreement between collegial Ministers or Church Council in regard to collegiate ministry within the bounds, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.18;
- (t) to receive referral from a ministry team member in the event of a disagreement as to the composition of a ministry team or the designated team member responsible for convening the meetings and coordinating ministry functions, to review such composition and designation, to investigate any such disagreement and determine the matter, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.19 (c);
- (u) to accept the resignation of a Congress Minister enrolled within UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 2.4.23 (a);
- (v) to determine, if appropriate, that a portion of a Congress Minister's time be available to serve the church beyond the particular placement, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.1(d);
- (w) to be consulted by the Placements Committee as to the list of UAICC Tasmania placements to which Ministers, ordinands and Pastors may be called, to be consulted before any action in regard to a Priority Placement for a UAICC Tasmania placement or Minister, to receive recommendation from the Placements Committee as to the making of such by-laws and rules as may be necessary or convenient for the effective operation of placements procedures, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.4 (a), (h), (k)
- (x) to make placements within the bounds of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.5(b), (c), (d) and (g);
- (y) to fulfil the role of a Presbytery in determining the duration and termination of placements within the bounds of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.6 – 11;
- (z) to recommend to the Placements Committee any change in the number, distribution or designation of approved placements within the bounds of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.12(a)(i) and (ii);
- (aa) to be consulted by the Placements Committee in regard to filling a Priority placement, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.13(c);
- (bb) to conduct a special consultation with a Congress Congregation or other body affected by a placement vacancy in order to make recommendations, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.14;
- (cc) to participate in such Join Nominating Committees for filling a Congress Congregation or UAICC Tasmania Region placement, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.16 and 17;
- (dd) to be consulted by the Placements Committee in regard to any approach to a Minister within the bounds of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.18(d);
- (ee) to be responsible for inducting a Minister into placement within the bounds of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.19(a) and (d);
- (ff) to determine from time to time the extent to which a Minister who is designated as on leave of absence, retired or not available for placement shall be limited in the exercise of all or any of the functions of office, as per UCA Regulation 2.7.21;
- (gg) to recognise a Congress Congregation, as per UCA Regulations 3.1.1 – 7;

- (hh) to convene a special or general meeting of a Congress Congregation, as per UCA Regulation 3.1.9(e);
- (ii) to determine a quorum in respect of a particular Congregation, as per UCA Regulation 3.1.9(h);
- (jj) to determine the portion of Elders to be members of a Congress Congregation Church Council, as per UCA Regulation 3.1.12(b);
- (kk) to authorise the appointment of one Church Council where Congress Congregations are related to each other, as per UCA Regulation 3.1.12(e);
- (ll) to receive an appeal from a person removed from the role of Elder or Church Councillor by a Congress Congregation Church Council, and to make a final determination in the matter, as per UCA Regulation 3.1.17(b);
- (mm) to recognise a Congress Faith Community, as per UCA Regulation 3.1.32;
- (nn) to have responsibility for such pastoral and administrative oversight as is necessary to the life and mission of the Congress within the bounds of the State of Tasmania and to stimulate and encourage the Congress Congregations within the bounds, in their strengthening and assistance of one another and in their participation in the wider aspects of the work of the Church. May do such other things as are consistent with the purposes of the Church, not being the exclusive responsibility of any other council or body within the Church, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4. In furtherance of and in addition to the responsibilities referred to above, UAICC Tasmania shall give attention to the following matters:
 - (i) the pastoral and administrative oversight of all Ministers and pastoral charges within the bounds, including its responsibility for counselling and discipline of Ministers in accordance with UCA Regulations 7.6.1-7.6.4 and for ensuring Ministers receive regular professional supervision, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(a);
 - (ii) consultations on the life and witness of Congregations within the bounds in accordance with UCA Regulation 3.4.5, per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(b);
 - (iii) the formation of, the alteration of the bounds of and the dissolution of Congregations and other pastoral charges within the bounds, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(c);
 - (iv) the promotion and conduct throughout the bounds of such activities as will encourage and instruct the people generally toward a better understanding and a fuller participation in the whole range of Christian witness and service, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(d);
 - (v) receiving and dealing with matters referred to it by Congregations and the transmission of those matters where appropriate, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4 (e);
 - (vi) the supervision of vacancies in pastoral charges and the filling thereof subject to any right of the bodies concerned to take part in the placement of Ministers, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(i);
 - (vii) provision for persons other than Ministers of the Word or Deacons to preside at the celebration of the sacraments where, in the opinion of the UAICC Tasmania, circumstances so require, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(n);
 - (viii) promoting the wider aspects of the work of the Church, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(p);

