



Presbyterian Church
of Aotearoa New Zealand



GAO8
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REFORMING

**Minutes of the 2008 General Assembly of the
Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand**

**Held at St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Upper Hutt,
2 – 5 October 2008**

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**Minutes of Session 1 of the 2008 General Assembly
St John's in the City Church, Willis St, Wellington
Thursday 2 October, 11.00am**

The Ministers and Ruling Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, elected as representative members of the General Assembly, together with associate and observer members, convened pursuant to the appointment of the General Assembly meeting at Auckland, September 2006.

The Assembly was welcomed by representatives of the tangata whenua.

The Right Reverend Pamela Tankersley, Moderator of the General Assembly, by prayer constituted the Assembly in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only King and Head of the Church, and conducted public worship.

The Assembly Clerk, the Rev Martin Baker, moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.001] That the roll of the Assembly, as laid on the table be accepted.

Roll of the 2008 General Assembly

Churches Together in Northland

Ministers: Peter Dunn, Rob Pendreigh, Barry Tetley.

Elders: Kevyn Harris, Alan Robinson.

North Shore Presbytery

Ministers: Peter Bristow, Mark Farmer, Colin Gordon, Brian Hardie, Karel Lorier, Sylvia Miller, Roy Pearson, Owen Rogers.

Elders: Max Edward, Cherie Leefe, Gordon Maisey, Jim Milmine, Emi Sofai.

Youth: Fiona Sherwin.

Auckland Presbytery

Ministers: Des Botting, Douglas Bradley, Brian Cavit, Roy Christian, Ben Dykman, Tala Fa'amausili, Fieta Ikitelagi Faitala, Kevin Finlay, Caleb Hardie, Reuben Hardie, Linda Hope, Chongwoo Kim, Nathanael Lai, Stuart Lange, Ron Lau'ese, Apa Leali'ifano, Rose Luxford, Colin Marshall, Vaitu'ulala Ngahe, Rachel Nield, David North, Emani Setefano, Stuart Simpson, Pauline Stewart, Johannes Suwantika, Fei Taule'ale'ausumai, Sandra Warner.

Elders: Allyson Atchison, Cunningham Atchison, Ward Buckingham, Valerie Candy, Moyra Cooke, Anne Dillon, Bruce Dixon, Ioane Iosua, John Kernohan, Tei Kiliuyi, Tasi Lauese, Tautia Levi, Mac Mackensi, Yvonne Maea-Brown, Fofoa Matamu, Trevor Moran, Alainu'u Mua, Jane Prichard, Anthony Scott, Isabella Tedcastle, Philip Temple, Leaogaupu Tomuli, John Trainor, Sidney Wood.

Youth: Chris Lange, Simon Mahoney.

South Auckland Presbytery

Ministers: Barry Ayers, Brian Brandon, Keleva Faleatua, Craig Millar, Tom Phillips, Robert Robati-Mani.

Elders: Shaun Bentley, Phyllis Brock, Bruce Chamberlin, Leota Hendrikse, Linda Plant, Lyndsay Sutton, Susan Warrington.

Waikato Presbytery

Ministers: David Balchin, Doris Elphick, David Gordon, Fogatia Levi, Garry Marquand, Ken Olsen, Ruth Sandiford-Phelan, Diane Yule.
Elders: Ron Creigh-Smith, Keith Jellyman, Bill McKinnon, Pauline Milroy, Janice Purdie, Freeman Raine, Stuart Sinclair, Joan Townshend, Charlie Turia, Allan Wallace, Ian Wards, Bernard Young.
Youth: Mareta Ford.

Bay of Plenty Presbytery

Ministers: Iain Dickson, Jenny Doyle, Donald Hegan, Bruce Hellyer, John Howell, Duk Kyung Kim, Lance Thomas.
Elders: Irene Clarke, Marie Hayward, Barrie Herring, Ann Owen, Marion Sanders, Brian Thompson.
Youth: Robert Williams.

Te Aka Puaho

Ministers: Hariata Haumate, Messina Roberts, Wayne Te Kaawa, Tamiana Thrupp, Awatea Tupe.
Elders: Te Ao Biddle, Amiria Te Kaawa, Wi Patene Te Pairi, Wiremu Te Ratana, Honey Thrupp.
Youth: Ramarihi Keelan, Daniel Thrupp, Ryhan Prasad, Ross Davis.

Gisborne-Hawkes Bay Presbytery

Ministers: Uili Aukuso, Howard Carter, Gene Lawrence, Ian Pimm, Brett Walker.
Elders: Sue Hodgson, Christine Gould, Alan Hoggarth, Wayne Rewcastle.

Taranaki Presbytery

Ministers: David Anderson, Dennis Flett, John Mattock, Paul Prestidge, John Wilkie.
Elders: Gary Mattock, Ron Schwass, Pat Schwass, Neil Walker, Jim Welham.

Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery

Ministers: George Dempster, Philippa Horrex, Steve Jourdain, Ra Koia, Rhys Pearson, Pamela Tankersley, Brian Thom, Ken Wall.
Elders: Judith Forbes, Peter Halford, Diana MacDonald, Ally McKay, Betty Simpson.
Youth: Jacqui McKenzie, Nikki Mott.

Wairarapa Union District Council

Ministers: Joan Ross, Jim Veitch.
Elders: Beverley Rigg.

Wellington Presbytery

Ministers: Nio Daniela, Sharon Ensor, Carol Grant, Ngatokotoru Ine, Perema Leasi, Clare Lind, Margaret Mayman, Robert McLay, Keith Nisbet, Fraser Paterson, Hana Popea-Mauigoa, Lyn Russell, Les Solomona, Ola Tofilau, John Turton, John Yoo.
Elders: Helen Bichan, Don Clement, Yvonne Curtis, Douglas Day, Geoff Donovan, Tanya Duncan, Graeme Gainsford, Russell Garrett, Donald Gordon, Robert Hopkirk, John Jones, Tom Law, Lesley Shaw, Joanne Vilipaama, Keith Wood.
Youth: Andrew Johnstone, Jo Terora.

Nelson-Marlborough Presbytery

Ministers: John Malcolm, Jon Parkes, Ken Williams, Johanna Warren.

Elders: Beth Campbell, Corrine Jane, John Pullar.

West Coast Uniting Church Council

Elders: Lyn Heine

Christchurch Presbytery

Ministers: Hilary Beresford, Sally Carter, Sheena Dickson, Lapana Faletolu, Rob Fergusson, Graeme Mclver, Alan Missen, Rodney Routledge, Martin Stewart, Darryl Tempero, Helen Wallis, Nancy Jean Whitehead.

Elders: Joe Bruerton, Frank Carter, Pat Manning, Allan Middlemiss, Warwick Moffat, Brent Richardson, Paul Seaton Peter Spoelstra, Mary Stanton.

Youth: Liz Whitehead.

Ashburton Presbytery

Ministers: Luisa Fruean, David Vaughan.

Elders: Erena McCaw

Youth: James Chapman

South Canterbury Presbytery

Ministers: Shona Bettany, Les Gosling, Roger Hart, Ian Hyslop.

Elders: Selwyn Crawford, David Draffin, Kenneth Linscott, William Penno, Gwynne Thompson.

Central Otago Presbytery

Ministers: Graham McDougall, Geoffrey Ellery, Diane Gilliam-Weeks, Stephanie Wells.

Elders: David Dittmer.

Dunedin and North Otago Presbytery

Ministers: Bruce Hamill, Helen Harray, Susan Jones, Barry Kelk, Chris Konings, Bobby Kusilifu, Alofa Lale, Nimarota Lale, Martin Macaulay, Graeme Munro, Geoffrey Skilton, Geoffrey Vine.

Elders: Russell Gillions, Jane Green, Megan Hall, Mary-Jane Inglis, Foalimu Lemalu, Shona McDonald, Fay McDonald, Judith Milmine, Janet Sim-Elder, Evelyn Skelly.

Youth: Tom Mepham, Miriam Wood.

Clutha Presbytery

Ministers: Chris Burgin, Brian Walker.

Mataura Presbytery

Ministers: Tau Ben-Unu, Karima Fai'ai, George Kopa.

Elders: Gordon Collins, Robin Cowie, Bronwyn McCall.

Youth: Jason Barron.

Southland Presbytery

Ministers: Ian Crawford, Richard Gray, Karl Lamb, Alastair Taylor, Tekura Wilding.

Elders: Claire Anderson, Lynley McKerrow-Bear, David McPherson, Zona Pearce, Virginia Wilson.

Association of Presbyterian Women
Elders: Jill Little, Heather Tate.

Installation of Moderator

The Clerk of Assembly moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.002] That pursuant to the nomination of the 2006 General Assembly the Reverend Doctor Graham Redding be elected Moderator of the General Assembly, to hold office until the induction of his successor at the next ordinary meeting of the Assembly.

The outgoing Moderator, the Very Rev Pamela Tankersley, inducted the Rev Dr Graham Redding by prayer, and presented to him the Moderator's Korowhai. Dr Redding signed the Centennial Bible.

The new Moderator addressed the Assembly on the theme "Reformed and Reforming".

Act of Commemoration

The Moderator and the Clerk, with the congregation standing reverently, conducted the Act of Commemoration, recalling by name those whom the church in its courts had remembered.

Welcome to Overseas and Ecumenical Guests

The Moderator welcomed those attending the opening service. He acknowledged overseas guests, ecumenical observers and other invited guests.

Overseas Guests:

Church of North India: Purely Lyngdoh, Yunous Massey, Cecil Harrison (Christian Hospital, Jagadhri), Nayana Harrison (Christian Hospital, Jagadhri), Kamla Singh (St Thomas' School, Jagadhri), David Singh (St Thomas' School, Jagadhri)

Cook Islands Christian Church: Temere Poaru

Uniting Church of Australia: Gregor Henderson

Presbyterian Church of USA: Robert Bayley

United Reformed Church (UK): David Coaker

Ecumenical Observers:

Methodist Church of New Zealand: Nigel Hanscamp

Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand: Peter MacKenzie

The Moderator led the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

The Opening Service concluded with the benediction. Assembly adjourned for lunch to resume at 6.30 pm at St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Wellington.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

**Minutes of Session 2 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Wellington
Thursday 2 October, 6.30pm**

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

The Moderator welcomed everyone to the Session.

Introduction of Standing Orders

The Revs Don Hall and David Coster, Assembly Business Work Group Co-Convenors, explained Assembly procedures.

Mr Hall moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.003] That the reports and proposals printed in the Assembly Reports and Extra Reports be received and be the working documents of this Assembly.

Mr Hall moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.004] That the Standing Orders be accepted as Standing Orders for this Assembly.

Facilitation Group

Mr Hall moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.005] That the Facilitation Group under Standing Order 15.1 (ii) comprise the Rev Brett Johnstone, Revs Sharon Ensor, Nathan Parry and Peter MacKenzie.

Appointment of Scrutineers and Deputy Assembly Clerk

The Assembly Clerk moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.006] That the scrutineers for this Assembly be Allister Lane, Malcolm Gordon, Nick McLennan, Aarii Taimataora, Phyllis Harris, Jong-Hyang Lee, Anne Stewart, Brendan O'Hagan and Silvia Purdie

The Assembly Clerk moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.007] That Mrs Heather McKenzie, Book of Order Advisor, be appointed Deputy Assembly Clerk until the close of this Assembly meeting.

Memorial Minutes

The Assembly Clerk moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.008] That the Memorial Minutes for the following be placed in the records of the Assembly:
Revs: Tom Corbett, Ian Dixon, Alister Dunn, Ian Fauchelle, Boyd Glassey, Ron Hay, Dudley Ives, Frank Nichol, Ian Provan, Struan Robertson, David Sage, Lagi Sipeli, William Stuart, Charles Styles, Eric Uden, Dorothy Wallace, Stuart White, Thomas Wilson
Sisters: Nissa Pooley, Maisie Queale, Anne Rudduck.

The Assembly Executive Secretary moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That Memorial Minutes for the following also be placed in the records of the Assembly:

Revs: Boyd Glassey, Lagi Sipeli

Sisters: Maisie Queale

Dunn, Rev Alister Gibson MBE

Alister trained for the ministry at Knox College and was ordained in 1952. His first parish was St Andrew's in Kaitia where he stayed until 1957. From there he took up the role of inaugural Chaplain at Mt Eden Prison.

In 1964 Alister left the Prison Service and began a long term ministry at St James Church in Beresford Street Auckland, where he worked with his friend and colleague the Rev George Jeffries. It was at this time that Alister, working with George Jeffries, established a number of initiatives aimed at helping the lives of ex-prisoners and alcoholics, as well as working with budgeting and food programmes for the inner city community. They "sat where people sat" and shared the troubles of the poor and needy. Alister also formed the Old Boys Club - a Sunday night where ex-prisoners could meet, sing hymns and have a meal.

In 1965 Alister was granted a Winston Churchill Fellowship Award and chose to study prisoners' aid and rehabilitation in the United States and the United Kingdom. Alister was a member of the Prisoners Aid Rehabilitation Society for 30 years and served as both Auckland and National President. He was also Port Chaplain in Auckland, and a long time secretary of the British Sailors Society. Alister retired in 1985 due to ill health and in 1986 was made a MBE.

The Rev Alister Dunn will be remembered for his compassion, tolerance, patience and understanding. He died 25 June 2008 aged 88 years.

Fauchelle, Rev Ian Donald

The Rev Ian Donald (known as Don) Fauchelle died suddenly in Tongariro National Park on 11 March 2008 while out hiking with his wife Margaret.

Don felt a strong call into Christian service from a young age, and in 1964 he was ordained as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand. Together with his wife Margaret, Don served in the parishes of Matamata and Eltham before going overseas at the end of 1968, where he became a minister for the Church of Scotland in Glasgow. In 1971, Don was appointed as a missionary to Zambia and his ministry in Africa continued across his life, including lecturing in theology in Malawi and Zimbabwe.

