



ILLAWARRA PRESBYTERY NEWS #10
10 July 2018



Focused on God's Mission – Providing Leadership – Growing Discipleship

The Standing Committee is keen for the best possible communications within the life of the Illawarra Presbytery. To that end, the following notices are issued for your information and consideration. We especially want congregations to be aware of significant events and dates. Please circulate this newsheet as widely as possible and do not hesitate to contact me if you require further details. Sharon Hoogland, Secretary (illawarrauca@bigpond.com)

1. PRESBYTERY MEETINGS TO COME IN 2018

The next meeting of the Illawarra Presbytery will be held on Wednesday 8 August 2018 at the Moss Vale Uniting Church, commencing at 4.00pm.

At this meeting, the Presbytery Business Manager Mrs Barbara Moore and the Presbytery Mission Development Worker Mrs Lucy Earl will be commissioned during the worship section at the commencement of the meeting.

We will also welcome Rev Gary Dronfield, President of the UAICC, who has come to live in our Presbytery.

The Annual General Meeting of the Presbytery will be held on Saturday 3 November 2018 at Kiama Uniting Church, commencing at 10.00am.

2. COMING EVENTS – YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND...

Members and Friends of the Illawarra Presbytery are invited to attend

a Service for Commissioning into the ministry of Pastor for Mrs Louise Beaton

to be held at the Corrimal Regional Uniting Church on Sunday 29 July 2018 commencing at 9.30am.

A Service of Induction into the Dapto Uniting Church for Reverend Keun-il Ko will be held on Saturday 11 August 2018 commencing at 2.00pm.

3. **MINISTERS' STIPEND FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2018-2019...**

The Synod Standing Committee (SSC), on the recommendation of the Governance, Nomination and Remuneration Committee (GNRC), has determined the Stipend and Allowances for the financial year 2018-2019 effective 1 July 2018 (Refer to the SSC minute 64/18SC).

An interim copy of the Stipend and Allowance Information Table for financial year 2018-2019, Percentage Changes and Explanation of the Residence Benefits Guidelines is available on the website.

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/shared-resources/human-resources/forms/>

Should you require further information or clarification in relation to the matters addressed within this correspondence please contact the Synod Secretariat team direct on 02 8267 4329, or at sec@nswact.uca.org.au

4. **UME TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY JUNE 2018**

Overview

At the start of 2018, Uniting Mission and Education (UME) was streamlined to allow it to better focus on *discipleship, mission and leadership*. A key part of this was to transfer out activities that substantially related to other Synod goals. UME has now completed an extensive portfolio review commissioned by the Synod Standing Committee and the UME Board and which has involved carefully listening to many voices and reflecting on Synod needs.

The resulting Transformation Strategy endeavours to support the next decade of wider Synod needs which include healthy churches, vital ministry and transformative community engagement.

From the review it was clear that many of UME's existing activities remain valuable in the future, but that there was a critical need to clarify the unifying strategy, significantly reorientate to a strong user driven focus, and build a healthy UME culture of multi disciplined teams and collaboration around this strategy.

Key principles of this transformation are:

Being user focused

"Users" (presbyteries and congregations) will be our primary focus. UME will reshape itself so the user experience though integrated mission, discipleship and leadership support that enables church health and growth. Being user focused will require 'hard wiring' the relationships between UME, presbyteries and other key Synod agencies. It is expected that significantly more time will be spent in the field listening to and providing support to users.

Impacting with current programs and also designing for the future

The strategy uses a portfolio three-horizon framework to maintain focus on current needs (Horizon 1) as well as designing and developing new initiatives in the future (Horizon 2 and 3). Major initiatives already under development include Pulse and Saltbush, but UME has many other areas it needs to explore.

Using a core mission support platform for users

The Mission Facilitation platform will be a significant reorientation to support the user focus and will include a *core platform* of a limited number of key programs around mission, discipleship and leadership (such as Mission Shaped Ministry and support for Life and Witness Reviews), alongside a *supporting toolkit* of other resources.

Synod leadership planning and strengthening of lay leadership support

Lay ministry leadership formation will be strengthened within a more comprehensive and strategic consideration of the longer term Synod needs for each of the many types of lay and ordained leaders along with recruitment strategies, formation and continuing development.

