



**Ministry Profile for Pilgrim Presbytery
Presbytery Minister
Information for Applicants**

1 The Presbytery

The Pilgrim Presbytery of Northern Australia (PPNA) has the same geographical area as the Northern Synod, which covers the Northern Territory, the Kimberley region of Western Australia, and a portion of northern South Australia. The Presbytery has 12 congregations from Alice Springs to Darwin, and from Nhulunbuy in the east to Broome in the west. The Presbytery has two remote Ministries (Patrols) supported with funding from Frontier Services, with others pending, and two faith communities. The PPNA meets twice a year.

Within this area, the Northern Regional Council of Congress (NRCC) operates as another Presbytery within the Synod. NRCC has oversight of the work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a regional council of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC). The Pilgrim Presbytery lives and works in Covenant partnership with the NRCC Presbytery.

2 The Position

The Presbytery Minister cares for the ministry agents and congregations of the Pilgrim Presbytery. The model of caring matches the UCA understanding: set apart to support and encourage 'the particular ministries' of the whole people of God. The Presbytery Minister is called to teach, counsel, inspire, and build up leaders equipped to confess the faith of Christ crucified and risen and with all members to work towards the reconciliation of the whole creation to God and to each other.

In this role the Presbytery Minister will both model and nurture the Covenant relationship with the NRCC; pastorally support lay leaders, candidates, and ordained ministers; support the Northern Synod and other Councils of the Uniting Church; foster ecumenical relations with other churches; and engage with the wider community on the church's behalf. Such support includes encouragement to fulfil responsibilities within the Code of Ethics and the active participation in Safe Church processes.

The position involves creative leadership, pastoral care, inspirational worship, and helping the Presbytery understand more deeply and live out more effectively our roots in the Basis of Union, the Scriptures, and the legacy of the Christian church. It is a full-time stipended position open to a person with the appropriate gifting and skills.

3 General

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| 3.1 Location: | Within the bounds of Pilgrim Presbytery |
| 3.2 Appointed by: | Pilgrim Presbytery (PPNA) |
| 3.3 Responsible to: | PPNA Presbytery and Executive |
| 3.4 Staff support: | Presbytery Administrative Assistant |



3.5 Memberships:

- a. Synod meetings
- b. Biannual Presbytery meetings
- c. Reports as needed to:
 - i. Chairpersons of Presbytery and PPNA Pastoral Relations Committee
 - ii. Synod Placements Committee
 - iii. Other Synod and Assembly committees and agency boards as appropriate
- d. Local UCA congregation of choice

4 Duty Statement

The Presbytery Minister's role is to help Pilgrim Presbytery fulfil its responsibilities for oversight and encouragement of the congregations and faith communities within its bounds. Particular duties include:

- providing leadership that inspires, encourages, equips, and nurtures Ministry agents and congregations / faith communities to serve Christ in the world;
- assisting congregations to become learning communities of lively discipleship, justice, and service, engaging with the NRCC and the wider society;
- helping to resource and train ministry agents and lay leaders in skills for ministry, including Covenant and cross-cultural awareness, faith development, evangelism, dynamic preaching and Bible Study, and holistic congregational growth;
- sharing and leading worship across the Presbytery and with the NRCC as appropriate, and mentoring other worship leaders;
- providing supportive oversight of ministry agents, including participation in training in the Code of Ethics, Supervision, and Safe Church practices;
- promoting and supporting pastoral care, prayer, and spiritual discernment practices in congregational placements, chaplaincies, and patrol ministries;
- offering pastoral counselling, spiritual guidance, and appropriate referrals to those in need of support, especially but not exclusively with ministry agents;
- supporting ecumenical and community relationships as guided by the Moderator and Presbytery Chairperson;
- working with the Moderator, General Secretary, PPNA Chairperson, and NRCC Chairperson or NRCC Support Worker as part of the Synod's leadership team; and with UCA agencies, chaplaincies, the wider church, and the wider community, in ways that foster justice, service, and care for creation