In between periods of time in Africa, he returned to serve as a minister in the New Zealand Presbyterian Church including Raumati (1976), St Mark's Presbyterian Church, Palmerston North (1976-80), St Margaret's Presbyterian Church, Belmont, Auckland (1984-90) and St Aidan's Presbyterian Church, South Auckland (1999-2002) where he was also appointed chaplain at the Elmwood Retirement Village in Manurewa. In addition, Don also served as the Assistant to the General Secretary of the Church of Scotland in 1990 after which he was seconded to the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa in Zimbabwe.

Furthermore, when in New Zealand, Don was actively involved as a Bible in School teacher and he chaired the North Shore Committee for the Churches Education Commission (Bible in School in NZ) from 1984-90. He also established and supported Boys and Girls Brigade companies in New Zealand and overseas. In Africa, his involvement with youth included Scripture Union work and in conjunction with Margaret and a national worker, Alice Chikomo, the setting up of a school for street kids in Harare, Zimbabwe.

After his retirement from full-time ministry in 2002, Don was actively involved in a number of ecumenical groups and, accompanied by Margaret, he went as a volunteer lecturer on behalf of Global Mission, the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Council of World Mission to the theological colleges in Botswana and Samoa. Don had a strong personal faith which he shared in numerous personal and practical ways. His contribution to the missionary outreach of the Church was rich and multi-faceted. Don offered much through his work in the pulpit and classroom but he added to that in the countless informal encounters in which he reflected the loving kindness of God. He was a compassionate, generous and selfless man who always had a smile and an encouraging word for others.

Don was a devoted husband to Margaret, and beloved father of Elizabeth, Rosemary, Dorothy, Douglas and Faith. As well as enjoying time with his family (including seven grandchildren) he loved traveling and exploring.

Glasse, Rev William Boyd

William Boyd Glasse was born in Darfield on 29 November 1927. Second in a family of seven children and of a large extended family, he grew up on the farmlands of the mid-Canterbury Plains. After completing his secondary schooling at Ashburton District High School, he went to Dunedin in 1946 and began tertiary studies at Otago University. He graduated with a BA degree, and entered into training for the ministry at Knox Theological Hall in 1951.

He was ordained and inducted as assistant minister at Caversham, Dunedin in 1954, with particular responsibility for the newly formed Union parish of Costorphine – Riselaw Road. In 1955 he married Gladys Wynne Benton, who had attended classes at Knox with him during her training for the Deaconess Order. Wynne and Boyd shared a love of writing poetry and it was this which sustained him following her death in 1983.

He discovered singing whilst at high school and derived great joy from his singing and theatrical achievements, reflecting in later years that this “was one of those things which gave me pleasure and did not destroy my confidence”.

Early influences in his life grew into a compassion for the underdog and the marginalised in society. Boyd often spoke out when he saw or encountered injustices. It is not surprising that much of his ministry was spent as chaplain in the mental health and prison services.

In 1960 he was called to the Masterton parish of Landsdowne and it was during this period, in the course of his visiting and hospital work that he became aware of the particular problems faced by those battling mental illness. In 1967 he was appointed to the position of Methodist-Presbyterian Chaplain at Porirua Hospital. A year later he was introduced by his colleague Diana Goss to the Clinical Pastoral Education programme

and from this developed his enduring passion for psychotherapy. This not only enabled him to focus on the things that moved him in ministry but provided the opportunity to pass on his skills and knowledge to others.

In 1975 he, with Wynne and four of their five children, went to Melbourne on exchange with the chaplain of Pentridge Prison. Following his return to Porirua he felt the need to (in his words) "get out of the hospital world and back into the community", as training and psychotherapy had given him "quite a different approach to the scriptures and to the ministry in society in general". He was appointed to the parish of St Andrew's, Christchurch (1976-81). This was followed by a further period of prison chaplaincy, in the Addington, Rolleston and Paparua prisons, until his retirement in 1987.

In 1987 he received a phone call from Judith Cecilia Hatton, junior room teacher at the Mayfield School, inviting him to take the Sunday service at their centennial celebration. They married in 1989, moving to Wellington to enable Judy to take a teaching position.

In retirement Boyd continued his involvement in the Clinical Pastoral Education professional organisation (gaining accredited supervisor status in 1991 and continuing to run courses until moving to Wellington), renewed his interest in singing and poetry, and traveled widely. He was an Honorary Associate Minister of St Andrew's on The Terrace where he is remembered with affection as a free spirit and an independent thinker, a valued, caring and often out-spoken member of that community.

Above all, Boyd was a family man. A much loved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He died on 1 June 2008.

We give thanks for the life and work, poetry and music, humor, wisdom and insights of William Boyd Glassey.

Hay, Rev William Ronald McDonald

Ron was born on 7 April 1916. The son of the Rev James Hay, he was educated at Cambridge, Hamilton, and finally at Nelson College. Having taken a BA degree at Canterbury University College, he attended the Theological Hall 1939-41, before being licensed by Nelson Presbytery. On November 11 he married Eileen Emily Mildred Madill (daughter of the Rev JDC Madill) before his ordination and induction into the Albury-Cave Parish in South Canterbury on 16 December. For the rest of his life, he would remember his first parishioners with the deepest gratitude and affection.

Following a brief military chaplaincy in 1945, Ron served parishes in Christchurch and Devonport, Auckland. In this naval centre much pressure was brought upon him to become a chaplain. But Ron was delighted to recall ever afterwards, the astonishment of the pompous English senior naval officer at Ron's declining what would have been a considerable pecuniary advantage, and preferring to remain loyal to his parish. "I think I can manage - sir," he said.

In 1957 Ron and Eileen and their four children, David, Jean, Helen and Rod, went to St Paul's Napier and to a 24-year ministry. A major highlight was Ron conducting a service at St Paul's attended by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1963. In the course of these years, Ron became much respected and beloved by the people of Napier and wider Hawkes Bay. A holy man, he was nevertheless well-informed of local issues, and

involved himself in them. In his integrity, he was fearless in his views, which, however, could always be lightened by his gentle but penetrating humour.

Ron Hay was a warm and strong communicator of the Gospel. Equally warm and caring was his pastoral concern. Remarkably humane, for people in trouble he was always there. He was a modest, gentle, kindly man with a streak of flawless steel, which he revealed only when honour demanded it.

Ives, Rev Richard Dudley

Richard Dudley Ives was born on 11 August 1930 in Ilford, Essex, England. After a year of studying architecture at Southend Polytechnic in England, Dudley moved to Wellington, where he continued his studies. In November 1955 he married an English girl, Joan.

After working for four different organisations, Dudley joined Verrall and Associates Architects in Rotorua in 1963. He started attending St Andrew's Presbyterian Church following advice in the Ethics Studies for his degree in Architecture, where it was stated "It is better for an Architect to be seen regularly in a church, not just at Christmas and Easter".

Under the ministry of the Rev Graeme Murray at St Andrew's he was converted in 1964, becoming an elder two years later under the ministry of the Rev H Stuart McKenzie. He did wonderful work with the young people in Boy's Brigade and Bible Class, with his wife Joan also active in a variety of church work. He was also a member of a hard working Church Building and Finance Committee, planning a church building for the St Andrew's congregation who to date only had a hall for its many activities. He was to design the communion table and font in this new building. He later designed the communion furniture at St David's.

In 1968 he felt a call to the ministry. On being accepted he went to Knox College in Dunedin for three years of studies. He had two parishes, Lyttleton from 1972 to 1978, and Te Kauwhata 1978 to 1987. In each parish he gave of himself and his skills in his service for Jesus Christ, and played his due part in presbytery and committee work.

Dudley's enthusiasm is well remembered. How he greeted everyone at the church door on a Sunday morning, his hearty chuckle, his readiness to assist with working bees, church galas and projects around the church. His skills as an architect and builder were an asset. Dudley never shied from work always ready with a hammer or on hand when trestles were needed or lifting required. Dudley loved his garden and always had a good supply of vegetables on hand.

Dudley took early retirement, going first to Auckland for five years and then to Rotorua in 1992. There he continued playing his part as a parish member and retired minister, including being Interim Moderator for St David's Owhata for two years. He died on 23 November 2006. A large congregation gathered to farewell him.

Nichol, Rev Dr Frank William Rutherford

Frank was born in Lyttelton on 30 March 1925. He was educated at Timaru Boys' High School and the University of Otago, graduating MA in Philosophy in 1947. He further graduated BD after studying at the Theological Hall from 1947 to 1949.

He married Elizabeth (Beth) Somerville and they subsequently had four children, Bill, Chris, Libby and Martin. Beth was later Librarian at the Hewitson Library, Knox College.

Frank undertook postgraduate study at the University of St Andrews, Scotland, and graduated PhD with a dissertation supervised by Professor Donald Baillie. The same university later honoured him by the conferral of its degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Frank was ordained to the parish of St Andrews, South Canterbury on 31 July 1952. Here he placed a great deal of emphasis on the parish functioning as a community and not merely as a collection of individuals.

In 1955, Frank was appointed Director of Theological Studies at the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Western Australia, Perth. His position was changed to that of Principal in 1958. Here, although he had some part-time assistance, he was responsible for all branches of theological study and training for the ministry. He retained an appreciation of the significance of all these branches in later years.

From 1963 to 1987, Frank was Professor of Systematic Theology and Christian Ethics at the Theological Hall, Knox College, and Principal from 1972 to 1986. He went through some changes in his theological outlook in that time, finding that the seminar rather than the lecturing method was most appropriate for his searching, and hoping that the students would think and search with him. He was sensitive both to the demands of radical students and to the agonising of conservative students and did much to promote the community life of both together. He promoted the Theological Hall as part of the Church, University and general community.

Frank was a faithful member of the Presbytery of Dunedin and made many visits to other presbyteries on behalf of the Theological Hall. When asked to be moderator in Dunedin, he replied that he would not want to decline anything the Church wanted him to do. He was deeply concerned about what the local parish is and does, particularly with the parish to which he belonged (Opoho) for 45 years. He led services, took part in the Adult Study Group, and spoke at congregational meetings, often encouraging the parish to support the national church.

Three weeks before he died on 19 April 2008, he voluntarily wrote an editorial for the parish newsletter, affirming the goodness of God through his stroke and the loss of his wife.

Pooley, Sr Margaret Nissa

Sister Margaret Nissa Pooley (nee Tinkler) grew up and was educated in the Te Kuiti District. In 1948 Nissa offered herself for training for the Deaconess Order following her attendance at a leadership school run by the Youth Department of the Presbyterian Church. From 1950 to 1952 she was a student in residence at Deaconess College in Alva Street, Dunedin. She was deeply influenced by the successive Principals of the College, Sister Kath Every and Sister Daisy Dempsey.

Nissa was ordained a deaconess in the Somervell Memorial Church, Remuera, Auckland, in 1953. In 1955 she was appointed parish deaconess with the Trinity Presbyterian Church at Cambridge. In 1957 she resigned to marry Ted Pooley, and lived in Hamilton for the rest of her life. During those 50 years she was a member of St Stephen's Church in Melville, Hamilton.

Nissa did not seek other deaconess or ministry positions. However she exercised a strong and faithful ministry in her local congregation. She was the first woman elder on the Session of St Stephen's, used her considerable musical gifts in the church's life and worship, and she was a friend, mentor and encourager to many. Her sense of humour and the twinkle in her eye warmed many a heart.

Nissa was active in the life of the congregation until her death in August 2007. At her funeral service it was said that the people of the church would long remember "her cheerful good humour, her serenity, the strong sense of purpose that drove her, and the faith that breathed through her words and deeds, but was never ostentatiously on display".

The Waikato Presbytery gives thanks to God for the life and the Christian faith and service of Margaret Nissa Pooley and offers its warm sympathy to the nieces and nephews who were so important to her.

Provan, Rev Ian James

The Presbytery of Christchurch acknowledges the significant ministry of Ian Provan. Ian was a minister of considerable intellect, deep compassion and a quick sense of humour. He reflected theologically, pastorally and psychologically, capable of original and provocative thought. In his book *Healing* he suggested a definition of health as living to the boundaries of one's limitations in any given time.

Ian was accepted as a student for the ministry by this presbytery in 1954. He graduated BA in Philosophy and History. At the Theological Hall he was one of a group of luminaries including names like Churcher, Coates, Fendall and Laughton. Ian achieved well and made firm friendships.

Ian began his ministry in 1959 in the Tasman parish. He had a particular concern for the young fruit picking people. Under his leadership and with the support of his wife, Joy, the parish set up for these people a café and a drive-in cinema – the first in New Zealand. His background as a pharmacist and his interest in the well-being of the whole person was useful to him as he offered his ministry part-time in the local psychiatric hospital.

In 1966 Ian became chaplain to the Cherry Farm group of psychiatric hospitals. His insight and skill were quickly recognised and he became a key person in the clinical team.

He worked particularly in the rehabilitation of long-stay patients and with people in the Alcoholism and Drug Dependency Unit. He lectured in the relationship between psychiatry and theology. He was held in great respect and deep affection by staff and patients. On the occasion of the celebration of the silver anniversary of the establishment of the chapel, he was invited to return to lead worship. He began by asking a rhetorical question – Why have we come? There was a shout from the congregation – To see you!

In 1979 Ian became a consultant for the Department of Parish Development and Mission and later, in 1983, a Regional Ministry Officer for the South Island. Ian initiated and began implementation of, among other things, supervision for clergy at a national level. Many ministers and parishes will be thankful for Ian's encouragement, wisdom and

sometimes his courage, as he worked to resolve conflict and to nurture vision in congregations.

The travelling, the pressure and the tension took its toll. In 1990 Ian retired early on grounds of ill-health. He continued working in rest homes in Timaru before moving to Christchurch. In his retirement years he also continued to offer his ministry, serving for a time in the Akaroa parish.

Throughout his ministry, Ian had the support of his wife, Joy.

While Ian was accomplished in the areas of counseling, personal growth and conflict resolution, his standing place was always his faith, hope and love. In the week he died, he was reflecting on our life having a series of stages and regarded death as another stage. He said, "I will be very interested as I take that step".

Tribute to Ian and Joy is the quality of their daughter Sylvia and of their son Alan and their families. We honour Ian's ministry and give God thanks for his life.

