

UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
SYNOD OF NEW SOUTH WALES AND THE ACT
SYNOD STANDING COMMITTEE

MINUTES for the meeting of the Synod Standing Committee held at Wesley Lodge 26 – 27 February 2010

DECISIONS Decisions recorded in these Minutes were reached by consensus unless otherwise indicated – by agreement or by formal process

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE The Moderator paid respect to the Aboriginal people of the Burrumattagal Clan and Darug tribes who have cared for this part of the land from time immemorial

WORSHIP The Moderator celebrated Holy Communion. The reading and message was taken from Acts Chapter 10:vs 34 – 48. Mr Geoff Hand led closing prayers on Friday evening and Rev Geoff Flynn led devotions Saturday morning. The Moderator closed the meeting with reflection and prayer

TIMES OF SESSIONS

	Friday		
1.	2.00pm	–	3.00pm
2.	3.30pm	–	5.30pm
3.	7.00pm	–	9.00pm
	Saturday		
4.	9.00am	–	10.30am
5.	11.00am	–	12.45pm

AGENDA

01/10SC Resolved
That the Synod Standing Committee adopt the Order of Business as printed subject to changes suggested by the General Secretary and alterations made by the Standing Committee

APOLOGIES

Sessions

Mr James Ellis	All
Rev Kisoo Jang	1, 2 & 3
Mr Murray McKay	1 & 2
Mr Brian Mowbray	All
Ms Tina Rendell	All
Rev Robert Rutherford	All
Ms Naomi Nash	All
Mr John Oldmeadow	4 & 5
Ms Amy Davies	All
Rev Paul Swadling	1, 2 & 3

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Lynda Stanford	All
Mrs Meg Herbert	All

ASSOCIATED MEMBERS

Ms Vicki Roper	2
Rev Peter Godwin	2
Ms Libby Davies	2
Mr Stuart Uhlhorn	2 & 4
Mr Robert Key	5
Rev Diane Anderson	5
Ms Sandra Wright	All

MINUTES

02/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee confirm the Minutes of the Synod Standing Committee held 27 – 28 November 2009

EN BLOC

03/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee determine that matters listed on the agenda be adopted *en bloc* unless the Synod Associate Secretary receives a request before the commencement of Session 3 that a matter be considered separately

MODERATOR SHARING

- Spent time in the Riverina – visited Lake Cargelligo, Tullibigeal, Hillson, Merriowagg, Hay
 - saw the effects of the drought first hand

- Lay led congregations are strong in these towns
 - Rural Chaplains are crucial to those living in these areas
- Attended a six day training course in relation to Sydney Alliance meeting people from unions, other faiths and community organisations:
 - end of year Assembly was held during that time involving 250 people from 24 organisations and the Moderator was given the role of the closing speech
 - met with the Hon Laurie Ferguson MP with a view to him speaking to the Deputy Prime Minister about the possibility of President Barak Obama attending an occasion to be organized by the Sydney Alliance
 - Sydney Alliance will be holding several two day training sessions throughout March and will holding another Assembly on the afternoon of Sunday 11 July. The Moderator has information about that.
- Arrangements for Synod
 - considerable work being done by Simon Lee and Amy Davies towards making changes in the way we do Synod
 - commencing with a Celebration of the Uniting Church on Friday night at Ravenswood School with the President as guest speaker
 - there will be keynote speakers, presentations on worship, engagement with the community and multicultural church and rural ministry and inspiring leadership from our President

**GENERAL
SECRETARY
SHARING**

- Took study leave to attend Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne
- Preparation for the 2010 Synod Meeting
 - Synod Arrangements Committee has been consulting with the "young people"
 - The theme is Generosity and the President will be speaking at a pre-Synod gathering at Ravenswood
 - Rev Dr Chris Budden will introduce the changes to the Constitution regarding UAICC
 - Rev Ken Sumner is leading the Bible studies
 - Between morning tea and lunch there will be worship & sessions on connecting with the community, ministry of non English Speaking

**CHANGES TO
CLAUSES 36
AND 47**

04/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note that the Synod Standing Committee determined by email ballot in December 2009 to support the amendments to clauses 36 and 47 made by the 12th Assembly, as follows:

