

## Presbytery of Port Phillip West PPW: May 2026 Presbytery in Council **PIC** Meeting

### **Points deemed of particular interest to SCUC are bolded.**

Doreen Stephens (BB) and I attended. Harry Wendt (AI), Marie Harding (TQ) and RevTina were apologies. PIC held face-to-face at St Albans UC Sat 23 May, began with opening worship around the Pentecost theme led by Sandy Brodine (refer below), plus Annette Buckley leading a telling of the story from Acts.

1. There was a presentation of a memorial minute for Robert Renton (1946-2026).

**2. ALL AGE GROWTH GOAL** The [Faithful Futures Project](#) “is a collaborative effort between presbyteries and the Synod to discern priorities, direct resources, and ensure we are equipped for the challenges and opportunities ahead.” **Sandy Brodine** [sandybrodine@victas.uca.org.au](mailto:sandybrodine@victas.uca.org.au) Synod *Younger Generations – Education and Strategy* coordinator presented to encourage the development of all-age communities of faith that are “interactive, diverse, inclusive and transformative”. **Her presentation and materials were excellent.** The Presbytery then spent half an hour brainstorming on how to achieve the goal. **She asks to be invited in. This is definitely an opportunity for SCUC.**

3. Essendon St John’s and West Brunswick St David’s amalg’n approved. Final WestB service 14 June.

4. Discussed: the conclusion of placement service for Linley Liersch, the Mission Development Strategist with the Presbytery. Linley has accepted a call to Cowes Uniting Church on Phillip Island.

After lunch,

5. Annette Buckley presented the Pastoral Relations Committee PRC report (committee Chair Will Nicholas on sick leave). Kate Scull presented the profiles for **two new Presbytery Minister placements**, named **Presbytery Minister Communities, Change and Collaboration** and **Presbytery Minister Faith, Formation and Discernment**.

The Presbytery approved both profiles, so they will be forwarded to the next meeting of the Placements Committee of the Synod, and we are hoping that the two positions will be filled soon.

**Anyone from SCUC willing to be on JNC for these 2 positions is asked to contact Heather Loader.**

6. Heather Loader presented her report, which included **asking congregations to support hospital chaplaincy at BARWON HEALTH GEELONG** and Sunshine. **SCUC can/should consider this.**

7. Presented was the “UCA Lay Leaders Code of Conduct” DOC009 attached (to be signed annually by all lay leaders). **Lay leading training by PPW is said “being made available later in 2026”.**

8. An invitation for proposals to help celebrate the **50th anniversary of the Uniting Church in 2027** was issued. **Contact Heather Loader with ideas and funding may become available.**

9. Martin Woodhead presented PPW Treasurer's report, including the 2025 Audited Accounts.

10. Richard Allen presented the Administration, Property and Finance report.

11. Jamie Thom and Sue Waddell presented the review of the current Presbytery strategy Regenerating the Church Strategy 2022-2026, and the **Presbytery approved the recommendations that will help shape the next Strategy.** DOC015 attached.

12. Postcard Presentations. Sue Strong of PPW Climate Action group’s report on PPW supporting (in line with Assembly and Synod) the Fossil-Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. It was however without formal recommendations. This will be considered at the next Presbytery in Council meeting in August.

Linda Wannan (PPW APF rep), with input from Brunswick UC reps Jamie Thom and Kate Scull