Queale, Sr Mary Eliza QSO (Sr Maisie)

Maisie Queale was born in Lochiel, Southland to farming parents. Even at an early age she had learnt the art of serving others, and worked for a time at home caring for parents prior to being appointed youth worker in Nuhaka for the Maori Synod. Her appointment to Ruatahuna saw her being mentored by Sr Annie before she began her training as a deaconess at the Presbyterian Women's Training Institute in Dunedin. In 1940 she was student president.

Her ministry over the next 20 years in the Maori Synod is legendary. She served with energy and vigour among the people of Ruatahuna, Te Teko and Tokaanu. In 1958 she undertook study at Selly Oak, University of Birmingham in England.

For 11 years Maisie Queale served as deaconess in First Frankton in Hamilton where she laid the foundation ministry at Nawton and then at Knox, Dunedin, where her quiet yet sensitive ministry was appreciated by the large congregation. Retiring to Oamaru in 1971 she embarked on a ministry at Eveline Church. For 25 years she organised the Flying Squad visiting teams, and facilitated the Friendship Club for the retired of North Oamaru. Ministers and parishioners alike appreciated her never-ending round of pastoral visiting.

Not only did the Waitaki District Council honour her contribution to North Oamaru with a Citizens Award in 1993, but the Queen also recognised her lifetime of unselfish service to Church and community with a QSO in 1994. How fitting it was that this honour should coincide with the golden jubilee of her ordination to the Deaconess Order. Her diamond jubilee provided an occasion for her to provide a generous gift to Turakina Maori Girls' College, a school which since her early days in the Maori Synod, she had sought to support and provide encouragement to girls from her Sunday Schools and Bible Classes to attend.

In her latter years Maisie resided in Iona Home and Hospital and then Southhanjer Rest Home in Oamaru, still interested in and appreciative of the love and care from the people of Eveline Church. The motto of the Deaconess Order typified her entire life: "By Love Serve". Her death on July 22 ended a long and faithful life.

Robertson, Rev Struan Athol

The Rev Struan Athol Robertson was born in Queenstown on 6 November 1922, the son of the Rev John and Christina Robertson. He was educated in Southland – at Woodlands and Limehills, in North Canterbury at Waikari, where he was school dux, and then at Rangiora High and Christchurch West High.

In 1939 the Christchurch Presbytery accepted Struan as a student for the ministry, and he began studies at the University of Canterbury. However when World War II intervened he was drafted into the New Zealand Army in 1941 and served in the Divisional Signal Corps in Blenheim. In 1943 he transferred to the Royal New Zealand Air Force and trained as a pilot, first in Christchurch at Harewood, and then in Canada before seeing war service in Great Britain.

Struan returned to New Zealand in late 1945 and resumed his studies, completing his BA in 1947. In 1948 he entered the Theological Hall in Knox College, and on completion of his Diploma in Theology studies for the ministry he was licensed by the Christchurch Presbytery in late 1950. Struan was then ordained and inducted on 14 December 1950 into his first parish of St Paul's Katikati. This former Home Mission station soon almost doubled its membership under the New Life Movement impetus, and developed a strong youth group.

Struan was then called to Waitara Parish in mid 1954. This parish grew too, blessed by missions of the 1950s. He was also Presbytery Youth Convener as he had been in the Bay of Plenty, showing his keen interest and involvement in young people's ministry which had begun for him in his Bible Class days.

In 1959 Struan was appointed Other Denominations Chaplain to the RNZAF, serving first at Auckland – Whenuapai/Hobsonville, and then at Lauthala Bay, Fiji. In his interest in the overseas mission of the church, Air Force flight deployments gave Struan opportunity to visit Presbyterian mission work in Hong Kong, Vanuatu and Tonga. Struan's chaplaincy appointment concluded officially in early 1965, but he remained on the Air Force Active Reserve as a Chaplain with some related duties until 1977; he served as honorary chaplain to at least one ex-service association over the years, and he was appointed Presbyterian Officiating Chaplain to the RNZN in Devonport in 1970-75.

After fulltime Air Force chaplaincy, Struan returned to parish ministry – firstly in Patea in late 1964 and then at St Margarets Belmont, North Shore 1968-77. This parish, and Struan, were greatly influenced by the Renewal Movement of the 1970s. In 1977 Struan was Moderator of North Shore Presbytery, as he had been in Taranaki Presbytery in 1959.

A period of family refreshment followed ministry at Belmont, until Struan was called to the Wellsford Co-operating Parish where he served 1978-83, until his official retirement. In his retirement Struan continued in a life of ministry assisting at Warkworth, at both St Peters and Greerton Union parishes in Tauranga, at St Giles Te Atatu, and at Pt Chevalier Co-operating Parish.

Both in his active and retirement years, Struan kept or wrote historical records and notes of all the parishes in which he had provided ministry, and wrote several occasional histories of some of these: St Paul's Katikati 1876-1954 (1954) and for its Centennial

with the Rev Brian Bell (1976); St James Union Parish, Greerton (2000); St Giles, Te Atatu for its Jubilee (2004); and St Philips Presbyterian Church/Pt Chevalier Co-operating Parish 90 Years (2007); and Bay of Plenty Presbytery 75 years (1997).

Struan's wife, Audrey, and their family have always shared and participated in his life in ministry. Struan and Audrey met at St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Blenheim during World War II, became engaged in Christchurch before Struan left for overseas war service, married at St Paul's Presbyterian Church, Napier on 7 January 1947 and celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary at the Pt Chevalier Co-operating Parish Church on Sunday 7 January 2007. They have a son, who lives overseas, Bruce, daughters Gail and Kerrin, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

As a minister, Struan will be remembered as a sound scriptural preacher and teacher, who included all forms of prayer in leading worship, a ministry of prayer in pastoral work, sensitive engagement in the healing ministry, an active interest in the church's historical heritage, and pastoral care for people as an active priority.

Struan died in Sarah Selwyn Village Hospital on 2 August after a short illness. We give thanks to God for the lifelong faithful service in ministry that he has given his Lord and his Church, and the people of God's love.

Rudduck, Sr Minnie Anne

Anne Rudduck was born in Oamaru, the eldest of three daughters of Archie McDonald, a returned soldier of the First World War from Aberdeen, and Minnie Couper of North Otago whose family had come from Orkney. Educated at Totara Primary School and Waitaki Girls' High School, Anne began work on the small family farm.

A history of chronic asthma precluded Anne's hopes of going overseas as a nurse missionary. During the war when farm labour was scarce she worked on the land. These were wonderful years of healing for Anne. "I loved nature, the sea, the Kakanui mountains, and God. Yes, God and I were always good friends. I seemed to be born with a spiritual potential".

In 1944 Anne began training at Deaconess College in Dunedin and in 1947, following her ordination, did a probationary year with the PSSA Family Home in Christchurch. Following this she was appointed Deaconess to St Andrews Ashburton, 1948–1951, working with the Revs J S Murray and D M Steedman, both of whom were to become Moderators. "I loved my parishioners. My job finished in 1951 when Ashburton became three parishes, not able to afford a deaconess. I was quite devastated".

At the invitation of Malcolm Leadbetter, Rector of Waitaki Boys' High School, she became Matron at the hostel. The same year, 1951, Anne attended the local Easter camp, and there she met co-leader and widower Alan H Rudduck. They were married at St Ninian's Church in Totara (where she had been baptised and ordained as a deaconess) in December 1951. They shared a deep involvement in church work. Anne worked "in every department at Columba Church with the dedication of a deaconess". Alan was a session member, Bible class leader and promoter of Camp Iona, Herbert, where he spent every Saturday working voluntarily. They were busy years and when their family had grown Anne worked at Iona Home, Waitaki Girls' Hostel, Totara Lodge and at her husband's hairdressing business in Thames Street.

In 1973, Anne and Alan, now retired, had the opportunity of working at the Orari Gorge Sheep and Cattle Station belonging to the Tripp Brothers of Geraldine. They had three and a half very fulfilling years there under Mount Peel. "I loved the country life and caring for the single men of the station and cooking for the shearers. It was a welcome break from church meetings".

Following Alan's death in 1997, Anne moved from her home to Columba Court and then in 2004 to Leinster of Merrivale in Christchurch. When it closed she moved to Windermere Home and then in 2007 to The Wood, Nelson.

Anne lived a long and good life. She was a pilgrim. Her life took her in various directions. A true Presbyterian lady, Anne loved people, was warm and demonstrative. Never afraid to say her piece she contributed well to everything and was fun. True to her ordination vows *Amore Servite, By Love Serve*, Anne served God and her fellows with love that was open handed. We are thankful for all that she shared most generously with us. May she rest in peace.

To her family, daughters Alison Rudduck and Isla McLeod (both Jakarta), Nancy Staite (Nelson) and stepdaughter Pam McDouall (Kurow) we extend our very sincere sympathy and love.

Sage, Rev David Frank

Dave Sage, along with his brother Clive, and the Kirkby brothers, Ted, Don and Rob, was greatly influenced by the ministry of the Rev Archie Irwin in Hawera. All were graduates of Victoria University, Wellington.

Dave trained as a teacher and graduated MA. The war intervened and having joined the Air Force, trained in Canada and was posted to Bomber Command. He survived over 30 sorties as the tail gunner in Lancaster bombers, a perilous and arduous posting involving 11 hours on duty.

The war over, he resumed teaching – in Green Island, Nelson College and Marlborough College. His friendship, pre-war, with Margaret Miller, youngest daughter of the Rev Thomas and Marion Miller, Dunedin, blossomed into marriage. Margaret, a teacher with two brothers in the ministry, and three sisters married to ministers, reckoned she would not marry a minister! She didn't! She married a secondary school teacher – and he became a minister! Together they served in Mangere Central, Mangere East, Titirangi, Massey and East Coast Bays. His term in the latter was cut short when he collapsed one Sunday in the pulpit. He later died on 29 October 2007.

Dave as a colleague was easy to work with. He had a certain quirkiness but not objectionably so. His school teaching experience showed up in his thorough preparation and his method of presentation. He believed in preaching that was teaching, and in teaching that was preaching. The Truth of the Gospel was supremely important.

He was an evangelical by upbringing, by pastoral influence, by conviction and by personal affirmation. He was a member of the Westminster Fellowship, and for a period, editor of 'The Evangelical Presbyterian'.

Dave, firm in what he believed, was mild and brotherly with his fellows! He could co-operate where desirable, but compromise – no. Together we acknowledge God's goodness to him and to us. It was good to know him and to share ministry with him.

Sipeli, Rev Lagi Fatatoa

Born: 8 February 1938, Liku, Niue Island.

Died: 16 March 2008, Wellington, New Zealand

Married to Moka Togakilo-Sipeli, they have four children: Grant, Finela-Moka, Joy and Ian Lagitote; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Lagi retired in 2005 having been the Niue Minister to Wellington's Niue community at St James' Presbyterian Church for over 35 years.

In 1970, Lagi was the first Niuean to be ordained and licensed by the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand. He was involved with the Auckland Newton Pacific Island Presbyterian Church while living in Auckland, where he met and married Moka.

They were called to Wellington in the late 1960s where Lagi worked with the Niuean community initially at Pacific Island Church in Newtown from 1970 through to 1977. The congregation then joined with St James' Presbyterian Church in 1977 and where the Niuean community worked closely with the English parish right up until his retirement in 2005.

Lagi coordinated a vast number of activities for the Niue community (local, regional and national) ranging from annual sports and picnic days through to cultural workshops. He was the first coordinator of the Access Community Radio for the Niue community and he ensured that Niue culture was promoted at many of the community cultural events like Summer City – Wellington City Council's Festival and the opening of Te Papa (Museum of New Zealand). Lagi was the founder of Fono Motu, a national body, which represents the interests of all Niuean churches under the precinct of the Presbyterian Church Aotearoa New Zealand.

Lagi's work extended into the community where he was a loyal and faithful servant, having served on school board of trustees, and many advisory groups. He was also consulted on many policies and cultural initiatives from both local and central government agencies, and others including Te Papa Museum of NZ, Wellington City Council, Broadcasting NZ, Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Victoria University and the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Lagi had a passion for the Niue culture and worked tirelessly to promote the language and culture among the young Niuean generations. He was a tutor and translator instrumental in setting up the Niue Language Nest Trust in 1989. Together with Moka they began the foundation work for the Niuean pre-school language Nest - Aoga Tama Ikiiki (ATI). ATI Playgroup operates out of Brandon Intermediate School, Cannons Creek and is the only Niuean pre-school in the Wellington Region.

Lagi was a strong feature of the Newtown Community having been a long standing member of Wellington South Rotary Club joining in 1974 and served on numerous advisory and statutory boards. He was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship as a Rotarian - an award recognising his invaluable contribution and service to Community. Lagi was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1978 and was awarded a Queens Service Medal in 1987.

Lagi was a keen sportsman having played rugby, rugby league, boxing, golf and bowls. In fact any sort of sport Lagi took interest in showed his natural flair and talent as a sportsperson.

Lagi made a huge contribution to life and this came from the strong calling he had to serve God, which he did with vision, pride, love and commitment to his Lord.

Stuart, Rev William Samuel

William (Bill) Samuel Stuart was born in Ireland on 25 July 1918, a son of the manse. He received a BA from Trinity University, Dublin and was licensed by the Presbytery of Coleraine, County Derry, Ireland in 1947. In that same year he married Esther, and in 1948 they came to New Zealand where his father had served for a time in Waverley, Taranaki. He came as a Probationer, and was received by the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand in 1948. In the June of that year he was ordained at the Reefton-Totara Flat Parish on the West Coast of the South Island.

During his years of ministry he served in six more parishes. From Reefton he went to Taihape in 1951 (and was there during the time of the Tangiwai disaster). He moved from Taihape to Kohimarama in 1955, to Tokoroa in 1961, to Knox, New Plymouth in 1964, to St Cuthbert's East Coast Bays in 1969, and to Waipu in 1977. He retired from the Waipu parish in 1983. After his retirement he and Esther enjoyed a three-month ministry in Winton, Southland. They spent their retirement years in Auckland.