CONSTITUTION RE CO-OPTIONS TO STANDING COMMITTEES

Amend the Constitution to read:

- 36.** The Synod shall appoint from among its members a Standing Committee which shall be empowered to act on behalf of the Synod between meetings of the Synod in respect of any of the responsibilities of the Synod except such as the Synod may determine. The Standing Committee may co-opt additional members of the Synod to act on the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee shall consist of no fewer lay members than ministerial members.
- 47.** Each Assembly shall appoint from among its members a Standing Committee which shall be empowered to act on behalf of the Assembly between meetings of the Assembly in respect of any of the responsibilities of the Assembly except such as the Assembly may determine. The Standing Committee may co-opt additional members of the Assembly to act on the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee shall consist of no fewer lay members than ministerial members.
- (ii) ratify the above decision

**STAMP
COMMITTEE**

Reference – letter 19 January 2010

05/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

on the recommendation of the Stamp Committee approve the distribution of stamp sales proceeds as follows –

- (i) Board of Education
Youth Ministry – Bluesfest, Byron Bay at Easter – \$1,000
Youth Ministry – Subsidise participation in Summer Camp 2010 - \$1040
Children and Family Ministry to encourage congregations and schools to subscribe to Faith Family - \$500

- ELM – Resources Indonesian lay Preacher’s course –
Trolley Tool Boxes and Luke Studies - \$1,500
- Dean of Candidates – Professional support - \$800
- (ii) Board of Mission
 - Frontier Services Rocky Ridge - \$2,550
 - Gungahlin Uniting Church - \$750
 - Family Learning Centre - \$1,000
 - Leadership Institute - \$1,000
 - Snow Camp - \$1,000

**CHRISTIAN
CONFERENCE
OF ASIA**

Reference – Email Christian Conference of Asia 14 December 2009

06/10SC

Resolved
That the Synod Standing Committee approve the allocation of \$1,249 from the Pilgrim House Interest Account to cover the cost of airfares for Mr Stephen Webb, Uniting Creative, to attend the Christian Conference of Asia’s 13th General Assembly

**UNITINGCARE
NSW.ACT
REPORT
2007-2009**

07/10SC

Resolved
That the Synod Standing Committee receive the report

**APPOINTMENTS
2010**

(a) Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placements

08/10SC

Resolved
That the Synod Standing Committee
(i) note the following Presbytery representatives

Presbytery	Member	Alternate
Canberra Region	Rev Dr Jonathan Barker	Rev Kevin Dilks
Georges River	Mrs Robyn Cuppitt	Rev Nancy Brawn
Illawarra	Rev Mark Greenlees	*
Riverina	Rev Tony Davies	Mr John Rumens
Korean Commission	Rev Kisoo Jang	Rev Ki Duk Hwang

- (ii) note the following Migrant-Ethnic Representatives
Georges River – Rev Alex Thomas

Parramatta-Nepean – Rev Rodel Palma

(b) Newington College Council

Reference – Minute 136/09SC

09/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) appoint the following persons to the Newington College Council for a three year term –

Dr Don Hector
Mr Michael Morgan
Professor Ian Caterson
Rev Manus Ghosh
Rev Dr John Pender
Rev David Russell

- (ii) note the appointment of the following persons by the Old Newingtonians Union for a three year term –
Mr Bruce Carroll
Mr Scott Turner – replacing Mr Peter Meares (retired)

(c) Wesley Mission Church Council

10/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

appoint the following persons to the Wesley Mission Church Council for one year

Mr Nick Farr-Jones
Mr David Greatorex
Mr Mark Scott
Ms Beverly Smith
Dr Keith Suter
Mr Edmund Walker
Ms Sarah White

SYNOD 2010

(a) Membership

11/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note that the Rev David Thiem is no longer eligible to be appointed as member of the 2010 Synod representing the Assembly and withdraw his name from the list of members appointed by the Synod Standing Committee
- (ii) co-opt the following persons as members of the Synod