These duties call for gifts of:

➤ **Passion:**

- Share a contagious love for the multicultural UCA and the Covenant with Congress, including the UCA Preamble
- Able to foster rich worship, contextual Bible Study, and justice-making
- Shaped by deep cross-cultural experience that can be shared with others
- Can build relationships amongst many diverse backgrounds and beliefs
- Eager to listen to and learn from all those around, so they know they are valued

➤ **Persistence:**

- Able to listen well, discern actions in response, and follow them through
- Dedicated to empowering others to develop their own gifts and skills
- Prepared to practise and support the regulations of the UCA, Synod, and PPNA
- Positive history of dealing well with conflicting views on theology and life

➤ **Patience:**

- Due attention to process and detail, and supporting administrators' diligence
- Empathy in teamwork including respecting others' differing approaches
- Ready to honour Aboriginal languages, pace of change, and relational processes
- Gentleness with self and others when expectations are not met

➤ **Faith:**

- Dedicated prayer life, alone and with others
- Discernment of the Spirit in interactions with others
- Will to follow, and communicate, the way of Jesus in words and actions
- Discipline in ministry practise, church polity, lifelong learning, and celebrating the presence of Christ in others



5 Selection Criteria

The successful applicant will demonstrate the following skills, knowledge, and abilities at a level appropriate to serve as the Pilgrim Presbytery Minister.

5.1 Essential

- a) A member of the Uniting Church in Australia and willingness to live and work within the faith and unity of the Uniting Church as described in the Basis of Union, Constitution and Regulations, and key Statements
- b) A wide experience and knowledge of the Uniting Church and its ecumenical ethos, its commitment to Covenant and Multiculturalism, and its polity.
- c) Ordained Minister of the Uniting Church in Australia.
- d) Demonstrated pastoral and leadership skills.
- e) Demonstrated skills in teaching, mentoring, and equipping leaders.
- f) Demonstrated high order interpersonal skills including genuine consultation, effective communication, conflict management, and good team collaboration.
- g) Experience in working in Indigenous Australian and/or multicultural contexts.
- h) Able to undertake travel, including to remote locations.
- i) Current and valid Police Clearance and Working with Children (Ochre) Card.

5.2 Highly desirable

- a) Tertiary / Postgraduate level qualifications.
- b) Effective experience in teaching and training
- c) Reasonable competence with information technology.
- d) Working knowledge of a language other than English.

Applicants must address each of the selection criteria, and, as far as possible, give examples to objectively validate claims.

This placement will become available from 1 May 2020. Synod terms of placement apply, as attached.

The Presbytery reserves the right to fill this placement by invitation or not to make an appointment.



Pilgrim Presbytery - Presbytery Minister

Terms of Placement

Appointed by:	Presbytery.
Term of placement:	Initially for a period of five years, reviewed during the fourth year, with the possibility of extension up to five years.
Stipend:	The specified rate for a minister in the Northern Synod.
Annual Leave:	Six (6) weeks.
Long service leave:	In accordance with legislative provisions of Synod By-Laws.
Sick leave:	Ten (10) days per annum – cumulative.
Superannuation:	In accordance with Beneficiary Fund (Mercer Super) or superannuation scheme of choice.
Motor Vehicle:	Provision of a motor vehicle plus running costs.
Study Leave:	By negotiation, accruing up to two years. Study Leave includes mandatory Safe Church and Code of Ethics training and such other PD as determined by the Synod and PPNA.
Travel:	Personal allowance of \$1200 p.a. at discretion of minister
Housing:	House as per the standard of the Northern Synod By-Laws; or a housing allowance, as determined by the Synod, will be paid if a house is not required
Telephone:	Mobile phone supplied, home phone in manse; private STD calls reimbursed by incumbent.

Ministerial stipends and allowances are reviewed annually.

Note:

The Northern Synod defines 'full time' as 38.5 hours per week. There will be weeks when more hours are required, or flexibility of adjustments may be necessary.