Bill was a very conscientious minister who liked to be well-prepared for services and who saw the value of pastoral visiting. He had a great love of preaching and enjoyed working with the scriptures of the Old Testament. He had been trained to project his voice and shunned the use of microphones. His strong voice with an Irish lilt was very compelling. He was not afraid to do some straight-talking when the need arose, and was also able to get alongside people from all walks of life and of different denominations. He and his wife Esther worked as a team, frequently undertaking pastoral visiting together. He had a keen sense of humour and could tell some good stories. He was committed to his calling and his ministry bore much fruit.

During the years of retirement, Bill and Esther lived in Manurewa and worshipped at Conifer Grove and then shifted to Henderson and worshipped at Iona Presbyterian Church in Blockhouse Bay. In both of these churches he would take services from time to time, and the congregations greatly appreciated his contributions. We give thanks to God for the life of Bill Stuart and for his committed ministry within the Presbyterian Church.

Styles, Rev Charles Thomas

Charles came from a farming life in the Waikaka area of Southland. As a young man he worked with teams of horses, which provides a marker for the extent of changes that Charles witnessed and had to adapt to in his lifetime.

At the age of 30, Charles exited from Knox Theological Hall with an M.A. in Philosophy and a B.D. It was in 1953, during these years of study, that he married Jean. They were a complementary couple who continued to encourage each other and develop their relationship all through their lives. They raised six children together and Charles was a caring husband and father.

Charles was ordained and inducted into the Malvern parish, Christchurch Presbytery on the 9 December 1954. Thereafter he served in Pine Hill Dunedin (inducted 9 June 1960); St Giles Kilbirnie Wellington (19 September 1968); Brooklyn Wellington part-time (17 October 1974); Carterton Union Wairarapa (7 February 1978); Awatere-Flaxbourne as Stated Supply from 1 May 1985 to 30 April 1987. During his parish years Charles served the national Church as one of the Church Property Trustees. Throughout his ministerial life he maintained a considerable grasp of the Book of Order, whether or not his colleagues appreciated it.

Charles enjoyed learning, literally until the day he died. Study leave included an extended trip to the Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, Switzerland. He enjoyed singing, taking part in a session of *Praise Be* shortly before his death.

Charles and Jean retired to Masterton. There they enjoyed the company of their lifelong friends the Rev Ian and Barbara Hewson and the church family of St Luke's parish, where Charles was a very supportive member. With other clergymen he took up bowls and for a time petanque. Occasionally a trophy was won, inspiring astonishment as well as gratification. In these later years Charles returned to the farm, in that he and Jean had enough land in a quiet spot to keep a sheep or two, a few hens, some well grown trees and a productive vegetable garden. From within that rather arcadian setting Charles continued to be a wise, often shrewd, but always kindly mentor to younger ministers who needed a little help along the way.

He trusted this old prayer:
Save us, Oh Lord, waking,
Guard us sleeping,
That awake we may
Watch with Christ
And asleep, rest in peace.
16 August 1924 – 13 May 2008

Uden, Rev Eric W

During World War II, Eric Uden was in the Royal Navy 1939-45. He came to New Zealand in January 1948 and married Ruth on 7 January 1948 at Island Bay, Wellington.

In January 1958, Eric Uden was appointed to a home missionary parish, Reporoa, in the Bay of Plenty, where he studied university papers for four years in preparation for ordination. He studied at Knox College from 1962 to 1964. Richmond, Nelson, was his next parish, then Bluff, Southland (which included Stewart Island) from 1970 – 1982. He should have retired in 1981 but was asked to carry on for another year, approved by Southland Presbytery, to help with the transition of the Bluff Presbyterian Parish to a combined Presbyterian – Methodist unit.

Ruth and Eric retired to Blenheim in January 1982 but continued to look after various parishes over the years that followed: Awatere (Seddon-Ward), Te Anau-Mossburn and St Andrew's Blenheim. Not a bad record for a man who left school the day he turned 14 in the Depression. The Rev Eric Uden died in Bethsaida Home on 19 December 2006 at the age of 92 years. His wife, Ruth, continues to live in Blenheim.

Wallace, Rev Dorothy

Taranaki Presbytery wishes to record its thankfulness to God for the life of the Rev Dorothy Wallace, who died on 2 April 2007. We also extend our sympathy to Dorothy's husband, Bill, and their sons, Iain and Gordon.

Dorothy accepted Christ as her Lord and Saviour on 8 May 1978 and from that moment on lived joyfully in the service of Christ and his church. Much of her time was spent in various ministries associated with St Andrews, New Plymouth, including leadership of the Team Section of the Boys' Brigade from 1982-89 and pastoral visitations. In 1990, after the breakup of her marriage to Bill, Dorothy spent a year at the Bible College of New Zealand furthering her theological education. Returning to New Plymouth she was ordained an elder at St Andrews in 1991 and went on to take a paid position as pastoral assistant in 1995. Wonderfully, in 1997, Bill and Dorothy were reconciled and re-married – an extraordinary testimony to God's faithfulness.

Increasingly Dorothy's pastoral work became concerned with the Frankleigh Park congregation. It was in this context that she received a call to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. She was duly ordained (under Limited Local Ministry provisions) on 26 November 2000, and was employed as assistant minister in St Andrews' Parish.

Her pastoral work, especially with the Frankleigh Park congregation continued, but with the added complication of some significant ill health. However, by January 2002 she felt able to accept a call by presbytery to become its moderator. This role she filled with great enthusiasm, and was particularly appreciated for the considerable amount of pastoral ministry she offered to clergy and their families in the presbytery.

With growing health concerns, Dorothy resigned from her role as assistant minister in St Andrews in 2003 and sadly said goodbye to her congregation at Frankleigh Park. The next few years saw a steady deterioration in Dorothy's health, yet her witness, right to the end, was of God's faithfulness and joy in his Spirit. It is this witness which presbytery now returns to God in thankfulness. *Sola Deo Gloria.*

White, Rev W. Stuart

Wallace Stuart White was born at Gore on 26 April 1917 and educated at Edendale Primary School and Southland Technical College, Invercargill. He went on to complete an apprenticeship in motor engineering and then studied at the Bible Training Institute in Auckland with the intention of going into mission service in the Pacific Islands with the ability to maintain the mission vehicles. World War II, however, intervened and Stuart was drafted into the Army, serving in the 3rd Division Workshop Regiment, rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant, with overseas service in Fiji, Solomon Islands and the New Hebrides. Stuart found that the tropical climate created health problems for him so instead of continuing with his earlier intention of mission service he applied to be received as a student for the ministry.

Stuart attended Knox College in Dunedin as a returned serviceman from 1949 to 1951. On concluding his training he married Paula and then on 20 December 1951 he was ordained by the Presbytery of Christchurch and inducted into its Parish of Cust-Oxford. He further served from 14 June 1955 in the Amuri Parish (Christchurch Presbytery); from 25 April 1963 in the Centre Bush Parish (Southland Presbytery); from 20 May 1969 in the Opunake Parish (Taranaki Presbytery) and from 19 February 1976 in the Hinds

Parish (South Canterbury Parish). He retired on 28 February 1979 having been elected Minister Emeritus by the Presbytery.

Stuart was a faithful minister and preacher, hardworking and conscientious. His quiet demeanour, practical nature and non-judgmental outlook made him an effective and loved pastor. He was a loyal presbyter, disliking division and argument but ready to suggest compromise solutions. Stuart was also a family man, never balancing the needs of Church and family in the way he would have preferred so leaving more on the shoulders on his wife, Paula, than he wished. His family, however, paid tribute to his non-judgmental outlook, his quiet wisdom and his support of them as true efforts to put his faith into practice.

Stuart is survived by his wife, Paula, and all his children – Elizabeth, Alistair, Ross, Bryan, Katrina and Fiona – 11 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

Stuart White has run his race and earned his “well done, good and faithful servant”. He died in Wanganui on 25 June 2008 in the care of Presbyterian Support’s Kowhainui Home. Although his funeral service was held in Wanganui, his family fulfilled his wish to be buried at Edendale which took place on 1 July 2008.

Wilson, Rev Thomas Corbett

On 28 March 1922 Tom was born to Andrew and Edith Wilson in Palmerston, Otago. He was raised on the family farm nearby with five other siblings. The family attended Flag Swamp Presbyterian Church near Waikouaiti. Tom attended primary school in the area and later Otago Boys High School.

Tom’s grandparents, David and Mary Jane Wilson, settled in Otago, emigrating from Fife, Scotland and Ireland. They worshipped in the local Presbyterian Church at Waikouaiti. Tom’s father, Andrew, became an elder of that Church and his uncle William became a Home Missionary of the Methodist Church. Due to this strong family Christian heritage Tom felt the call to be a missionary at 16. Both Tom and his younger brother David went on to become ordained ministers of the Presbyterian Church.

From 1944 to 1945, Tom studied at the Bible Training Institute in Henderson and started a degree course in 1947 at Otago University. He married Joy Windsor in 1950 and they were accepted for Christian mission work in Japan. They served in this calling from 1951 to 1955 with the Central Japan Pioneer Mission. On return to New Zealand they undertook deputation work throughout the country. Aged 35, Tom was accepted at Knox Theological College, Dunedin. The initial motivation for this was to better equip himself for a return to the mission field in Japan. Tom was licensed on 17 December 1959 at St Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Gore. His first preaching was in 1960 at Shannon in the Manawatu Presbytery. Between 1961 and 1963, Tom completed his BA degree at Otago and Auckland Universities.

Tom was ordained and inducted to the Hobsonville church on 6 February 1964. Including stated supply in 1963, Tom’s ministry spanned 10 years in the parish until 1973. Hobsonville was part of the Massey-Kumeu Parish, which was without a building in Massey at that time. In those days the parish was a semi-pioneering ministry with seven preaching locations – Massey, Hobsonville, Brighams Creek, Whenuapai, Riverhead, Kumeu and Taupaki. Tom brought his wife and four children to this parish

and a further two children were born whilst living there. Other parishes included Tuakau Union, Waikaka and finally Helensville.

A good musician, he helped organise many church choirs and small orchestras and played five instruments including the clarinet and saxophone. He was a keen photographer and kept a good record of family events. As a student, he moved around Otago and Southland during his holidays, shearing to supplement the family income. He loved the water and with family in view, acquired various boats over the years. One was an old launch called "Floodtide". This was used to passage the family over to the family bach on Waiheke Island during the 1970s. Tom was passionate about Japanese Character and language study, spurred on by the time spent living there. He would spend hours refreshing his knowledge and would always jump at the chance to communicate with Japanese tourists whenever seeing them whilst traveling around New Zealand.

In 1985 Tom retired from fulltime ministry aged 62, after suffering a heart attack. He spent the last 20 years living in the Te Atatu Union Parish. When he could, he went on to preach again at various times at Riverhead, Te Atatu and Waiheke Island. These years were also spent teaching English to new immigrants. He had a passion to help those in need and a lifelong desire to serve others in whatever capacity he could. Tom was characterised by his warm smile, powerful preaching, compassionate heart and encouraging manner to those who needed it. After suffering from illness in his 80s, Tom spent the last year of his life in fulltime rest home care. He passed away quickly on 23 February 2007. He is survived by his wife Joy, six children, 15 grandchildren and all of their families. We are reminded of his strong faith which is reflected in one of his favourite scriptures: Psalm 48:24 – "For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to death".

Anniversaries of Ordination

The Assembly Clerk moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.009] That the General Assembly acknowledge the following anniversaries of ordination and the Moderator convey the warm congratulations and greetings of the Assembly to those for whom these milestones will be celebrated before the next Assembly:

1943 (65 years anniversary as at 2008):

Rev Lorna E Aberley, 1 February
Rev Dr Lloyd G Geering, 26 February
Rev D Roderick Madill, 16 March

1944 (65 years anniversary as at 2009):

Rev Fergus A Hume, 28 January
Rev William G K Moore, 15 February
Rev G Ernest Brown, 2 March
Rev Rowlatt M Rogers, 14 December

1948 (60 years anniversary as at 2008):

Rev George C M Angus, 3 February
Rev George L Lynds, 11 February
Rev William S Stuart, 15 June
Rev Douglas M Riddle, 9 December
Rev R Stewart Anderson, 15 December

1950 (60 years anniversary as at 2010):

Sr Zelda M Miller, 1 January
Rev William M McLeay, 3 March
1953 (55 years anniversary as at 2008):
Rev James R Battersby, 3 February
Rev Rubin D Elley, 4 February
Rev Leslie A Brame, 1 August (R)
Rev Wilfred C Downard, 10 September
Rev Nora L Calvert, 10 November
Rev James T Gunn, 3 December
Rev Donald Glenny, 16 December
1954 (55 years anniversary as at 2009):
Rev James G Jones, 1 January
Rev Lester J Reid, 11 March
Rev Denzil J Brown, 22 April
Rev Kenneth Orange, 18 November
Rev R Allan Simpson, 8 December
Rev H Stuart McKenzie, 9 December
Rev William Lindsay, 16 December
Very Rev Lawrence R Hampton, 17 December
1955 (55 years anniversary as at 2010):
Rev C Arthur Mitchell, 1 February
1958 (50 years anniversary as at 2008):
Rev David C Evans, 1 January
Sr Dorothy I French, 1 February
Rev Dallas R Clark, 12 February
Rev Keith L Sellar, 12 February
Rev Eric H Z Chapman, 13 February
Rev Doreen M Riddell, 2 December
Rev Samuel Burley, 3 December
Rev James G Drummond, 10 December
Rev John G Sinclair, 10 December
Rev Ewing C Stevens, 17 December
Rev William D Francis, 17 December
1959 (50 years anniversary as at 2009):
Rev Dr Nancy J Burgess, 1 February
Rev Norman W Knipe, 1 February
Rev Allan Morgan, 4 February
Rev G Martin Cleland, 26 February
Rev John N McDougal, 24 March (R)
Rev Dr William E Shepard, 29 June
Rev John C Allen, 18 August
Rev J Graham Archibald, 1 September
Rev Alan Quigley, 17 November
Rev R Graham Herbison, 24 November
Rev Maurice Andrew, 2 December
Rev Alan M Goss, 3 December
Rev Iris E Woods, 14 December
Rev A Kim T Bathgate, 16 December
1960 (50 years anniversary as at 2010):
Rev Isobel J Probert, 29 January
Rev Robert Coates, 2 February

Sr Catherine P Morley, 4 February
Rev William R Moore, 11 February

Permission of Courts to meet during Assembly

Mr Coster moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.073] That Lower Hutt – Knox/St Columba Presbyterian Parish be granted permission to hold a congregational meeting on Sunday 5 October 2008.