Ministers

Rev John Jegasothy
Rev Miriam Parker-Lacey

Lay Persons

Mr Jonathon Rea
Prof Dennis Turner
Mr Howard Packer
Mr John Brunton
Mrs Lyn Drabasch
Mrs Gwen Rosolen
Mrs Ann Perrin

**(b) Appointments – The Uniting Church in Australia
Property Trust (NSW)**

Reference – By-Law 2.3.8(i)

12/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee
nominate the following persons for appointment to the Uniting
Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW) –

Mr Bryce Bridges
Mr John Graves
Mr Timothy L'Orange
Mrs Paula Reid
Mr Warwick Van Ede

**LEGAL
ACTION**

UnitingCare Ageing – Ms Lawson

Reference – Email Mr Ali Trad 11/01/10

13/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee
note the decision of the Moderator to grant permission to
UnitingCare Ageing to defend a claim in regard to an unfair
dismissal

**CORRECTION
TO BY-LAWS RE
GENERAL
SECRETARY**

Reference – Working Paper No. 3

14/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) amend By-Laws 2.5, 5.3.1, 6.3.1, 7.3.1 and 8.5.1 as per Working Paper No. 3
- (ii) note the change to By-Law 2.5.4(c) to read:
 - Synod Associate Secretary
 - Synod Associate Secretary (Ministry)

**LEGAL
ACTION –
RESIDENTIAL
TENANCY
TRIBUNAL**

Reference – Letter from Parramatta Mission received 5 February 2010

15/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) give permission to Parramatta Mission to initiate legal action in the Residential Tenancy Tribunal with regard to any tenants in default of rental payments to the Mission, provided that in each case the Mission acts in accordance with its existing protocols which require it to address the pastoral needs of clients in the hope that such legal action may be avoided
- (ii) require Parramatta Mission to report each instance of such legal action to the General Secretary of the Synod
- (iii) determine that this permission shall expire at the conclusion of the first Synod Standing Committee held 2011 unless the Standing Committee decides that it should be renewed, and
- (iv) invite Parramatta Mission to bring an assessment of the usefulness of this permission and the effectiveness of its application to the first Synod Standing Committee in 2011 if the Mission wishes the Standing Committee to extend this permission

**REV DR ANN
WANSBROUGH**

Reference – Email from the Rev Harry Herbert to the General Secretary 14/12/2009

Reference – Email from the Rev Professor James Haire to the General Secretary 13/02/2010

16/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note the advice from the Rev Harry Herbert that the UnitingCare Board, while expressing a preference for only one lawyer on the three person panel, agreed to the appointment of Ms Kellie Edwards to the independent panel to investigate each step in the process that led to the conclusion of the placement of Rev Dr Ann Wansbrough as Senior Policy Analyst with UnitingCare NSW.ACT
- (ii) note that this agreement means that the three names proposed by the Rev Professor James Haire as members of this panel (229/09SC) have been accepted by the UnitingCare Board and the Rev Dr Ann Wansbrough and that the investigation can now proceed, and

- (iii) note that the first meeting of the panel comprising the Rev Brian Howe (Chair), Mr Brian Cohen and Ms Kellie Edwards with the Rev Professor James Haire (advisor) was held by teleconference on Wednesday 17 February 2010, at 10.am

**RECEPTION
OF KOREAN
CONGREGATIONS**

Reference – Working Paper No 5 & Minute 226/09SC

17/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) receive the report
- (ii) request the committee to develop guidelines based on the Working Paper and bring a proposal to the May 2010 Synod Standing Committee

**WORKERS
COMPENSATION
INSURANCE
COVER FOR
MINISTERS IN
PLACEMENT
AND SUPPLY
IN NSW**

Reference – Working Paper No 9 replaces Working Paper No 6 & Minute – 111/09SC

18/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) determine that the global Minister of the Word Workers' Compensation Insurance for Ministers in placement in NSW continue to be maintained by the Ministers Support Fund and taken out under the ABN of the Synod of NSW and the ACT,
- (ii) determine that this will be conditional upon WorkCover NSW agreeing to include the Synod of NSW and the ACT under Schedule 4 of the Workers Compensation Regulation 2003,
- (iii) determine that it is mandatory for all:
 - ordained Ministers of the Word in placement in NSW to be covered by this policy, and
 - church organisations within NSW with Ministers in placement to contribute towards the premium cost by making contributions to the Ministers Support Fund,
- (iv) determine that one of the two areas of non-compliance with NSW Workers' Compensation Legislation

