



# Notice of Northern Synod 47th Meeting

## 3-6 April 2025

### Theme: 'Woven into a Tapestry of Love'

**The Northern Synod Council will hold its 47th meeting on  
3-6 April 2025 as a full Synod Council.**

### **The Purpose of Synod Meeting**

The Synod meeting represents an opportunity for members to:

Become involved in the discernment of the Church,

Celebrate the grace of God in Jesus through worship while hearing of the ways in which God is inspiring, guiding, shaping and empowering other parts of the church; and,

Fellowship with each other, reconnect with friends and colleagues, meet some new people, hear stories and learn.

The Synod exercises important responsibilities as described in the Basis of Union, the Constitution, and the Regulations. The Basis of Union states that the Synod has "responsibility for the general oversight, direction, and administration of the Church's worship, witness and service in the region allocated to it." (Para.15.d).

### **Moderator Elect**

The passing of Rev Dr Michelle Cook has left us with a deep sadness that our future will not become what we hoped or planned. We will continue to grieve Michelle's loss as a friend, colleague and our Moderator Elect.

The Uniting Church Regulations provide guidance for such circumstances (regs.3.6.3.1.b):

"Should a Moderator-elect for any reason be unable to take up the office of Moderator, the Synod when constituted shall, as its first business, elect an acting Moderator and shall as soon as convenient thereafter elect a Moderator."

The Synod Standing Committee met on the 15-16 November to discuss the implications of the regulations and will communicate a way forward over the next couple of months.

*I want you woven into a tapestry of love - Colossians 2:2-3*

## **Agenda**

A draft agenda will be provided with the Member's Information to members and guests.

## **Meeting Sessions**

The Meeting Session times are still to be confirmed. However, we ask that you allow from Thursday 3rd April from 3pm to Sunday 6th April 3.30pm for our meeting time.

## **Reports**

The closing date for receiving Reports shall be 14th February 2025.

## **Proposals**

The closing date for receiving Proposals shall be 1st March 2025.

## **Nominations**

The closing date for receiving nominations shall be 4th April 2025.

The ballots for Assembly members and Northern Synod Committees shall be held in Session 11 on Sunday 6th April 2024.

## **Presbytery Appointed Members**

The closing date for appointing members from the Presbyteries shall be 10th February 2024.

The process for appointing members shall be Church Councils nominate in writing a member to the Presbyteries. Members must complete the Synod Member Registration by 10th February 2024 to indicate accommodation and travel preferences.

## **Visitors**

Visitors will be welcome on site and will need to register. Information will be made available for this. There will be no provision for childcare on site.

## **Pre-Synod Sessions**

Preparation Sessions will be arranged by NRCC and the Synod office to equip members with the information and understanding required for making wise and informed decisions throughout the Synod meeting.

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## **Language Translators**

Translators will help in interpreting information and conversation throughout the Synod meeting and will help translate written material for the Pre-Synod Sessions.

## **Accommodation**

Accommodation will be provided on-site at Nungalinga College for members travelling from outside of Darwin. It is encouraged that where able, members stay with friends, family or colleagues during the Synod meeting to minimise costs.

## **Travel**

Air travel will be arranged by the Synod Office. Please ensure the correct details are written on the Synod Member Registration and check booking details as soon as they are received.

Car or bus travel will be reimbursed by the Synod office.

## **Meals**

All lunches, morning and afternoon teas will be catered for, commencing with a light dinner on Thursday evening. The menu will cater for dietary requirements and needs. Please ensure that any special dietary needs are noted when registering.