Confirmation of Nominating Committee

Rev Doug Lendrum moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.010] That Assembly confirm presbytery, union district council, Te Aka Puaho, Pacific Island Synod and Association of Presbyterian Women representatives on the Nominating Committee as listed

Recognition of Associates

The Assembly Clerk moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.011] That Assembly recognize the following associates:
Margie Apa, Assembly Business Work Group; Rev Judy Bedford, Assembly Business Work Group; Rev Peter Cheyne, Council of Assembly and Moderator-Designate; Rev David Coster, Assembly Business Work Group; John Craig, The Presbyterian Church Property Trustees; Rev Richard Dawson, Focal Identity Statement Task Group; Rev Ian Guy, Leadership Sub-committee; Rev Don Hall, Assembly Business Work Group; Margaret Inch, Local Arrangements Convenor; Dr Audrey Jarvis, Interchurch Bioethics Council; Rev Brett Johnstone, Assembly Business Work Group; Douglas Langford, Beneficiary Fund Committee; Rev Doug Lendrum, Nominating Committee; Rev Hugh Perry, Assembly Business Work Group; Bruce Aitken, Council of Knox College and Salmond Hall; Prof Randall Prior, guest speaker; Rev Dr Murray Rae, Establishment Board, Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership; Lisa Wells, Council of Assembly; Peter Whiteside, Book of Order Advisory Committee; Fergus Sime, Synod of Otago and Southland, Ian Jenkin, Timekeeper; Revs Tala Fa'amausili and Aotafaga Lemuelu, Pacific Island Synod, Mary McIntyre and Heather Tate, Association of Presbyterian Women.

Te Aka Puaho

The Revs Awatea Tupe and Wayne Te Kaawa gave a verbal report from Te Aka Puaho.

Mr Te Kaawa moved, it was seconded and agreed to accept this report.

Rev Ken Wall moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.072] That the Assembly commends to its congregations the work of the Turakina Maori Girls' College recognising:
- that its Christian nurture and empowerment of young Maori women is exceptional.
 - that it holds a unique place in the mission of outreach of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Support for Turakina Maori Girls' College was strongly encouraged.

Council of Assembly

Council of Assembly Convenor, the Rev Rhys Pearson, presented the report of the Council and gave an overview of its contents. He answered questions of clarification.

Focal Identity Statement Work Group

The Revs Richard Dawson and Susan Jones presented the report of the Focal Identity Statement Work Group, and introduced its recommendations.

[08.038] That the proposed Focal Identity Statement (appendix 1) and accompanying commentary (appendix 2), become the Subordinate Standards of this Church. The statement shall replace the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms.

[08.039] That a library of confessional documents which are central to the Church's heritage be created and published. This will include the Westminster Confession, the Shorter and Larger Confession, the Scots Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Second Helvetic Confession, the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed.

Numerous questions for clarification were answered. The report was referred to dialogue groups for consideration.

Press Go: Sharing in our Church's Future

The Revs Rhys Pearson and Martin Baker introduced the Press Go proposal, and presented its recommendations:

[08.045] That the General Assembly endorses the Press Go strategy.

[08.046] That the General Assembly approve the release of up to two million dollars of Laughton House sale funds for the use of congregations and presbyteries whose growth projects meet the criteria agreed to in this report and are approved by the Press Go Advisory Group.

[08.047] That the General Assembly actively encourages all congregations and presbyteries to provide a one percent return on all investment assets for the use of the Press Go Advisory Group in supporting growth projects that meet the criteria and are approved by the Press Go Advisory Group.

Numerous questions for clarification were answered. The report was referred to dialogue groups for consideration.

The evening concluded with worship led by Knox Ministry Students. The Assembly adjourned to meet again at 8.30am on Friday 3 October.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

Minutes of Session 3 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Wellington
Friday 3 October, 8.30am

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Resource Sub-Committee

Convenor, Mr John Trainor presented the Resource Sub-committee's report.

Mr Trainor moved and it was seconded:

[08.031] The General Assembly acknowledges that our mission to make Jesus Christ known can engage the Presbyterian Church both within and outside our country. We acknowledge and support the work of the Global Mission Office at the national level and recognise that this is a legitimate avenue to be supported from our collective resources.

Mr Trainor moved *en bloc*, and it was seconded:

[08.015] Invite the Church Property Trustees to allow the release, on request, of parish and presbytery capital funds held by the Trustees for growth, as well as building projects, provided such projects are approved by presbyteries and consistent with the guidelines adopted in this report.

[08.016] Require presbyteries, when considering their recommendations to the Trustees in relation to all property transactions including the purchase of property, the sale of property, and major alterations to property, to act consistently with the guidelines as adopted. Full information in relation to recommendations is to be provided to the Trustees.

[08.017] That the Trustees be requested to take the guidelines into account when determining their approval of presbyteries' recommendations in relation to parish property proposals.

[08.018] Invite the Trustees, in consultation with the Council of Assembly, to develop a process whereby a congregation or presbytery can lend or gift its funds for the use of another congregation or presbytery, and that the Council has the authority to approve this process; and,

[08.019] Endorse the principle that all property transactions should serve the purpose of church growth.

The Rev Johanna Warren moved an amendment, which was seconded:

That notice of motion 19 be amended to read:

- Endorse the principle that all property transactions should serve the purpose of God's mission.

The amendment was carried, and became the substantive motion.

There was extensive debate on the substantive motion.

The Very Rev Pamela Tankersley moved and it was seconded and agreed:

That the debate be suspended until the implications of the amendments are considered.

Council of Assembly

The immediate past Moderator, the Very Rev Pamela Tankersley took the Chair.

The Rev Dr Murray Rae presented Appendix 1 of the report and recommendation 11 for discussion.

Dr Rae moved, and it was seconded:

[08.022] The Assembly contribution to the Hewitson Wing redevelopment be increased from \$250,000 to \$756,000.

There was considerable debate.

The motion was agreed to.

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

The Council of Knox College and Salmond Hall

The Master of Knox College, Mr Bruce Aitken presented the report of the Council.

Mr Aitken moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.059] That the Assembly ratifies the alteration of the constitution of the Council of Knox College and Salmond College as stated in Clause 7.2 of this report.

[08.060] That the Assembly consents to the alteration of the constitution of the Council of Knox College and Salmond College through the substitution of “the Principal of the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership” for “the Principal of the School of Ministry”.

Assembly moved to dialogue group mode.

The Assembly resumed in Plenary Session.

Keynote Speaker – Prof Randall Prior

Prof Prior addressed the Assembly on the challenges of today’s church as it faced the future.

The Assembly adjourned, to resume at 2pm.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

**Minutes of Session 4 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Wellington
Friday 3 October, 2pm**

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Pacific Island Synod

The Rev Tala Fa'amausili, immediate past Moderator of the Pacific Island Synod, presented the report of the Synod.

Ms Fa'amausili was granted leave to remove point 4 page E10-4 of the Pacific Island Synod report.

Ms Fa'amausili spoke extensively to the report.

The Moderator thanked Ms Fa'amausili for her service as Moderator of the Pacific Island Synod.

Ecological Task Group

The Rev John Howell presented the report of the Ecological Task Group.

Mr Howell was granted leave to replace section 3 of the Task Group's report with the following:

[08.079] **“3. Declaration on Climate Change and the Environment**
Climate change, with its life-threatening consequences, raises theological, economic, political and ethical issues. It reflects the distortion of relationships between God, human kind, and creation.

The Bible teaches the wholeness of creation: Life is created sustained and made whole by the power of Christ and God's Holy Spirit (Genesis 1, Romans 8, John 1). God creates human beings out of the dust of the earth (Genesis 2). Sin breaks relationships among human kind and with the created Order (Genesis 3 and 4, Jeremiah 14, Hosea 4:1-3). Bearing the marks of human sin, 'creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God' (Romans 8:19). God provided all creatures with the conditions to live life as it is meant to be, in a specific relation towards one another. Part of the Christian call to discipleship is for the Shalom and restoration of creation through Jesus Christ.

In accordance with this commitment:

- We commit ourselves in Christ to care for God's creation.
- We recognise that we have lost a right relationship with creation through sinful actions and economic systems that encourage unsustainable use of resources.
- We commit ourselves to help reduce the threat of climate change through actions in our own lives speaking prophetically to Governments and industries and standing in solidarity with those most affected by climate change.”

Mr Howell moved *en bloc*, it was seconded and carried:

- [08.032] That the General Assembly encourage parishes to audit their environmental footprints.
- [08.033] That the Presbyterian Church endorses the Declaration on Climate Change and the Environment.
- [08.034] That congregations and presbyteries study the issues of climate change and the environment, and take practical action.
- [08.035] That the Ecological Task Group be thanked and discharged.

Interchurch Bioethics Council

Dr Audrey Jarvis presented the report of the Interchurch Bioethics Council.

Dr Jarvis moved, and it was seconded:

- [08.061] That the General Assembly supports a call to government to ban sex selection for non-medical reasons.

Mr Bruce Dixon moved an amendment, which was seconded:

That the words “for non-medical reasons” be deleted.

The amendment was lost.

The substantive motion, when put, was carried.

Dr Jarvis moved, it was seconded and carried:

- [08.062] That the General Assembly encourages individuals to write to the Associate Minister for the Environment, the Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Office of the Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Parliament Buildings, Wellington, expressing their view that sex selection be banned for non-medical reasons be prohibited.

Book of Order Advisory Committee

Book of Order Advisory Committee Convenor, Mr Peter Whiteside, presented the report of the Book of Order Advisory Committee.

Mr Whiteside moved *en bloc*, and it was seconded:

- [08.052] That the amendments to the Book of Order contained in Appendix 1 to this report be adopted.
- [08.053] That the amendments to the Book of Order contained in Appendix 2 to this report be adopted and interim and remitted for consideration in accordance with the special legislation procedure found in Chapter 14.9 of the Book of Order.
- [08.054] That the supplementary provisions contained in Appendix 3 to this report be adopted.

[08.055] That the General Assembly pass the following resolution:

“Pursuant to Chapter 3 of the Book of Order adopted by the 2006 Assembly, the General Assembly delegates to the Council of Assembly the power to issue supplementary provisions pursuant to Chapter 3.3 of that Book of Order.”

The notices of motion were debated separately.

Following questions for clarification, it was agreed to defer making a decision on notices of motion 54 and 55 to a later session.

Notices of motion 52 and 53 were put to the vote. They were agreed.

Proposal 3: Process for Proposing Legislation to Assembly

Mr Neil Walker, on behalf of Taranaki Presbytery moved, it was seconded and carried.

[08.070] That the General Assembly accept the proposal and amend the Book of Order so that proposals for special legislation are sent from the General Assembly to Parish Councils and Sessions as well as to Presbyteries and that all responses from all courts to be considered of equal value.

There was extensive discussion. Voting was 60.1% (149) in favour, 39.9% (99) against. The motion was carried.

Church Schools Representation at Assembly

Council of Assembly Convenor, the Rev Rhys Pearson was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 21, to be replaced by notice of motion 84.

[08.021] That presbyteries be required to include chaplains and Presbyterian Church Schools in their lists of commissioners and faith communities to General Assembly. [Withdrawn]

Mr Pearson moved, it was seconded and carried:

[08.084] That the proposal to recognise Presbyterian Church Schools as faith communities be referred to the Council of Assembly and the Book of order Advisory Committee for consideration, and reporting to the 2010 General Assembly.

Proposal 1: Ministers' Attendance at General Assembly

The Rev Judy Bedford, on behalf of Manawatu-Wanganui Presbytery, moved and it was seconded:

[08.068a] That the Book of Order regulations concerning commissioners to General Assembly be amended to ensure that all ordained clergy on a presbytery's roll of full voting members get equal opportunity to attend General Assembly.

The Deputy Clerk of Assembly moved an amendment, which was seconded:

That notice of motion 68a be referred to the Book of Order Advisory Committee for consideration and reporting back to the 2010 Assembly.

There was extensive debate.

The amendment was carried and became the substantive motion. When put, this was also carried.

Act of Commemoration Addition

The Moderator noted that the name of the Rev Alastair McKenzie had been omitted from the Act of Commemoration, but that this would be inserted into the Minutes of the General Assembly.

Proposal 2: Complaints Procedure

The Rev David Vaughan, on behalf of Ashburton Presbytery, moved and it was seconded:

- [08.069] That the General Assembly appoint a widely representative Commission to:
- a) Review chapter 15 of the Book of Order in light of the presbytery's concerns; and,
 - b) Propose to the next General Assembly regulations by which a Session / Parish Council and/or a Presbytery / District Council may hear and determine appropriate complaints and exercise appropriate discipline;
 - c) Or as the Assembly in its wisdom may decide.

There was brief debate.

The motion was carried.

Religious Diversity

The Very Rev Pamela Tankersley moved and it was seconded:

- [08.020] That the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand expresses its support for the "National Statement on Religious Diversity for Aotearoa New Zealand". The Church endorses the response made to the document.

There was brief debate.

The motion was carried.

Capital Funds (continued)

The Rev Rhys Pearson reported that the implications of the amended notice of motion 19 had been considered, and he advised that there were no further concerns.

Notice of motion 19, as amended, was put as the substantive motion and carried:

- [08.019a] That the General Assembly endorse the principle that all property transactions should serve the purposes of God's mission.

Notices of motion 15 to 18, having already been moved and seconded, were put to the vote. All were agreed to.