- (ix) setting up agencies as may be determined, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(q);
- (x) receiving and dealing with applications to acquire property or to sell, mortgage, exchange or lease the property of pastoral charges in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Acts and Regulations, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(s);
- (xi) such administrative functions as may be necessary for the satisfactory working of UAICC Tasmania, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(t).
- (xii) the submission of UAICC Tasmania reports and records annually to the Synod, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(u);
- (xiii) such other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the Assembly or Synod, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(v), with the exception of appointing members to the Assembly;
- (xiv) determining the intervals at which Ministers shall be counselled by it in accordance with UCA Regulations 3.4.38(c) and 7.6.2(a) , as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(w);
- (oo) to undertake consultations of the life and witness of Congregations within the bounds of UAICC Tasmania, , as per UCA Regulation 3.4.5;
- (pp) supervision of pastoral vacancies, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.5A;
- (qq) the rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Pastoral Relations Committee in regard to UAICC Tasmania Ministers and placements, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.36(a)(ii);
- (rr) the rights, powers, duties and responsibilities of a Property Committee in regard to UAICC Tasmania property, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.36(a)(iii);
- (ss) to establish such other committees as UAICC Tasmania deems necessary or desirable and may disband any committees so established, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.36(a)(iv);
- (tt) to establish and disband such working groups, task forces and other bodies as it deems necessary or desirable, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.36(b);
- (uu) to determine the terms of appointment for all such committees shall be as UAICC Tasmania determine, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.36(c);
- (vv) to require each committee and body to make a report to UAICC Tasmania as may be required, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.36(d);
- (ww) to determine the composition and function of any such committee or body established, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.37;
- (xx) the duties of the Pastoral Relations Committee in regard to UAICC Tasmania Ministers, Minister in UAICC Tasmania placements, and UAICC Tasmania placements, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.38(c)(i – x);
- (yy) to be consulted by the Moderator where UAICC Tasmania is concerned in the exercise of moderatorial duties and responsibilities in Regulation 3.5.17(j);
- (zz) the powers, duties and responsibilities of a Presbytery Property Committee, as per UCA Regulation 4.3.1 – 3;
- (aaa) the powers, duties and responsibilities of a Presbytery in regard to Church Discipline, as per UCA Regulation 7.1.1 – 7.13.1

PROPOSAL 39

That the Synod resolve:

To amend Proposal 36 as follows:

- (a) to delete the current clause (a) and to replace it by:
 - (a) The Presbytery's responsibility for the development and exercise of the gifts of all members, as per UCA Constitution Clause 12;
- (b) to add the following points to the existing clause (nn):
 - (xv) the placement of a Pastor and Lay Pastor as may be required, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(j);
 - (xvi) the appointment of a suitable representative to participate in Congregation Youth Worker and Pastor interview panels, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4 (k);
 - (xvii) the placement of a Youth Worker as may be required, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(l);
 - (xviii) accrediting Lay Preachers and recognising other specified ministries, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(m);
 - (xix) provision for persons other than Ministers of the Word or Deacons to preside at the celebration of the sacraments where, in the opinion of the Presbytery, circumstances so require, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(n);
 - (xx) the provision of opportunities for further training for Ministers, Pastors, Lay Pastors and Lay Preachers serving within the Presbytery, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(o);
 - (xxi) promoting the wider aspects of the work of the Church, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(p);
 - (xxii) setting up agencies as may be determined, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(q);
 - (xxiii) arranging for the contribution by Congregations of funds for the purposes of the Presbytery, the Synod and the Assembly and other approved purposes, as per UCA Regulation 3.4.4(r);

10.7.23 BUSINESS COMMITTEE

10.7.23.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Business Committee.

10.7.23.2 Date of Synod 2011

The Synod resolved:

To meet at La Trobe University Bundoora from Friday 16 September through to Wednesday 21 September 2011.

10.7.24 PRESBYTERIES CONSULTATIVE GROUP

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Presbyteries Consultative Group.

10.7.25 ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL PLACEMENTS

10.7.25.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placements.

10.7.25.2 Minute of appreciation for the Rev Deacon Pam White

The Synod resolved (by acclamation):

To place on record its deep appreciation to the Rev Deacon Pam White for the way in which she has fulfilled the role of Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placements since January 2008.

