

**Presbytery of Tasmania
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania**



Membership of Synod

The Presbytery Standing Committee is aware of the importance of sending appropriately gifted and skilled people to the meeting of the Synod held each 18 months. (September 2014, March 2016 and so on)

Membership of Synod is a great opportunity to experience the wider church, to meet people from different contexts, and to be inspired by the stories we hear of God at work in our church and our communities.

The Presbytery of Tasmania is entitled to 12 ordained members and 12 lay members.

The gifts and skills looked for in a member of Synod include:

- Experience in the life of the Uniting Church and ongoing awareness of missional issues;
- Willingness to consider the needs of the wider church, that is, when discussing issues to look at them from perspectives beyond our own local needs;
- Ability to listen well;
- Commitment to consensus decision making process;
- Participation in small group and table group discussions;

Members of Synod enter into a process of discerning God's leading on all matters discussed at the meeting. While we may find it helpful to be aware of how others in our congregation feel about a particular issue, we do not attend the Synod meeting with our minds made up on issues. At the Synod meeting all members participate in a discernment process and, having heard all the information and discussion, take part in the decision making sessions according to how we believe God is leading us at that point in time.

If you feel you have the gifts and skills necessary to be a member of Synod please don't wait to be approached by your congregation. Please speak with your minister or a member of the Presbytery Standing Committee to explore whether you might be nominated.

Nominations for lay and ordained members, setting out the gifts and skills the individual will bring to the Synod meeting, are sent to the UCA Tasmanian Office approx. 6 months before the Synod meeting.

Between the nomination cut off date and the next presbytery meeting Presbytery Standing Committee will consider the nominations and if insufficient nominations are received other people will be approached. All nominations will be taken to the next Presbytery meeting for members of Presbytery to decide by voting who will attend the Synod meeting from Tasmania.

It is important that all ages are represented at the Synod meeting and you are encouraged to give consideration to nominating younger people where possible and appropriate.

The Synod reimburses airfares up to a fixed amount. Other costs are carried by the member. If financial costs prevent you from attending please contact Carol Bennett as support may be available.

**PRESBYTERY OF TASMANIA
NOMINATION OF MEMBER OF SYNOD 2014**



I wish to nominate:

Rev/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

for the ballot to elect Presbytery of Tasmania members to the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania meeting 19-24 September 2014.

Please tick the skills this person offers:

- Experience in the life of the Uniting Church and ongoing awareness of missional issues;
- Willingness to consider the needs of the wider church, that is, when discussing issues to look at them from perspectives beyond our own local needs;
- Ability to listen well;
- Commitment to consensus decision making process;
- Participation in small group and table group discussions;

YES/NO I am willing/not willing to be nominated for Synod Standing Committee

The particular skills this person would bring to the Synod Standing Committee are:
.....
.....
.....

Signature of the nominee _____

Signature of person making the nomination _____

Note: Nominations may be signed by any member of Presbytery or an officer of a Congregation or Church Council

Nominations close 4.30pm on 17 March at the UCA Tasmanian Office

Please E-mail tas.office@victas.uca.org.au

OR Fax 6334 1480

OR Post to 96 Margaret St LAUNCESTON 7250