- [08.015] Invite the Church Property Trustees to allow the release, on request, of parish and presbytery capital funds held by the Trustees for growth, as well as building projects, provided such projects are approved by presbyteries and consistent with the guidelines adopted in this report
- [08.016] Require presbyteries, when considering their recommendations to the Trustees in relation to all property transactions including the purchase of property, the sale of property, and major alterations to property, to act consistently with the guidelines as adopted. Full information in relation to recommendations is to be provided to the Trustees.
- [08.017] That the Trustees are requested to take the guidelines into account when determining their approval of presbyteries' recommendations in relation to parish property proposals.
- [08.018] Invite the Trustees, in consultation with the Council of Assembly, to develop a process whereby a congregation or presbytery can lend or gift its funds for the use of another congregation or presbytery, and that the Council has the authority to approve this process;

The Assembly adjourned, to resume business at 7pm.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

Minutes of Session 5 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Wellington
Friday 3 October, 7pm

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Review of Presbyteries

The Very Rev Garry Marquand and the Rev Rose Luxford presented the report of the Presbyteries Review Task Group and introduced its recommendations:

- [08.040] That the General Assembly adopt the model for the reform of presbyteries as outlined in Section 5 of the report.
- [08.041] That presbyteries establish Presbytery Reform Teams with appropriately skilled missional leaders to implement the model;
- To consult with other presbyteries to establish a reconfiguration of presbytery boundaries;
 - To establish Resourcing Groups; and,
- To establish new Governance structures.
- [08.042] That the Presbytery Reform Teams be established by the beginning of 2009, and that presbyteries begin operating within the new Presbytery Structure by October 2009, and that the implementation of the new model be completed by March 2010.
- [08.043] That the Council of Assembly oversee the implementation of those tasks being vested in national bodies as outlined in Section 5.2 National Functions of the report.
- [08.044] That the Presbyteries Task Group be asked to encourage Presbyteries and their Presbytery Reform Teams in the implementation of the model, and to monitor progress for report to the 2010 General Assembly.

The motions were referred to dialogue groups for consideration.

Ministry Development

The Revs Ian Guy and Geoffrey Skilton presented the report of the Leadership Subcommittee.

- [08.026] That the proposed system for minister (NOM and LOM) reviews be adopted by the General Assembly, and that sections 2.6.7 and 2.6.8.1-5 of the Conditions of Service Manual be amended accordingly.
- [08.027] That the proposed system for parish reviews be adopted by the General Assembly as an addendum to section 8.4 of the Book of Order 2006.
- [08.028] That the Certificate of Good Standing be adopted by the General Assembly ad interim to be dealt with in 2010 under the special legislative procedure.

[08.029] That the provisions of Certificate of Good Standing include areas previously covered by regulations 192 and 212 of the 2003 Book of Order.

[08.030] That the Leadership Sub-committee continue to implement and review the Ministry Development process.

Questions of clarification were responded to by the presenters.

The motions were referred to dialogue groups for consideration.

Auckland Presbytery Hospital Chaplaincy

Rev Linda Hope moved, and it was seconded:

[08:071] That the Council of Assembly be requested to give urgent consideration to funding a full-time stipend for an Ecumenical Chaplain at Auckland City Hospital as a special case.

Rev Brian Hardie moved an amendment, and it was seconded:

That the Council of Assembly be requested to give urgent consideration to providing some funding to Ecumenical Hospital Chaplaincy throughout New Zealand.

There was extensive debate.

Voting on the amendment was 58.9% (152) in favour and 41.1% (106) against. The amendment was declared lost.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and lost.

The Moderator endorsed the work of hospital chaplains across the country, and prayed for them.

The evening concluded with worship.

Closing worship was led by Knox Ministry Students.

The Assembly adjourned to meet at 8.30am on Saturday 4 October.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

**Minutes of Session 6 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Silverstream, Wellington
Saturday 4 October, 8.30am**

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Opening Worship was led by Knox Ministry Students.

Beneficiary Fund

Dr John Kernohan, Chair of the Church Property Trustees, and Mr Doug Langford, Secretary of the Beneficiary Fund Committee, presented the reports of the Trustees and the Beneficiary Fund Committee. Dr Kernohan was granted leave to add an additional clause (g) to notice of motion 67.

Dr Kernohan moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.067a] That the provisions of the Beneficiary Fund be amended to:
- (a) allow for the addition of a Complying Section, and to further allow for changes in respect of new members joining after the changes are adopted, so that participation in the Complying Section is compulsory, with a commensurate adjustment to the entitlements from the defined benefit section of the Fund; to allow for the addition of a Complying Section, and to further allow for changes in respect of new members joining after the changes are adopted, so that participation in the Complying Section is compulsory, with a commensurate adjustment to the entitlements from the defined benefit section of the Fund.
 - (b) remove the retirement age from the regulations and permit some of the benefits due at retirement to be paid before the completion of ministry, with adjustment to in-service benefits for those choosing the option;
 - (c) define the benefits payable where a minister delays their retirement beyond age 66;
 - (d) remove the provision of death cover for married ordinands who commence their training after 1 January 2009;
 - (e) close the Supplementary Benefits Scheme to new deposits;
 - (f) make a series of minor adjustments to the wording of the Deed to better clarify intentions and interpretations; and
 - (g) that the deed reflecting these changes be effective from 1 January 2009.

Resource Sub-Committee

The Moderator acknowledged the work of Mr John Trainor, the retiring Convenor of the Resource Sub-Committee.

Assembly Executive Secretary

The Rev Martin Baker moved *en bloc*, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.048] That the General Assembly adopt and prescribe the new Book of Order.

[08.049] That the Presbytery of Dunedin and Presbytery of North Otago be amalgamated, to form one presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of Dunedin and North Otago.

Establishment Board, Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership

Rev Dr Murray Rae moved *en bloc*, it was seconded and agreed.

[08.036] That the General Assembly express its confidence in the work of the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership and its gratitude to the staff who have been involved in establishing the Centre.

[08.037] That the Establishment Board be thanked and discharged.

The Moderator thanked Dr Rae for his work in convening the Review Task Group and Establishment Board.

Book of Order (continued)

Mr Peter Whiteside was granted leave to amend notice of motion 54 and introduce notice of motion 96.

Mr Whiteside moved, and it was seconded:

[08.096] That in Appendix 3 to the book of Order Advisory Committee report and the supplementary provisions on Administration of baptism, the last sentence of clause 2.1 be deleted and clause 2.3 be deleted, and the phrase 'one form of baptism' in clauses 2.2 and 2.4 be replaced by the phrase 'infant baptism'.

There was no debate. The motion was agreed to.

Mr Whiteside moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.054a] That the supplementary provisions contained in Appendix 3 to this report, as amended, be adopted.

Mr Whiteside advised that concerns raised in relation to notice of motion 55 had been addressed. The motion was put and agreed to.

[08.055] That the General Assembly pass the following resolution:

“Pursuant to Chapter 3 of the Book of Order adopted by the 2006 Assembly, the General Assembly delegates to the Council of Assembly the power to issue supplementary provisions pursuant to Chapter 3.3 of that Book of Order.”

Membership of Council of Assembly

Rev Rhys Pearson was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion of 14 and replace it with notice of motion 93.

- [08.014] That, as circumstances necessitate, an additional two years' membership of the Council of Assembly be granted where appropriate to maintain good leadership and gender and other balances. [Withdrawn]

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

- [08.093] That Chapter 14.13(3) of the Book of Order be amended by adding "Any member's term of office may be extended for a further two-year term".

Council of Asian Congregations

The Moderator acknowledged the role of the Rev Paul Kim as Asian Liaison Officer since 1992, and paid tribute to his work.

Nominating Committee

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Co-convenors the Rev Doug Lendrum and Mrs Ann Owen.

Mr Lendrum was granted leave to insert the following additions to the notices of motion 63 and 65:

- [08.063] **Assembly Business Work Group**
Don Hall Co-convenor, Judy Bedford, and Sandra Wright-Taylor.
- [08.065] **Executive Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand**
Helen Bichan 2008 to 2012; David Ross to 2010.
Book of Order Advisory Committee and Judicial Panel
Carol Grant.

Mrs Owen moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.063a] That Assembly records its thanks for the service given by Conveners and Members of Council of Assembly, Committees, Reference Groups and Work Groups who have retired, resigned or who are retiring at this Assembly:
- Beneficiary Fund Workgroup:** Arthur Davis
Book of Order Advisory Committee: Alastair Sherriff, Paul Westbury
Corresponding: Nolan Martin
Church Architecture Reference Group: Co-convenors: Bonnie Robinson, John Salmond
Council of Assembly: Deputy Convenor: Jane Prichard
Members: Peter Cheyne, Pamela Tankersley, Nathaneal Lai, David Dransfield, Maafala Koko.
Resource Sub-committee: Co-convenor: John Trainor
Members: Ward Buckingham, Gordon Lamont, Ron Viviani
Leadership Sub-committee: Members: Fyfe Blair, Eion Crosby, Uili Sasagi, Liz Whitehead
Assembly Business Work Group: Co-convenor: Don Hall
Members: Judy Bedford, Sandra Wright-Taylor
Moderator's Arrangements: Edwin Clark
National Assessment Workgroup: Members: Sue Norton, Libby Smith
Nominating Committee: Co-convenor: Doug Lendrum

Members: Bruce Matheson, Sherri Weinburg, Tony Scott, Uea Tuleia, Michael Scott, Lois Rout, Howard Carter, Johanna Warren, Lydia McKinnon, Les Gosling, Robert Jones, Janet Sim-Elder, Makesi Alatimu, John Ranstead, David McPherson, Ere Ikitoelagi-Talagi, Julia Buckingham.

Mr Lendrum moved, it was seconded and carried

[08.064] That the Deputy Convener of Council of Assembly be Rev Emma Keown.

Mrs Owen moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.065a] That the Council of Assembly Conveners, Council of Assembly membership, sub-committees, reference groups, work groups, task groups and special committees of the General Assembly be as listed.
Council of Assembly: Convener: Rhys Pearson, Deputy Convener: Emma Keown
Members: Lisa Wells DN 06/10, Richard Dawson DN 06/10, Neil Walker 04/10, Peter Dunn 08/12, Pauline Stewart 08/12, Zona Pearce 08/12
Representative Members: Wayne Te Kawa Te Aka Puaho 08/10, Olinda Woodroffe Pacific Island Synod 08/10, Graham Redding Moderator General Assembly 08/10, Hyeun Kim Council of Asian Congregations 08/10, Cunningham Atchison, Resource Committee 08/10, Ian Guy, Leadership Committee 08/10
Associate Members: Millie Te Kaawa Te Aka Puaho 08/10, Lyn Murray Synod of Otago and Southland 08/10, Bruce Hansen Church Property Trustees 08/10, Martin Baker Assembly Executive Secretary, 08/10
Resource Sub-committee: Convener: Cunningham Atchison 08/12, Deputy Convener: Jenny Flett 08/12;
Members: Reginald West 06/10, Murray Talbot 04/10, Sue Swinbourne 08/12, Forbes Worn 08/12, Alex Robinson 08/12, Catherine Goldsmith 08/12. Associate Members: Fergus Sime, Nicola Hornsey 05/09
Leadership Sub-committee: Convener: Ian Guy 05/10, Deputy Convener: Carol Grant 05/10;
Members: Makesi Alatimu 07/11, Annette Hannah 07/11, Helen Harray 06/10, Joan Sinclair 05/10, Karl Lamb 08/12, Christopher Archer 08/12. Associate Member: Geoffrey Skilton 08/10
Assembly Business Work Group: Co-convenors: David Coster 04/10, Brett Johnstone 08/12;
Members: Hugh Perry 06/10, Margaret Inch 06/12, Margie Apa 08/12
Associate: Martin Baker, Assembly Executive Secretary
Book of Order Advisory Committee: Convener: Peter Whiteside 06/10;
Members: Carol Grant 08/12, Clare Morrison 08/12, Pam Southey 02/10, Bruce Corkill 08/12, Russell Feist 06/10, Prue Neild.
Corresponding Members: George Barton, Jim Milne, Royden Sommerville Margaret Ann Low.
Associates: Martin Baker, Assembly Executive Secretary, Heather McKenzie, Book of Order Advisor
Judicial Panel: Sandra Alofivae AK 08/12, John Evans AK 08/12, Bruce Harris AK 08/12, Brett Johnstone AK 08/12, Alister Argyle AS 08/12, Ikipa Tongatule AK 08/12, Lynton Laing AS 08/12, Tony Hepburn BP

08/12, Greg Hollister-Jones BP 08/12, Gaye Churchill NM 08/12, Hamish Galloway CH 08/12, Bruce Hansen CH 08/12, Charles Manning CH 08/12, Chris Burgin CL 08/12, Diane Gilliam-Weeks CO 08/12, Fraser Barton DN 08/12, Neil Churcher DN 08/12, Michael Chrisp GS 08/12, Graeme Munro NO 08/12, Ron Mills NS 08/12, Roy Christian SA 08/12, Arthur Budd SC 08/12, Virginia Wilson SL 08/12, David Birchler TK 08/12, Alan Cooper WG 08/12, Jeremy Brook WK 08/12, Peter Gault WK 08/12, Ron Stout WK 08/12, Douglas Day WN 08/12, Russell Fiest WN 08/12, Marilyn Wallace WN 08/12, Michael Cooper WR 08/12, David Carden AK 08/12, Rachel Dewar WE 08/12, Howard Keyte AK 08/12, Shirley Fergusson WK 08/12, Jean Cotter WK 08/12, Harvey Alison AK 08/12, Michael Thawley CH 08/12.

National Assessment Work Group: Co-convenors: Helen Martin 02/10, Geoffrey New 06/12

Members: Maua Sola 02/10, Paul Prestidge 04/10, Helen Thew 04/10, Johannes Suwantika 04/10, Bronwen Rogers 04/10, Geoff Skilton 06/12, Michelle Shin 06/12, Ian Dittmer 06/12, Asora Amosa 06/12, Sharon Searle 06/12, Chris Elliot 06/12, Sa Si'itia 08/12, Wayne Matheson 08/12.