Supporting transformation with a new organisational design

The strategy will be supported by a new organisational design featuring:

- *a mission enablement team* that is focused on the needs of the presbyteries, missions and agencies of the church with a multi-disciplinary team and a core mission facilitation platform;
- *an expanded leadership formation team* that has a strategic planning focus on the wide range of Synod leadership needs including ordained pathways *and* expanded support for lay pathways;
- *a new mission strategy team* that helps develop and incubate new strategies; and
- a decision to create a *Principal role* for UTC with a UME Board subcommittee to better address specific governance requirements.

This transformation strategy will produce change that is important to strengthen church health and growth through its user-focus and mission facilitation platform and we anticipate these changes will be long lasting.

Given the focus of this review and with the Moderator's Formation Review yet to come, in the future further consideration will need to be given to formation, theological education and approaches to the knowledge management such as the library.

This transformation of UME requires considerable support and effort by the wider Synod as well as the whole UME team. These changes will initially be managed within the existing budget along with further funding identified for Saltbush and growth strategies such as Pulse.

With this transformation, we prayerfully look to UME continuing to make a strong contribution to the changing needs of the church as it serves Christ.

5. The NSW-ACT Synod STAMP COMMITTEE APPLICATION FOR GRANTS 2018

The Stamp Committee is requesting applications for grants from congregations in NSW and the ACT for 2018 for specific outreach/community projects to a maximum of \$1000.

CRITERIA: All projects are to involve **volunteers** from the congregation.

Preference is given to projects already up and running and only to "seed projects" if research indicates that there is a strong certainty that the project will proceed.

Funds may be used for the purchase of equipment, consumables etc.

Funds are not provided for building works, day to day operational costs eg electricity, staff costs.

At the annual meeting of the Stamp Committee in September we plan to distribute over \$15,000.

APPLICATIONS: Name of congregation, Presbytery, Project name, Background to the project, outreach/community benefits,

Involvement of volunteers, Resources requested and costs, Bank details.

Please send all applications to uniting.stamps@gmail.com in a pdf file by August 30, 2018.

The support of congregations and volunteers in collecting/trimming/sorting of stamps for us to sell is greatly appreciated.

6. TRAINING DATES 2018

SAFE CHURCH WORKSHOP

An invitation | Safe Church Grooming Awareness Workshop

Saturday 18 August, 2018 | 9.15am - 5pm
The Centre for Ministry, 16 Masons Drive North Parramatta

The Synod is offering a **new training resource and workshop**, which focuses on awareness-raising education about grooming behaviours, as an extension to the existing Safe Church training.

As part of our learning from the Royal Commission we must ensure that our Churches are safe places for everyone.

Grooming refers to behaviours of those in trusted positions who exert influence and may gain the trust of potential child victims, their parents and caregivers and even their communities by methodically “grooming” them. Perpetrators are often individuals known to the family; they may be acquaintances, influential members of the community, trusted friends and even family members.

I invite everyone in this Synod who works with children or vulnerable people, who is a leader in a Congregation or an office bearer in a Presbytery, to attend this important workshop:

If you are unable to attend and would like to receive training materials, we will make either a DVD or online training available after the event. See details below.

The safety of everyone in our Uniting Church communities, particularly children and vulnerable people is important.

I would encourage every Presbytery and Congregation to participate in whatever way you can. I know that this training will be invaluable and I appreciate your time and attention to this important issue.

General Secretary, Rev. Jane Fry

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Register - [via EventBrite](#)

Safe Church Workshop Flyer - [Downloadable PDF](#)

Meet our expert presenters - [Here](#)

Event Information - via [Uniting Mission & Education website](#)

Ethical Ministry Training

18 June 2018	9.30am – 12.30pm	@	Nowra UC
10 Sept 2018	9.30am - 12.30pm	@	Albion Park UC
17 Sept 2018	9.30am – 12.30m	@	Nowra UC
25 Oct 2018	9.30am – 12.30pm	@	Bowral UC

One more Safe Church Workshop for 2018:

Note: There are no refresher courses this year due to additional content in the one day program.

Saturday 28 July Albion Park UC
Register online at www.ume.nsw.uca.org.au

Our Values

18/19 August 2018 @ Bowral Uniting Church

Lay Preachers – New Testament module

Exploring the New Testament.

This course is suitable for those wanting to deepen their faith and knowledge of the New Testament as well as those who are involved in worship leadership.

The postponed New Testament modules will be conducted on four Saturdays:
21 July, 25 August, 15 September and 27 October.

Enquiries and registration to Rev Glenys Biddle (glenysbiddle@bigpond.com) by the 18 May. Please see the Brochure attached to this newsletter.

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS NEWSLETTER AS WIDELY
AS YOU ARE ABLE.**

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