- will be rectified by the Synod's inclusion under Schedule 4 of the Workers Compensation Regulation 2003,
- (v) determine that in order for the other area of non-compliance with Workers' Compensation Legislation to be rectified:
- the Synod Secretariat assisted by Uniting Resources, will send each organisation in NSW with a Minister in placement, a "Wages Declaration Form" on 15 June each year for them to complete, and
 - each organisation in NSW with a Minister in placement will return the completed "Wages Declaration Form" to the Synod Secretariat no later than the close of business on 15 July each year,
- (vi) note that any failure on the part of a church organisation in NSW with a Minister in Placement to comply with the requirements of (iv) and (vi) above will be in breach of Workers Compensation Legislation and such breach has the potential to detrimentally impact on other organisations in NSW with Ministers in placement,
- (vii) determine that ACOMP, when filling approved placements in NSW,
- makes each organisation aware of their obligations in respect to points (iv) and (vi), and
 - provides full details of the placement and the organisation to the Ministers Support Fund
- in order to ensure that records are contemporary at all times and appropriate insurance cover is facilitated before the placement commences, and
- (viii) note that this resolution replaces Standing Committee resolution 75/09SC, i.e. that Standing Committee will not proceed to disband the global Minister of the Word Workers' Compensation Insurance cover for Ministers in placement in NSW effective from 4pm on 30 June 2010 provided that WorkCover NSW agrees to include the Synod of NSW and the ACT under Schedule 4 of the Workers Compensation Regulation 2003

**WESLEY
MISSION:
MODEL OF
INCORPORATION**

Reference – Working Paper No 8 & Minute 12/09SC

19/10SC

Resolved
That the Synod Standing Committee
receive the report

**REPORT
FROM THE BOARDS
OF MISSION
AND EDUCATION
ON REALIGNMENT
OF THE TWO
BOARDS**

Reference – Working Paper No 7 & Minute 227/09SC

20/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) receive the report
- (ii) recommend to the Synod that
 - (a) the Boards of Mission and Education be requested to pursue the merger of the two Boards as outlined in the report
 - (b) the two Boards provide regular reports to the Synod Standing Committee throughout the period of implementation of the merger through the Combined Board Working Group
 - (c) the Synod delegate to the Synod Standing Committee authority to approve necessary structural changes in collaboration with the Boards before the 2011 Synod
 - (d) a final report be given to the 2011 Synod meeting

**SYNOD
GENERAL
SECRETARY:
CLOSURE OF
MINISTRY
SERVICE**

21/10

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) hold a Closure of Ministry Service for the Synod General Secretary at 5.00pm on Sunday 18 July, 2010 in Gordon Uniting Church
- (ii) request the Moderator to lead this service of worship,
- (iii) invite the Rev Rob Brown, General Secretary of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, to preach
- (iv) thank the Minister and people of Gordon Uniting Church for their hospitality, and
- (v) contribute to the cost of a light meal following the service

**MINISTER'S
STIPEND
FORMULA
REVIEW**

Reference – Working Paper No 4 & Minute 48/09SC

22/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) receive the report
- (ii) acting on the recommendation of the Ministers Support Funds Committee
 - (a) suspend the current formula for calculating the Minimum Stipend
 - (b) approve an interim formula using the annualized average of the CPI and AWE index (as set out in Scenario 3) for the period 1st July 2010 to 30th June 2012
 - (c) adopt the 2009/2010 minimum stipend as the base figure for the interim formula
 - (d) note that the Travel Allowance will continue to be calculated in accordance with the current formula
- (iii) note that the Ministers Support Funds Committee
 - (a) propose to undertake a major review of the formula for establishing a:
 - Minimum Stipend
 - Residence Allowance, and
 - Travel Allowance
 - (b) propose to bring recommendations to the Synod Standing Committee meeting in November 2011
- (iv) at the invitation of the Ministers Support Fund Committee, appoint the following persons to represent the Synod Standing Committee on the Review Group
 - Rev Jorge Rebolledo
 - Ms Vicki Roper
 - Mr Denis Tamplin