Church Architecture Reference Group:

Auckland: Convenor: Polisi Faumuina, 08/12, Members: Terry Gill 04/12, Roger Low 04/12, Les Parlane 04/12

Wellington: Glen Robertson 04/12, Fiona Hoang 04/12.

Christchurch: Convenor: Ian Wells 04/12 Members: Keith Moir 04/12, Bruce Yates 04/12, Georgina Ennor 04/12

Dunedin: Michael Ovens 04/12, Denis Povey 02/12, Neil McDowall 02/12

Moderator's Arrangements: Martin Stewart 08/10

Executive of Uniting Congregations Of Aotearoa New Zealand: Helen Bichan 08/12, David Ross 08/10

Christian World Service Council: Bonnie Robinson 06/10

Presbyterian Savings and Development Society: Margaret Slater 06/10

Te Komiti Takawaenga O Te Haahi: Convenor: Aubrey Temara.

Te Aka Puaho Representatives: Messina Roberts, Barbara Sanderson, Wi Patene Te Pairi, Tom Tupe, Wayne Te Kaawa.

General Assembly Representatives: Catherine Goldsmith, Rodney Gallen, Graeme Kitto, Jean Cotter, Marion Sanders.

Associate Members: Graham Redding, Moderator of the General Assembly, Martin Baker, Assembly Executive Secretary.

Board of Turakina Maori Girls College: Assembly Appointees: Ken Wall, Nick Thomson, Elizabeth McAllister

Appointed by Presbytery of Wanganui: B R Cousins, K L Sims, Ivan Gore, Nancy Hazeleger

Council of Knox College and Salmond College: Chair: George Peterson, Vice-chair: Royden Somerville

Chris Boyd, Adrian Cross, Doug Graham, Dawn Miller, Graeme Munro, Nicola Peart, John Sinclair, Bronwen Strang

Ex officio: Bruce Aitken, Master, Bruce Cowan, Master, Graham Redding, Principal

The Church Property Trustees: Chair: John Kernohan, Deputy-Chair: Bruce Hansen, Immediate Past Chair: John Craig

Margaret Galt, John Harvey, Margaret Inch, Peter Isherwood, John Jones, Blyth King, Perema Leasi, Bob McCay, Margaret Shailer, William Welsh, Virginia Wilson, Brian Poole, Roger Gyles, Sooland Wong
Secretary: Heather McKenzie

Beneficiary Fund Committee: Co-convenors: Lynn Russell 08/12, Alan Shaw 04/12

Members: Peter MacKenzie 08/12, Bruce Hansen 08/12, Jim Thomson 02/12, Tanya Duncan 04/12, Rose Nisbett 04/12, Virginia Wilson 08/12
Secretary: Doug Langford

It was reported that the Council of Assembly at its July/August meeting had appointed the Nominating Committee as listed below:

Peter Dunn, Colin Gordon, Asora Amosa, Robert Robati-Mani, Janice Purdie, Iain Dickson, Wiremu Te Ratana, Christine Gould, David Anderson, Steve Jourdain, Joan Ross, Helen Bichan, Ken Williams, Lyn Heine, Lapana Faletolu, Luisa Fruean, Ian Hyslop, David Dittmer, Shona McDonald, Chris Burgin, Robin Cowie, Virginia Wilson, Kim Chong-woo, Tala Fa'amausili, Sharon Ensor.

Mr Lendrum moved, it was seconded and agreed.

[08.066] That the General Assembly acknowledges the appointments made by other bodies to its committees.

Errors and omissions were queried in relation to Te Aka Puaho.

Presbyterian Savings and Development Society

Mrs Barbara Jones spoke to the Assembly on the work of the Society, and its place in the Church.

The Moderator acknowledged the contribution of the Presbyterian Savings and Development Society to the life of the Church.

The Assembly adjourned to meet in dialogue groups.

Keynote Speaker – Prof Randall Prior

Prof Prior gave the second of his three addresses on the theme of “What future – our Church?”

The Assembly adjourned, to resume at 2pm.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

**Minutes of Session 7 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Fergusson Drive, Silverstream, Wellington
Saturday 4 October, 2pm**

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Moderator Designate

The Moderator Designate, the Rev Peter Cheyne, was received by the Assembly. Mr Cheyne briefly addressed the Assembly.

Nominating Committee (continued)

The Rev Doug Lendrum moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.104] That the Assembly notes that under the heading "Board of Turakina Maori Girls' College" in the Nominating Committee Report:
- the words "Presbytery of Wanganui" should read "Presbytery of Manawatu-Wanganui";
 - that K.L. Sims is not currently a member and that Annette Nixon is a member;
 - that Te Aka Puaho also appoints representatives and two of those representatives are Heather Mataamua and Hariata Haumate;
 - other Te Aka Puaho representatives are currently being sought and the Council of Assembly will be informed when they are confirmed.

Mr Lendrum moved, and it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.105] That the Assembly notes that the Moderator of Te Aka Puaho is also an Associate of Te Komiti Takawaenga O Te Haahi.

Council of Assembly Membership

The Rev Clare Lind was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 83, to be replaced by notice of motion 102.

- [08.083] That the membership of the Council of Assembly include a Co-operative Ventures Representative. [Withdrawn]

Mrs Lind moved, it was seconded and carried:

- [08.102] That Assembly request Council of Assembly to bring to Assembly 2010 a proposal to include a representative from Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand (UCANZ) on the Council of Assembly.

Focal Identity Statement (Confession of Faith)

Facilitation Group Convenor, the Rev Brett Johnstone presented feedback from dialogue group discussions on notices of motion 38 and 39, as presented in session two of the General Assembly. This included alternative notices of motion to be considered by the General Assembly.

The Rev Richard Dawson was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 38.

[08.038] That the proposed Focal Identity Statement (appendix 1) and accompanying commentary (appendix 2), become the Subordinate Standards of this Church. The statement shall replace the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms. [Withdrawn]

Mr Dawson moved, and it was seconded:

[08.099] That the proposed Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (appendix 1) and commentary (appendix 2) become the Subordinate Standard of this Church. The statement shall replace the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms.

There was extensive debate.

Voting was 51.3% (137) in favour and 48.7% (130) against. The motion was declared lost.

The Rev Des Botting moved, and it was seconded:

[08.097] That the proposed Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (appendix 1) and commentary (appendix 2) be adopted as contemporary Subordinate Standards alongside the historic Subordinate Standards (Westminster Confession, Larger and Shorter Catechisms) of the Church.

There was extensive debate.

Voting was 121 in favour and 145 against. The motion was declared lost.

The Rev Stuart Lange moved, and it was seconded:

[08.080] That Assembly:

- (a) confirms the desirability of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand having a contemporary Confession of Faith.
- (b) Commends the hard work of the Focal Identity Statement Task Group towards formulating such a contemporary Confession and commentary.
- (c) Resolves that since for over 350 years the Westminster Confession and Larger and Shorter Catechisms have been the honoured historic doctrinal statements of the worldwide Presbyterian tradition, it is appropriate that they be retained as this Church's Subordinate Standards (along with the Declaratory Act, which allows "diversity of opinion . . . on such points as do not enter into the substance of the Reformed Faith").
- (d) Notes that since any modification of the Church's Subordinate Standards is legally required (by the Church's constitution) to be "in agreement with the Word of God and the fundamental doctrines of the Reformed Faith contained in its Subordinate Standards" there is no objection in principle to a contemporary Confession standing alongside the historic standards as an additional Subordinate Standard rather than as a replacement.

- (e) Asks that the recommendations of the Task Group be re-cast so as to retain the historic Subordinate Standards but allow for the adoption of an additional, contemporary Subordinate Standard.
- (f) Refers the proposed Confession and commentary back to the Task Group, asking that it strengthens both of them with regard to essential Reformed doctrine, including: the character and attributes of God; the inspiration and authority of Scripture; the sinfulness of humanity and consequent alienation from God; the uniqueness of Christ; the covenants; the sacrifice and saving effect of Christ crucified; the sovereign work of God in bringing about our salvation; justification by faith; new birth by the work of the Holy Spirit; the return of Christ; eternal life; the resurrection of the body; judgment; the Church; evangelism and mission.
- (g) Adopts this set of resolutions as Terms of Reference for the Task Group.
- (h) Requests the Council of Assembly to expand the membership of the Task Group.

A procedural motion that the proposals be debated clause by clause was lost.

The Rev Ian Pimm moved, and it was seconded.

That clause (e) be amended as follows:

(e) Asks that the recommendations of the Task Group be re-cast so as to retain the historic Subordinate Standards as historic documents of our Church, but allow for the adoption of a new contemporary Subordinate Standard.

The amendment was lost.

The Rev Brian Hardie moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That clauses (c) and (e) be deleted from the substantive motion.

A procedural motion, to suspend debate on notice of motion 80 in order to consider notice of motion 98 was lost.

Discussion resumed on the substantive motion 80, excluding clauses (c) and (e).

[08.080a] That Assembly:

- (a) confirms the desirability of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand having a contemporary Confession of Faith.
- (b) Commends the hard work of the Focal Identity Statement Task Group towards formulating such a contemporary Confession and commentary.
- (c) [Deleted]
- (d) Notes that since any modification of the Church's Subordinate Standards is legally required (by the Church's constitution) to be "in agreement with the Word of God and the fundamental doctrines of the Reformed Faith contained in its Subordinate Standards" there is no objection in principle to a contemporary Confession standing

alongside the historic standards as an additional Subordinate Standard rather than as a replacement.

- (e) [Deleted]
- (f) Refers the proposed Confession and commentary back to the Task Group, asking that it strengthens both of them with regard to essential Reformed doctrine, including: the character and attributes of God; the inspiration and authority of Scripture; the sinfulness of humanity and consequent alienation from God; the uniqueness of Christ; the covenants; the sacrifice and saving effect of Christ crucified; the sovereign work of God in bringing about our salvation; justification by faith; new birth by the work of the Holy Spirit; the return of Christ; eternal life; the resurrection of the body; judgment; the Church; evangelism and mission.
- (g) Adopts this set of resolutions as Terms of Reference for the Task Group.
- (h) Requests the Council of Assembly to expand the membership of the Task Group.

Voting was 63.1% (164) in favour and 36.9% (96) against. It was carried.

The Rev Lance Thomas moved and it was seconded:

[08.098] That Assembly affirm the Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (appendix 1) and the commentary (appendix 2) to be used as part of our Church's life and that it be considered by the Assembly in 2014 for adoption as a Subordinate Standard.

The Rev Lance Thomas was granted leave to amend notice of motion 98 by deleting the words "and that it be considered by the Assembly in 2014 for adoption as a Subordinate Standard".

Mr Thomas moved the amended motion:

[08.098a] That Assembly affirm the Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (appendix 1) and the commentary (appendix 2) to be used as part of our Church's life.

Debate on the motion was adjourned.

Library of Confessional Documents

The Rev Richard Dawson moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.039] That a library of confessional documents which are central to the Church's heritage be created and published. This will include the Westminster Confession, the Shorter and Larger Catechisms, the Scots Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Second Helvetic Confession, the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed.

The Assembly acknowledged the work of Mr Dawson and his group.

Mr Thomas moved, and it was seconded:

[08.100] That the Assembly add the Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (appendix 1) and commentary (appendix 2) to the library of Confessional Documents.

The motion was lost.

Focal Identity Statement – Confession of Faith (continued)

Debate resumed on notice of motion 98a.

[08.098a] That Assembly affirm the Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (Appendix 1) and the commentary (Appendix 2) to be used as part of our Church's life.

It was agreed to further suspend debate on notice of motion 98.

Synod of Otago and Southland

The Rev David Coster moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That Bruce Fraser be associated with the Assembly for the purposes of the presentation from the Synod of Otago and Southland.

Messrs Fergus Sime, Executive Officer and Bruce Fraser, Mission Adviser, of the Synod of Otago and Southland gave a presentation on the work of the Synod.

The Assembly adjourned for the evening, to meet for worship and Holy Communion at 9am on Sunday 5 October, with the next plenary session to commence at 11am.

The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

Minutes of Session 8 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Fergusson Drive, Wellington
Sunday 5 October, 10.45am

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Approval of Minutes

The Clerk of Assembly moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That the minutes of sessions one to four of the Assembly, as circulated, be approved, subject to corrections of error and omissions as advised.

Focal Identity Statement/Confession of Faith (continued)

Rev Lance Thomas moved, it was seconded and agreed.

That notice of motion 98a be withdrawn and replaced by notice of motion 111.

[08.098a] That Assembly affirm the Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (Appendix 1) and the commentary (Appendix 2) to be used as part of our church's life. [Withdrawn]

Mr Thomas moved, it was seconded and carried:

[08.111] That Assembly affirm the Confession of Faith – Kupu Whakapono (appendix 1) and the Commentary (appendix 2) as an interim document to be used in the life of our Church.

Leadership Sub-committee

Leave was granted to Mr Ryhan Prasad to withdraw notice of motion 82.

[08.082] That the Assembly empower the Leadership Sub-committee, in conjunction with Presbyterian Youth Ministry, to create a code of ethics for youth ministry in the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand and bring this code to the 2010 General Assembly for endorsement and acceptance into the supplementary provisions. [Withdrawn]

Hospital Chaplaincy Funding

The Rev Mark Farmer moved, and it was seconded:

[08.103] That the Moderator of the General Assembly be requested to write a pastoral letter to all presbyteries and parishes informing them of the serious and immediate crisis in funding for Hospital Chaplaincy.

Debate on notice of motion 103 was adjourned.

Overseas Guests

The Rev Gregor Henderson, President of the Uniting Church in Australia, gave a presentation to the Assembly.

The following overseas guests were introduced and addressed the Assembly:

Rev Dr Robert Bayley, Presbyterian Church of USA; Dr Cecil Harrison, Christian Hospital, Jagadhri, India; Mrs Kamla Singh, Principal, St Thomas School Jagadhri, India; Rev Yunous Massey, Church of North India; and Right Rev Purely Lyngdoh, Church of North India.