Pam has brought a style of leadership to the life of the Placements Committee meetings that gives focus to the task in hand and creates a culture of trust and openness for careful and wise discernment. She has guided the committee into a fresh phase of its life. Under her leadership placements have been conducted under new presbytery structures.

Pam's broad experience in the life of the church has included time as an acting Presbytery Minister, chairperson of a presbytery pastoral relations committee, and placements in congregation and agency contexts.

Pam's grace and humour have nourished the work of the Placements Committee Executive. Grace and love have been features of her leadership as the Executive has held conversations with ministry candidates in their exit year.

Pam White has given servant leadership and faithful ministry to the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania as a member of the Placements Committee for over twelve years and for two and half years as its chairperson.

10.7.26 TERMS OF PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

10.7.26.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Terms of Placement Committee.

10.7.26.2 Process for setting the stipend

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To set the stipend every three years by Synod, with annual increases for the next three years;
- (b) To set a base level for travel allowances and to authorise the Standing Committee, guided by the Australian Tax Office estimates, to make annual adjustments;
- (c) To set a base level for the manse allowance and to authorise the Standing Committee, guided by Consumer Price Index trends for housing, to make annual adjustments; and
- (d) To authorise the Standing Committee to review the stipend and allowances if exceptional circumstances arise.

10.7.26.3 Stipend and allowances

The Synod resolved:

- (a) That the base level for the stipend at the end of 2010 be \$45,216 pa;
- (b) That the adjustment to the stipend for 2011 be 3.2%, for 2012 be 3.5%, and for 2013 be 3.5%;
- (c) That the base level for travel allowances for using private cars on professional duties by ministers in full-time or part-time placements be paid in two parts as follows:

Part 1: Car Allowance

- (i) for travel up to 5,000 km per annum:
\$4800; or
- (ii) for travel from 5,000 km up to 20,000 km per annum:
\$4800, plus \$300 per 1,000 km travelled above 5,000 km; or
- (iii) for travel from 20,000 km up to 30,000 km per annum:
\$9300, plus \$190 per 1,000 km travelled above 20,000 km; or
- (iv) travel above 30,000 km per annum:
\$11,200, plus \$120 per 1,000 km travelled above 30,000 km;

Part 2: Petrol Cost Provision

The Petrol Cost Provision will be paid by either:

- (i) an additional 'Petrol Allowance' of \$170 per 1000 km of travel per annum, or
 - (ii) at the minister's request, 'Petrol Cost Reimbursement' for actual expenditure on 'L' litres of petrol, where L = agreed travel (km) divided by 9.0 (km/litre).
- (d) That the ad hoc travelling allowances for minister's professional duties be:
- (i) 69.0 cents per kilometre for normal (average total) cost reimbursement for ministers not in placement, theological students and retired ministers; or
 - (ii) 35.0 cents per kilometre for marginal cost reimbursement only (which includes 17.0 cents per kilometre as the petrol cost component) for ministers in placement or other employment; and
 - (iii) restricted, as a guideline, to a daily limit not exceeding reasonable commercial car rental costs.
- (e) That the base level for the manse allowance be \$14,248 per annum (\$274 per week).

10.7.27 BENEFICIARY FUND

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Beneficiary Fund.

10.7.28 PRESBYTERY MINISTERS' CONFERENCE 2010

10.7.28.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the joint presentation of the Presbytery Ministers.



10.7.28.2 Following Jesus in a changing world

The Synod resolved:

- (a) To encourage strongly all presbyteries within the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania to collaborate with the Commission for Mission and Centre for Theology and Ministry to develop a series of resources to assist congregations, faith communities and agencies on the theme “Following Jesus in a changing world”, and to request the Centre for Theology and Ministry to coordinate this activity.
- (b) To request that, within the context of the four priorities proposed for the On the Way Together process (discipleship, leadership, partnership and risk-taking), all presbyteries, congregations and agencies across the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania give sustained attention during 2011, 2012 and 2013 to the question “What does it mean to follow Jesus in this time and place?”, and to consider what they would do less of in order to create space to encourage innovation in worship, witness and service.
- (c) To request all presbyteries to include in their reports to the 2011 and 2013 Synod meetings information about progress with their exploration of “What does it mean to follow Jesus in this time and place?”, drawing attention to the consequential particular developments in the worship, witness and service life of congregations, agencies and schools within their bounds.