(by agreement)

**CHANGE OF
DATE JULY
SYNOD STANDING
COMMITTEE**

23/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

move the Synod Standing Committee meeting scheduled for 9 –10 July, 2010 to 2 – 3 July, 2010 to be held at Wesley Lodge

**REVIEW
OF THE
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR
UNITINGCARE**

Reference – Working Paper No. 2

24/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) receive the report
- (ii) note that resolutions 137/09SC and 181/09SC are attached to this report as Appendices A & B
- (iii) extend the placement of Rev Harry Herbert as Executive Director of UnitingCare NSW.ACT for a further two years from 1 January 2011
- (iv) note the letter, dated 25 February 2010, tabled by Rev Alan White and Mr Peter Lynn

**WESLEY
COLLEGE AND
ELECTION OF
COUNCIL
MEMBERS**

Reference – Email received 19 February 2010 from Mr John Oldmeadow, Executive Director, Board of Education – ex-officio member of Wesley College Council

25/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) determine that the election for vacancies on the Council of Wesley College formerly referred by the College to the annual Synod Meeting continue to occur on an annual basis by being referred by the College to the Synod Standing Committee in February each year
- (ii) appoint Rev Rex Graham for a two year term from April 2010 and Mr Damian Palmer for a three year term from April 2010

**REVIEW OF
CURRENT
STRUCTURES
AND PROCESSES
OF SYNOD**

Reference Working Paper No 10 & Minute 181/09SC

26/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) receive the report
- (ii) bring to the 2010 Synod a proposal that the Synod initiate a process of review of:
 - (a) its direction and mission priorities together with

- (b) the adequacy of its structure and processes to facilitate the delivery of the Synod's responsibility and priorities
- (iii) request the Synod Standing Committee Working Group to bring this proposal to the Synod
- (iv) appoint Rev Dr Andrew Williams to the Working Group
- (v) request the General Secretary to provide for resources to facilitate the process over the duration of the review

**SYNOD
STANDING
COMMITTEE
REPORT TO
2010 SYNOD**

27/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note that the Synod Standing Committee was requested by email in February 2010 to approve the Synod Standing Committee Report to the 2010 Synod prepared by the General Secretary,
- (ii) note that the General Secretary made changes to the Report where the same or similar suggestions were received from Standing Committee members,
- (iii) approve the Synod Standing Committee Report to the 2010 Synod prepared by the General Secretary as amended, and
- (iv) note that a summary of the decisions by the February 2010 Standing Committee will be prepared as an appendix to the Report and handed out at the Synod meeting

**SYNOD
MEETINGS EARLY
IN THE YEAR**

28/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note that concern was expressed at the October 2009 Standing Committee about the early closing date for nominations to the April 2010 Synod and the potential overlap with elections of Presbytery officers (184/09SC),
- (ii) note the difficulty for Executive Directors of Boards and others in submitting reports for the Synod in a timely fashion following Christmas and the January holiday period,
- (iii) note that Secretariat staff members have struggled to make arrangements for the 2010 Synod meeting due to the early date following Christmas and the January holiday period,

- (iv) note that the Synods of Queensland and Victoria/Tasmania (also on an 18 month Synod cycle) schedule their Synod meetings which fall early in the year for late May, and
- (v) determine to explore dates in late May for Synod meetings which fall early in the year, acknowledging that this may also require a complementary change of date for Synod meetings which fall later in the year