The Rev Stuart Simpson, Global Mission Enabler, spoke on behalf of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu.

Association of Presbyterian Women

The Convenor Mrs Heather Tate and Secretary Mrs Mary McIntyre presented the report of the Association.

Mrs McIntyre moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.050] That the Assembly acknowledge the serious challenge HIV/AIDS poses to health in New Zealand and the Pacific, and commits the Presbyterian Church to address the issues of poverty and gender equality that are the major factors in the spread of HIV/AIDS.

[08.051] That Assembly support the initiative of the Association of Presbyterian Women and the Global Mission Office to increase understanding and awareness of HIV/AIDs, among church members and the wider community in New Zealand and the Pacific.

Global Mission

The Rev Andrew Bell, Global Mission Advisor, paid tribute the work of immediate past Moderator, the Very Rev Pamela Tankersley, in promoting global mission.

Keynote Speaker – Prof Randall Prior

Prof Prior gave his third address to the Assembly, diagnosing the key issues for the way forward for the Church.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch, to resume at 2pm.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

**Minutes of Session 9 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Fergusson Drive, Wellington
Sunday 5 October, 2pm**

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Retiring Moderator's Address

The Very Rev Pamela Tankersley addressed the Assembly on her time as Moderator.

The Moderator acknowledged the work of Mrs Tankersley in this role.

Nominating Committee

The Rev Doug Lendrum moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.112] That the Assembly refer the issue of the status, membership, and reporting relationships of the Doctrine Core Group to the Council of Assembly.

Press Go

Facilitation Group member, the Rev Sharon Ensor presented dialogue group feedback on the Press Go proposals.

The Rev Rhys Pearson moved, and it was seconded:

[08.045] That the General Assembly endorses the Press Go strategy.

The Rev Martin Stewart moved, and it was seconded:

[08.089] That notice of motion 45 be amended as follows:

That the General Assembly endorses the Press Go strategy with five regional advisory groups being established by the Presbyteries (2 South Island, 3 North Island), with the task of distributing the resources gathered in their regions according to the Press Go strategy.

There was considerable debate.

The amendment to notice of motion 45 was lost.

There was further discussion on the substantive notice of motion 45.

The substantive motion was carried.

The Rev Rhys Pearson was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 46, to be replaced by notice of motion 94.

[08.046] That the General Assembly approve the release of up to two million dollars of Laughton House sale funds for the use of congregations and presbyteries whose growth projects meet the criteria agreed to in this report and are approved by the Press Go Advisory Board. [Withdrawn]

Mr Stewart was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 90.

[08.090] That the General Assembly approve the release of up to two million dollars of Laughton House sale funds for the Press Go strategy, and that these funds be available to the Regional Advisory Groups on a population based formula. [Withdrawn]

Mr Pearson moved, it was seconded and carried:

[08.094] That the General Assembly approve the release of up to two million dollars of Laughton House sale funds for the use of congregations and presbyteries whose growth projects meet the criteria developed through consultation with Presbyteries and Union District Councils.

The Rev Rhys Pearson was granted leave to insert the word “voluntarily” in notice of motion 47.

Mr Pearson moved, and it was seconded:

[08.047a] That the General Assembly actively encourages all congregations and presbyteries to voluntarily provide a 1 percent return on all investment assets for the use of the Press Go Advisory Group in supporting growth projects that meet the criteria and are approved by the Press Go Advisory Group.

There was brief debate on the motion.

The motion was agreed.

The Rev Geoffrey Skilton moved and it was seconded.

[08.095] That the General Assembly actively encourages all congregations, Presbyteries, and UDCs to contribute to Press Go in whatever ways they can.

There was brief debate on the motion.

The motion was agreed.

Council of Assembly – *The Ecumenical Journey*

The Rev Rhys Pearson was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 12, to be replaced by notice of motion 106. He was also granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 13.

[08.012] That the Council of Assembly be requested to establish an advisory group to meet with the five negotiating churches on the future of co-operative ventures, to bring recommendations to the 2010 General Assembly. [Withdrawn]

[08.013] That there be a moratorium/rahui on the formation of new co-operative ventures until the 2010 General Assembly. [Withdrawn]

Mr Pearson moved, and it was seconded:

[08.106] That the Council of Assembly be requested to establish an advisory group to meet with the five negotiating churches and the Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand (UCANZ) on the future directions of co-operative ventures, to bring recommendations to the 2010 General Assembly.

There was debate.

The motion was agreed.

Hospital Chaplaincy Funding (continued)

The Rev Mark Farmer moved and it was seconded:

[08.103] That the Moderator of the General Assembly be requested to write a pastoral letter to all presbyteries and parishes informing them of the serious and immediate crisis in funding for Hospital Chaplaincy.

There was a brief debate.

The motion was agreed.

The Assembly adjourned at 3.30pm and commissioners gathered for a presentation and musical performance by Knox Centre at 4.30pm.

The Assembly resumed at 7pm.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

**Minutes of Session 10 of the General Assembly 2008
St Patrick's College, Fergusson Drive, Wellington
Sunday 5 October, 7pm**

The Moderator constituted the new session with prayer.

Approval of Minutes

The Clerk of Assembly moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That the minutes of sessions five and six of this Assembly, as circulated, be approved, subject to corrections of error and omissions.

Christian World Service

Ms Liz Whitehead and Mr Andrew Johnstone presented the report of Christian World Service.

Ms Whitehead moved *en bloc*, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.056] That Assembly thanks the Rev Bonnie Robinson for representing the Presbyterian Church on the Christian World Service Council.

[08.057] That Assembly affirms the work of Christian World Service and encourages parishes to support the Christmas Appeal and emergency appeals.

[08.058] That the Assembly encourages all parishes to support the CWS campaign on climate change and its continued advocacy for policies to eradicate poverty.

Review of Presbyteries

Facilitation Group member, the Rev Peter MacKenzie presented feedback from dialogue group discussions on notices of motion 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44, as introduced in session five.

The Very Rev Garry Marquand moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.040] That the General Assembly adopt the model for the reform of presbyteries as outlined in Section 5 of the report.

Mr Marquand was granted leave to add the words: "and Union District Councils" to notice of motion 41.

Mr Marquand moved the amended resolution, and it was seconded and agreed.

[08.041a] That presbyteries establish Presbytery Reform Teams with appropriately skilled missional leaders to implement the model:

- To consult with other presbyteries and Union District Councils to establish a reconfiguration of presbytery boundaries;
- To establish Resourcing Groups; and,
- To establish new Governance structures.

Mr Marquand was granted leave to withdraw notices of motion 42 and 101, to be replaced by notice of motion 109.

[08.042] That the Presbytery Reform Teams be established by the beginning of 2009, and that presbyteries begin operating within the new Presbytery Structure by October 2009, and that the implementation of the new model be completed by March 2010. [Withdrawn]

[08.101] That the Presbytery Reform Teams be established by the beginning of 2009, and that the new presbyteries begin operating with the new Presbytery Structure by October 2009, and that the new Presbytery boundaries be formalised at the 2010 General Assembly. [Withdrawn]

Mr Marquand moved, and it was seconded:

[08.109] That the Presbytery Reform Teams be established by the beginning of 2009, and that the new presbyteries begin operating within the new Presbytery Structure as soon as is practicable and that the new presbytery boundaries be formalised by the General Assembly.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr Marquand moved, and it was seconded and agreed:

[08.043] That the Council of Assembly oversee the implementation of those tasks being vested in national bodies as outlined in Section 5.2 (National Functions) of the task group's report.

Mr Marquand moved, and it was seconded:

[08.044] That the Presbyteries Task Group be asked to encourage Presbyteries and their Presbytery Reform Teams in the implementation of the model, and to monitor progress for report to the 2010 General Assembly.

Mr Marquand accepted an amendment to change the word 'encourage' to co-ordinate'.

The amendment was carried.

The substantive motion, as amended, was agreed.

[08.044a] That the Presbyteries Task Group be asked to co-ordinate Presbyteries and their Presbytery Reform Teams in the implementation of the model, and to monitor progress for report to the 2010 General Assembly.

The Moderator thanked the Presbyteries Task Group for their work.

The Rev Martin Stewart was granted leave to withdraw notices of motion 85 to 88.

[08.085] That the General Assembly determine that the resourcing and empowering of larger Presbyteries be a major mission priority for the Presbyterian Church over the next four years. [Withdrawn]

- [08.086] That Presbyteries establish Presbytery Reform Teams with appropriately skilled missional leaders to implement the model of larger presbyteries through consultation with other presbyteries. [Withdrawn]
- [08.087] That the Council of Assembly through the Presbyteries Task Group liaise with the Presbytery Reform Teams by providing information, communication, and advice on the possible structures as the new configurations establish structures appropriate to their contexts. [Withdrawn]
- [08.088] That the Presbytery Reform Teams be established by the beginning of 2009 and that the new configurations be trialled from 2010 and brought to the 2012 Assembly for final approval. [Withdrawn]

The Rev Johanna Warren was granted leave to withdraw notices of motion 74 to 78.

- [08.074] That the notices of motion 40-44 be replaced by notices of motion 75-78. [Withdrawn]
- [08.075] That the General Assembly authorise the establishment of two pilot programmes based on the model of reform of presbyteries as outlined in section 5 of the report. [Withdrawn]
- [08.076] That these pilot programmes be run in: (a) the six presbyteries of the Synod of Otago and Southland; and (b) the presbyteries of Gisborne-Hawke's Bay, Wellington, Wairarapa, Manawatu-Wanganui, and Taranaki. [Withdrawn]
- [08.077] That the Presbyteries Task Group monitor progress and report back to the Church at large at the beginning of the 2010 General Assembly with observations and comments. [Withdrawn]
- [08.078] That the Presbyteries Task Group report to the next Assembly with further recommendations. [Withdrawn]

Leadership Sub-Committee

The Revs Ian Guy and Geoffrey Skilton presented the report of the Leadership Sub-Committee.

Mr Guy moved, it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.023] That Congregations invite Congregations to explore and action ways in which young people can have a voice and input into the decision-making processes of the Church, with a particular emphasis being placed on the need for young people to have a place on Church Councils and related decision-making groups.

The Rev Geoffrey Skilton moved *en bloc* and it was seconded and agreed:

- [08.024] That student regulations be amended to state: At the time of application to the presbytery a candidate must provide clear evidence of at least two

years' commitment to and involvement with one congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand or a Co-operative Venture partner. It is expected that this commitment and involvement would be expressed in formalised membership of the congregation.

- [08.025] That if a presbytery considers a candidate's situation to be exceptional they may request the Council of Assembly, through the Leadership Sub-committee or equivalent, to grant a waiver of this requirement. Such a request must be made at the time the presbytery assesses the candidate, and before his or her name is forwarded to the National Assessment Work Group.

Mr Simon Mahoney moved, it was seconded and agreed.

- [08.113] That the Leadership Sub-committee be asked to work with Presbyterian Youth Ministry and other bodies of the Church to assist in the development of appropriate supervision expectations and developmental reviews for paid employees of the church involved in ministry.

Ministry Development

Facilitation Group Convenor, the Rev Brett Johnstone presented feedback from dialogue group discussions on notices of motion 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 as presented in session five.

The Rev Ian Guy was granted leave to delete reference to the Conditions of Service Manual from notice of motion 26.

Mr Guy moved, and it was seconded.

- [08.026a] That the proposed system for minister (NOM and LOM) reviews be adopted by the General Assembly.

There was considerable debate.

Voting on a show of cards was 64% (160) in favour, 36% (90) against. The motion was carried.

Mr Guy was granted leave to delete reference to the Conditions of Service Manual from notice of motion 27.

Mr Guy moved, it was seconded and carried:

- [08.027a] That the proposed system for parish reviews be adopted by the General Assembly.

The Rev Sally Carter was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 108:

- [08.108] That notice of motion 26 be amended by adding the words: "and that period of ministerial review be extended from 2 to 5 years". [Withdrawn]

Mr Guy was granted leave to delete reference to special legislative procedure from notice of motion 28.

Mr Guy moved, and it was seconded:

[08.028a] That the Certificate of Good Standing be adopted by the General Assembly.

The Rev Susan Jones moved, and it was seconded:

That the motion be amended by inserting after the words "Certificate of Good Standing" the words "as detailed in the Leadership Sub-committee Report".

There was considerable debate.

The amendment was carried.

The amendment became the substantive motion.

The Rev Helen Wallis moved, and it was seconded:

That the motion be further amended by deleting the words "Good Standing" and replacing them with the word "Practice".

There was considerable debate.

This second amendment was lost.

The substantive motion, as first amended was further debated.

[08.028b] That the Certificate of Good Standing as detailed in the Leadership Sub-committee Report be adopted by the General Assembly.

Voting on a show of cards was 67% (159) in favour, 33% (78) against.

The motion was carried.

The Rev John Malcolm moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That the aspects of the Leadership Sub-committee Report regarding remuneration be referred to the Council of Assembly for clarification.

Mr Guy moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.029] That the provisions of the Certificate of Good Standing include areas previously covered by regulations 192 and 212 of the 2003 Book of Order.

Mr Guy moved, it was seconded and agreed:

[08.030] That the Leadership Sub-committee continue to implement and review the Ministry Development process.

The Rev Diane Gilliam-Weeks was granted leave to withdraw notice of motion 81.

[08.081] That where the words "Certificate of Good Standing" appear in any notice of motion, they be replaced by the words "Practice Certificate".
[Withdrawn]

Comprehensive Vote of Thanks

The Rev Martin McAuley moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That the thanks of the Assembly be offered to all those who had assisted in the preparation and organisation of this Assembly.

Mr McAuley named these people individually and in groups.

The Clerk of Assembly moved, it was seconded and agreed:

That the General Assembly adjourn to meet again in Christchurch in 2010 on a date and at a venue to be determined by the Assembly Business Work Group.

The Moderator expressed his personal thanks to those who had assisted him.

The Assembly concluded with brief closing worship.

Graham Redding, Moderator

Martin Baker, Clerk

