

## Acting Moderator Announcement

Dear Northern Synod,

I am pleased to let you know that our Assembly Regulation Exemption request has been approved, and **Rev Felicity Amery** has been elected by the Synod Standing Committee to serve as the Acting Moderator from the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod Meeting to the 48<sup>th</sup> Synod Meeting in 2026.

I want to thank Felicity for her willingness to hear the call of the church and adjust her ministry to serve the Synod in this season. Thank you to the Nightcliff Uniting Church for their willingness to release Felicity for 0.2FTE for 18 months. Thank you to the Synod Standing Committee for your prayerful discernment in the future of our Synod. The Assembly Standing Committee holds us in prayer and affection.

References to the processes that have been used in this discernment are located in the Synod Meeting Handbook.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 this information was sent to the Synod:

### **Moderator Elect**

With the passing of Rev Dr Michelle Cook the Northern Synod does not currently have a Moderator Elect to install as Moderator at the opening service of worship at the 47<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Synod 3-6 April 2025.

At its meeting on the 21-22 February, the Northern Synod Standing Committee discerned a way forward in the lead up to the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod meeting and for the ensuing 18 months until the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting in October 2026.

It is the discernment of the Northern Synod Standing Committee that an Acting Moderator be appointed by the Northern Synod Standing Committee and will commence at the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod Meeting, to be held on 3-6 April 2025. This decision, however, requires the approval of the Assembly Standing Committee at its meeting on the 14-16 March 2025. Once approval has been given, the name of the Acting Moderator will be announced 14 days prior to the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod Meeting.

The Acting Moderator will chair the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod Meeting and the Synod Standing Committee until the 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 2026.

At the 47<sup>th</sup> Synod Meeting on 3-6 April 2025, the Synod will elect a Convenor for the Moderator Search Committee as per the Northern Synod By-Laws. Names for Moderator will be brought to the 48<sup>th</sup> Synod Meeting for election.

This is an uncertain time in the Northern Synod, but we pray and trust that, "In every age Christ the Good Shepherd calls his faithful servants to preach the gospel, celebrate the sacraments of the new covenant and build up his people in faith and love.

Grace and peace,

**Rev Janet Staines**

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**Northern Synod**

**Uniting Church in Australia**