**PERFORMANCE
REVIEWS
OF EXECUTIVE
DIRECTORS AND
THE SYNOD
GENERAL
SECRETARY**

Reference – Minute 46/08SC

29/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note Resolution 46/08SC (ii) in which the Moderator and Chairs of Synod Boards were requested to:
 - (a) review the processes used to conduct performance reviews of Executive Directors and the Synod General Secretary with a view, in particular, to ascertaining whether the Performance Review and Planning Tools used by the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania or tools used by any other Synod may be suitable for this synod's purposes and whether any additions or refinements may be necessary
 - (b) seek the advice of Ms Vicki Roper, Synod Human Resources Officer, and
 - (c) bring to the Synod Standing Committee proposals which will enable it to make the changes requested by the Synod,
- (ii) receive the Moderator's report on this matter which indicated implicit difficulties within this process, and
- (iii) appoint a new committee to complete the task requested of the Moderator consisting of Mr Jim Mein (Convenor), and a representative from each Board and two representatives from the new Synod Standing Committee

**GENERAL
SECRETARY
NOMINATION**

30/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) receive the report of the Nominating Committee
- (ii) recommend to the 2010 Synod that the Rev Dr Andrew Williams be appointed as the Synod General Secretary from the 1 August 2010 for a period of five years
- (iii) maintain confidentiality on the recommendation to bring the name of Rev Dr Andrew Williams to 2010 Synod until such time as the Moderator and General Secretary deem appropriate
- (iv) request the Moderator and General Secretary to advise when confidentiality is no longer required
- (v) express its appreciation to the Nominating Committee, especially Ms Kay Dowling General Secretary WA Synod, for the efficiency, hard work and pastoral care which they invested in the nominating process

**RECEPTION
OF MINISTERS**

(a) Rev Ockert Meyer

Reference Minute 03/10/RM

Rev Ockert Meyer is in placement as the Minister (OC) of the Yarralumla Uniting Church

31/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note that the Rev Ockert Meyer is eligible for recognition as a Minister of the Word of the Uniting Church in Australia;
- (ii) provisionally recognise the Rev Ockert Meyer as a Minister of the Word of the Uniting Church in Australia, confirmation of the recognition being subject to
 - (a) completion of a reading course on the theological history of the Uniting Church with the Rev Gregor Henderson and
 - (b) being in a recognised placement.
- (iii) note that Rev Ockert Meyer has satisfactorily completed:
Polity and Ethos
Sexual Misconduct Awareness and Prevention Training
Phase I and II
- (iv) note that Rev Ockert Meyer has affirmed a willingness to accept the polity and discipline of the Uniting Church and the oversight of the Presbytery

(b) Rev Jennifer Kivikko

Reference Minute 02/10/RM

Rev Jennifer Kivikko is in placement as the *UnitingCare* Chaplain at the Prince of Wales Hospital and the Prince of Wales Children's Hospital

32/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note that the Rev Jennifer Kivikko is eligible for recognition as a Minister of the Word of the Uniting Church in Australia
- (ii) provisionally recognise the Rev Jennifer Kivikko as a Minister of the Word of the Uniting Church confirmation of the recognition being subject to
 - (a) the completion of Uniting Church studies and a reading course on sacraments which reflects the theology and doctrine of the Uniting Church and
 - (b) being in a recognised placement
- (iii) note that Rev Jennifer Kivikko has satisfactorily completed: Polity and Ethos Sexual Misconduct Awareness and Prevention Training Phase I and II
- (iv) note that Rev Jennifer Kivikko has affirmed a willingness to accept the polity and discipline of the Uniting Church and the oversight of the Presbytery

(c) Mr Ron Brookman

Reference 132/09SC and 04/10/RM

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) *note that Mr Ron Brookman is seeking to be re-admitted as a Minister of the Word in the Uniting Church in Australia*
- (ii) *refer Mr Brookman to the Rev Dr Peter Powell for assessment regarding suitability for future specified ministry*
- (iii) *direct Mr Brookman and representatives of Georges River Presbytery to meet with the Reception of Ministers Committee after February 2010 to assess the progress of the team ministry and ask for a further report on the nature of the placement in particular the relationship with Living Waters Ministry*

33/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee

- (i) note that Mr Brookman has complied with the recommendations of 132/09SC
- (ii) note the reports of the mission consultation of Carlton Ramsgate Congregation prepared by Rev Peter Godwin for the Georges River Presbytery