10.7.29 PRESBYTERIES

10.7.29.1 Reports

The Synod resolved:

To receive the Presbytery reports.

10.7.29.2 Tertiary Chaplaincy Initiative

The Synod resolved:

- (a)
 - (i) To welcome the report of the Tertiary Chaplaincy Initiative (TCI) auspiced by the Melbourne University Chaplaincy Working Group (Presbytery of Yarra Yarra), Outreach Ministries of the Commission for Mission and the Theological Research Foundation, Centre for Theology and Ministry; and
 - (ii) To acknowledge the urgency of ministry within tertiary education and the necessity of equipping Uniting Church people for that ministry.
- (b)
 - (i) To celebrate the current endeavours of the Uniting Church in tertiary ministry, including chaplains and ministers, church university colleges, and its ecumenical commitments in this area;
 - (ii) To recognise the huge gaps between these current endeavours of the Uniting Church and the evident needs in the tertiary education sector; and
 - (iii) To recommit to the Uniting Church’s long-standing involvement in ministry in tertiary education within the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania.
- (c) To request the Commission for Mission, after consultation with the Centre for Theology and Ministry, to establish a Tertiary Ministry Coordination Group, including representation from presbytery tertiary ministry groups:

- (i) To liaise with ecumenical partners in supporting tertiary ministry, including funding;
 - (ii) To develop and implement plans for financing this ministry;
 - (iii) To develop and implement a communications plan about this ministry;
 - (iv) To support the councils of the Church in tertiary ministry initiatives; and
 - (v) To convene a conference on tertiary ministry in 2011.
- (d) To request each presbytery to form a tertiary ministry group to nurture tertiary chaplaincy and other forms of ministry with tertiary institutions within its bounds along with ecumenical partners, and to network with respective groups in other presbyteries and to ensure that each tertiary chaplaincy is supported through a local reference group.

10.7.29.3 Synod Timing

The Synod resolved:

To request the Standing Committee to review the timing, length and the way the Synod conducts its business, in consultation with Presbyteries, and to report to the next Synod meeting.

10.7.30 ON THE WAY TOGETHER

10.7.30.1 On the Way Together: Priorities for the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania

The Synod resolved:

- (a) Noting that the Synod has general oversight, direction and administration of the Church's worship, witness and service within its bounds (Constitution of the UCA, Clause 32), to adopt the following four priorities for the life of the Church within the bounds of the Synod during the next five years, 2011-2015:

Discipleship

Priority - to give sustained attention to growing disciples

Discipleship, living Jesus' Way, is a free and loving response to personal experience of God's love and grace. Disciples, formed in the character of Christ, adopt Jesus' disposition to the world. Being disciples and living as grace-filled communities of faith means attending to prayer, reading and studying the scriptures, discernment and other spiritual disciplines. These ensure we do not lose the Way, whatever the Church's context. They prepare and equip disciples to respond to Christ's calling. Informed by scripture and tradition, disciples are alert to opportunities to join God's mission in the world. Forged in the context of critical reflection on practical experience, disciples remain open to the Spirit's direction. Following Jesus' Way means moving from piety to passion, from habit to risk-taking, and from law to love.

Leadership

Priority - to cultivate and free spiritually formed, visionary leaders

The UCA is a missional Church, (*Basis of Union* para 3), called and sent into the world to bear witness to Christ. The Holy Spirit calls and equips leaders and leadership to build up the Church in response to its vocation. Leaders assist the Church to recognise and respond to the leading of Christ. Leaders

seek insights that emerge when, guided by the Spirit, scripture is read and studied. Christian leadership is alert to tradition yet not captured by it. Leaders listen, are watchful and courageous, encourage change, engage conflict and are competent, confident and authentic. Leaders enable people to grow and lead other leaders through personal maturity and abiding witness to the faith of Christ. The Church needs inspired, enthused leaders to take us into God's future.

Partnership

Priority - to seek and respond to opportunities for friend-making partnership

Jesus' tradition called people into friendship. More than relationship, greater than partnership, Christ-like friendship is grounded in shared convictions, values, and commitments. Joining with others to participate in God's mission requires us to befriend partners and to recognise the Christ in those with whom we travel. The Church lives and grows in the world through partnership with friends in our community.

Risk-taking

Priority - to develop a culture of inspired innovation.

