



**ILLAWARRA PRESBYTERY NEWS #11**  
**23 August 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](mailto:illawarrauca@bigpond.com))

## **1. PRESBYTERY MEETING REPORT**

On a wintry August afternoon in the Southern Highlands, over 40 people gathered at Moss Vale Uniting church to worship, pray and meet together, considering the business agenda of the Illawarra Presbytery. We enjoyed the warm hospitality of the Moss Vale congregation. In our worship we Commissioned new Presbytery staff members Mrs Barbara Moore (Presbytery Business Manager) and Mrs Lucy Earl (Presbytery Mission Development Worker) and asked God's blessing on their work.

We were thrilled to welcome new Presbytery members Rev Keun-il Ko (Dapto UC), Rev Andrew Watts (Berry UC & Mayflower Village), Rev Garry Dronfield (Uniting Aboriginal & Islander Christian Congress – UAICC) and new congregational representatives.

In our sharing time we learned of several new initiatives happening across the Presbytery, some innovative mission outreach activities and new building projects underway. To catch up on the news, ask your Congregational Presbytery representative to give a report at your next meeting!

From the Treasurer's Report, a recommendation for a change to the guidelines for our **Ethical Investment of Presbytery Sales Proceeds** was presented:

*"The Proposed New Guidelines.*

*Preferably multi tenanted to reduce risk, but a single-tenanted property with an excellent tenant may be considered with the specific approval of PSC.*

*Maximum borrowing to be not more than 50% of available cash – to protect presbytery from potential call on the loan if property prices reduce."*

**A Resolution was passed:** That the Proposed New Guidelines for Investment of Presbytery Sales Proceeds be accepted.

Business Manager Barbara encouraged members to access the new look **Illawarra Presbytery website**, which Rachel McGarry from Wollongong Mission now manages.

**Presbytery Privacy Policy.**

Barbara also spoke to the new draft **Privacy Policy and Summary** page.

While there are many questions regarding the data that Presbytery, through our committees and congregations collect throughout our normal life and witness, it is no longer acceptable to not have a privacy policy – ***it is a legal requirement.***

An act of parliament ‘Privacy Act 2000’ has been passed which sets out new laws in relation to all personal information collected.

The Uniting Church in Australia (NSW Synod), including all congregations and presbyteries, will comply with the new law and the ten National Privacy Principles as stated below:

- collection
- use and disclosure
- data quality
- data security
- openness
- access and correction
- identifiers
- anonymity
- transborder data flows
- sensitive information.

**A Resolution was passed:** That Illawarra Presbytery adopts the Privacy Policy for use throughout the Presbytery and each of the Presbytery Committees.

More information regarding the requirement for Congregations to develop and document a Privacy Policy will be forthcoming. If you have any questions at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact the Presbytery Secretary, Sharon Hoogland – contact details listed at the conclusion of this newsletter.

For more information about the Act and the National Privacy Principles contact you may visit the Australian Privacy Commissioner’s website at [www.privacy.gov.au](http://www.privacy.gov.au).

The Uniting Church Synod of NSW&ACT has formulated its own Privacy Policy and Privacy Manual which details this Church’s position on privacy.

### **Assembly 2018**

Chairperson Rev Michael Earl presented a report from the recent UCA Assembly meeting. Among several significant issues discussed at Assembly (including the Sovereignty of our first peoples, Domestic & Family Violence, The Whole of Creation, and Same Gender Marriage), and some not discussed (Strategic Review of the UCA membership classification, four proposals from UAICC, collection of ecumenical statements from the Doctrine Committee), our Presbytery meeting considered a proposal on Regulation 39 of the UCA Constitution from one of our congregations in regard to Same Gender Marriage.

The meeting could not form a consensus on this issue and the proposal was referred back to the congregation who submitted the proposal. The meeting agreed that congregations could bring proposals to the November meeting of Presbytery. The August Standing Committee will consider this item and further information will be forwarded in the near future.

### **Candidate for Ministry**

Chairperson of Pastoral Relations Committee, Mrs Liana Whitten, presented candidate for ministry Mrs Doo Ah Leeming to the meeting. It was proposed:

*“That the Presbytery recommends Doo Ah Leeming for ordination as a Minister of the Word, subject to her satisfactory completion of her Integrated Formation program and a call to an appropriate placement.”*

**A Resolution was passed:** That the Illawarra Presbytery unanimously approves Mrs Doo Ah Leeming for Ordination on receipt of an appropriate call.

Doo Ah is currently providing a part time ministry in the Ulladulla Uniting Church as she completes her formation and we pray God’s richest blessings on her present and future ministry.

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**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...**

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### **DAPTO UNITING CHURCH ANNUAL HYMN FESTIVAL**

**26th August 2018, 2:00pm to 4:00pm**

*Programme*

*Wollongong Gospel Choir*

*Mr Graham Nunn on Piano*

*Organ series of Hymns and “The Prayer”*

*Music Items by Kate Cocker*

*Hymns to sing-a-long , Lead by our Music Team*

**Entry by suggested donation of \$10.00 per person,  
\$25.00 for Families**

**Come and enjoy an afternoon of singing and fellowship. Followed by  
afternoon tea**

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**A Service for the Induction of Rev Andrew Watts  
Will be held at the Berry Uniting Church  
on Saturday 22 September 2018  
commencing at 2.00m, followed by afternoon tea.**

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**BOWRAL UNITING CHURCH SPRING FAIR**  
Friday 21 & Saturday 22 September 2018

**Stalls include:** Plants, Home Baked Cakes & Jams, Craft,  
Books, Bric-a-Brac  
**Food:** All day BBQ, Devonshire Tea/Coffee, Lunches  
Jumping Castle & Children's Activities

### **3. LIFELINE SOUTH COAST SEEKS CHAIRPERSON**

Mr Stephen Long, who has been chair of the Lifeline South Coast Board for the past 4 years, is stepping down as chair although he will remain on the Board.

In agreement with the Wollongong Mission Church Council, Lifeline South Coast is now advertising for a new Board Chairperson.

If you are interested to know more of this position, please consult the following sites:

- <https://www.seek.com.au/job/37029364?type=promoted>
- <https://www.lifelinesouthcoast.org.au/page/careers>

**Please Note the closing date for applications is 17 September 2018.**

### **4. 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](mailto:uniting.stamps@gmail.com) in a pdf file by August 30, 2018.

## 5. TRAINING DATES 2018

### **Ethical Ministry Training**

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

### **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](mailto: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.**

Sharon Hoogland, Secretary/Administrator

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