- (iii) note that the Pastoral Relations Committee states clearly that the Presbytery supports Mr Brookman's application for recognition of his ordination
- (iv) note "The Presbytery affirms the results of his ministry with Carlton-Ramsgate under a SMRF funded project. The Presbytery believes that with appropriate monitoring processes in place, any remaining issues that may be of concern will be addressed"
- (v) note Mr Brookman has affirmed a willingness to accept the polity and discipline of the Uniting Church and the oversight of the Presbytery
- (vi) note that a positive assessment has been received regarding suitability for future specified ministry
- (vii) recommend to the Synod Standing Committee that Mr Ron Brookman be re-admitted to the ordained ministry of the Uniting Church as a Minister of the Word

RETIREMENTS

(a) Rev Paul Swadling

34/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee adjust the final retirement date of the Rev Paul Swadling from 31 December, 2010 to 31 January, 2011

(b) Rev Dr William H Ives

Reference – Letter received 4 February 2010

35/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee note the retirement of Rev Dr William H Ives in accordance with Regulation 2.4.7 (a)(i), effective 31 December 2010

(c) Rev Sione Eli

Reference – Letter received 21 February 2010

36/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee note the retirement of Rev Sione Eli in accordance with Regulation 2.4.7 (a)(i), effective 28 February 2010

(d) Rev K Peter Fox

Reference – Letter received 27 February 2010

37/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee note the retirement of Rev K Peter Fox in accordance with Regulation 2.4.7 (a)(i), effective 28 February 2010

**ORDINATIONS
AND
COMMISSIONINGS**

(a) Rev Rob Hanks

Reference – Email received 10 November 2009 ACOMP

38/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee note the ordination of Rev Rob Hanks by The Hunter Presbytery as a Minister of the Word effective 12 December 2009

(b) Rev Mary-Jane French

Reference – Letter received Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery 8 January 2010

39/10SC

Resolved

That the Synod Standing Committee note the ordination of Rev Mary Jane French by Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery as a Minister of the Word effective 2 January 2010

PASTORAL

(a) Obituaries

- Rev Robert R Smith died 12 December 2009
- Professor Charles Birch, former Challis Professor of Biology Sydney University, winner of the 1990 Templeton Prize for Religion, former Deputy Master of Wesley College, died 19 December 2009
- Mr Noel Weiss, son of Rev Raymond and Mrs Joyce Weiss, died 17 January 2010
- Mr Bruce Watkins, father of Rev Graeme Watkins, died 12 December 2009
- Mr Col Towns, former Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for the Lismore Regional Mission Uniting Church, died 6 January 2010
- Mrs Joy Marguerite Gibbs, former Presbytery Secretary for Illawarra Presbytery, died 16 February 2010
- Mr William Hand, father of Mr Geoff Hand, died 13 February 2010
- Mrs Thompson, mother of Rev Helen Edgerton, died 10 February 2010

(b) Illnesses

- Rev Allen Taylor
- Rev Dr Ann Wansbrough
- Rev Kenyon McDowell

(c) Awards

- Mr James Stephen Mein, was awarded a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for service to the Uniting Church in Australia through a range of roles, to the promotion of interfaith dialogue, to education, and to the community
- The Honourable Bruce George Baird, a Member of the Board of Wesley Mission 1995 – 1997, was awarded a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for service to the Parliament of Australia, and to the community of New South Wales through a range of business, tourism and welfare organisations
- Mrs Joan Howlett, a long serving member of the Uniting Church's Coffs Harbour Church Council and Elders Committee, was awarded a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for service to the community of Coffs Harbour
- Mr Philip John Bruem, Chairman of the Wildes Meadow Uniting Church Property Trust, was awarded a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for service to the dairy industry, particularly through the implementation and promotion of advance technology, and to the community
- Mr Ronald William Gibson, current Elder and Church Council Member, Gymea-Miranda Uniting Church, was awarded a Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia for service to the community of the Sutherland Shire
- Pastor Susan Margaret Scarcella, member of the Wesley International Congregation, Sydney was awarded a Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia for service to overseas humanitarian aid projects, particularly through the Protestant Christian Church, Bali

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Chairperson

.....
Date