Continuing to follow Jesus in a constantly changing world requires the Church to be an inspired, innovative community, embracing risk-taking initiatives in worship, witness and service. This marks us out as different from surrounding cultures and powers, even when others share some of the Church's values and hopes. Risk-taking leaders and communities are imaginative, innovative, and experimental. They are inspired by the Spirit to join in God's reconciling, restoring and renewing action in the world. The Church is challenged to new ventures through appropriate risk-taking.

- (b) To direct Synod boards and committees, and other bodies that are formally part of the Synod structure:
 - To ensure that these priorities are incorporated in strategic and operational plans during the period 2011–2015; and
 - To indicate clearly in reports to the Synod, the Standing Committee and other governance bodies how these priorities are incorporated.
- (c) To encourage congregations, presbyteries and other bodies within the bounds of the Synod to incorporate these priorities in their strategic and operational plans during the period 2011–2015; and to indicate how these priorities are incorporated in their reporting to the presbytery or Synod.

10.7.31 NOMINATIONS PANEL

10.7.31.1 Report

The Synod resolved:

To receive the report of the Nominations Panel.

10.7.31.2 Nominations Panel

The Synod resolved:

To appoint the following people to the bodies named herein:

A ACCESS ministries

To commence 1 July 2010 and retire 30 June 2013



Rev Keith Kynoch

Mrs Margaret MacMillan

Dr David Price

B Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placements (Chairperson)

To commence 1 June 2010 and retire 31 December 2011

Rev Stan Clarke

C Australian Church Women (Victorian Unit)

To commence 1 July 2010 and retire 30 June 2013

Ms Lin Morison

Mrs Anne Murray

Ms Jean Murray

D Business Committee

To commence 1 July 2010 and retire 30 June 2013

Rev Carol Bennett

Mr Alan Bromage

Rev Kevin Dobson

Ms Joan McRae

Mr Rod Mummery

E Council for Chaplaincies in Tertiary Institutions

To commence 1 July 2010 and retire 30 June 2013

Mrs Lyn Bromage

F National Council of Women

To commence 1 July 2010 and retire 30 June 2013

Mrs Robyn Welham

G Property Trust (Victoria)

To commence 27 May 2010 until the convening of the next ordinary Synod meeting

Rev Sharon Hollis

Mr Robert Ewing

Rev David Parker

Mr Jeffrey Hase

Ms Belinda Seale

H Property Trust (Tasmania)

To commence 27 May 2010 until the convening of the next ordinary Synod meeting

Rev Sharon Hollis

Mr Robert Ewing

Rev David Parker

Mr Jeffrey Hase

Ms Belinda Seale

I Property Trust (Victoria) and Property Trust (Tasmania) Chairperson

To commence 27 May 2010 until the convening of the next ordinary Synod meeting

Rev David Parker

J Terms of Placement Committee (previously Ministerial Entitlements Committee)

To commence 1 July 2010 and retire 30 June 2013

Rev Sharon Hollis

Mr Chris Harnath

Rev Ann Key

Mr Rod Mummery

Mrs Lorraine Threlfall

K Victorian Council of Churches

To commence 1 July 2010 and retire 30 June 2013

Rev Margaret Blair

Mrs Rachel Hardie

Rev Bert Dellosa

Miss Margery Heard

Rev Jeff Gray

Ms Tess Keam

Rev Alan Hardie

Mr Graeme McKinty

Rev Charity Majiza

Mrs Ann Rodger

Rev Susan Malthouse

Rev John Maynard

Rev Dr Sandy Yule

10.7.32 THEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Synod resolved:

To request the Assembly Standing Committee to invite the Assembly Working Group on Doctrine to convene a conversation with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress to unfold the theological implications of the Preamble to the Constitution, and particularly paragraph 3, and to provide a report to the Church.

10.7.33 CONCERN ABOUT AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Synod resolved:

To write to the Assembly Standing Committee informing them that in the course of the dialogue about the decision of the Assembly to amend Division 4 of the Constitution, concerns were expressed about clause (d) in relation to the interconciliar nature of the UCA and in regard to its practical workability.

10.7.34 MINUTE OF APPRECIATION

The Synod resolved:

To acknowledge with gratitude the dedicated service of volunteers, staff and officers of the Synod, whose energetic and selfless contributions have enabled us to explore what it means to live God's transforming story at the Eighth Synod of Victoria and Tasmania.



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