**Standing Committee** met at Miramar Uniting Church on 9th March, for a full afternoon’s business, allowing representatives to catch off-peak flights and to share lunch and dinner together.

We welcomed the Rev Clare Lind as a new Partner representative for the Presbyterian Church.
We are aware that it is now 50 years since the five Partners’ *Act of Commitment* that encouraged many Cooperative Ventures to be formed. We will be supplying CVs with a framework liturgy to mark this anniversary on 10th May or other suitable occasion.

Standing Committee affirmed that it is still a requirement for all CVs to have accounts reviewed annually. Unless this is also an audit, the ‘suitably qualified’ person does not need to be a chartered accountant; but we urge the following guidelines.

*That the reviewer*:
(a) have adequate competence;
(b) report to the congregation through the church council;
(c) if the reviewer is a member of the congregation, not be responsible for any of the treasurer’s duties or have access to day-to-day cash management;
(d) be changed every few years.

**NDCU** – the National Dialogue for Christian Unity held it second annual meeting in March. UCANZ is an observer along with CWS, SCM, Salvation Army and PCANZ. The current full members are the Anglican, Catholic and Methodist Churches and are represented by senior Church leaders*.*

**EO visits** –Adrian has paid visits to Northland and the Waikato. He has appreciated invitations to meet the congregation at Otamatea and to join in the CTN Gathering at St John’s, Whangarei. The Waikato Refreshment Day was held at Paeroa and attended by some 45 people. Adrian has also accepted preaching appointments in several Wellington Churches and is happy to make such visits further afield, given sufficient notice.

**Biennial Forum - save the date**

26-29 October at Onehunga Co-operating Parish. Booking forms will be available from mid-May.

As well as the resourcing theme, **One More at the Table**, which will help us to listen more closely and so to understanding one another better, there will be two items of business:

1. The possible re-election election of four and election of up to five new local church representatives; the election of co-chairs;
2. The presentation for approval of a revised financial assessment scheme for CVs – see below.

For all these reasons, it will be important for every parish to be represented by one or two people and to consider beforehand nominations of suitable people for standing committee and as co-chairs (a two-year term, renewable once).

**Partner Support Fund (PSF) Review**

Most of the financial data has been gathered and the Presbyterian and Methodist Partners are broadly supportive of the outline scheme. Anglican Dioceses are also to be invited into the revised Partner Support Fund.

Presbyteries and Synods will be advised of the scheme details in advance of the October Forum.

Forum will vote on the scheme in October 2017

With new assessments expected to take effect from July 2018.

**Presbyterian ‘positives’ statement**The PCANZ General Assembly commended its ‘We say Yes!’ statement to Partner Churches.

The statement can be found at http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/sites/public\_files/speaking\_out/Justice\_in\_Action\_We\_say\_Yes.pdf

**Church and Not-for-Profit Forum**

Those in the Lower North Island may be interested in this event on 9th May, 9am to 4.30pm, at Lower Hutt Assembly of God. Sponsored by Rothbury Insurance Brokers and endorsed by the Inter Church Bureau. There is a cost of $30 inclluding lunch. See http://livemail.livelinkconnect.com/em/forms/subscribe.php?db=582837&s=241717&a=47593&k=cccf101

**Postal deliveries and office hospitality**

We and other Te Aro businesses are promised a new location for our P O Box. Currently we are collecting from a temporary location due to earthquake damage to Marion Square. There is no change to the address you should use.

However, should you wish to deliver your correspondence to us by hand (!) we can be found on the 1st floor at 16 Cambridge Terrace, Wellington. If you have occasion to be in the capital (and can let us know in advance) you are very welcome to visit the UCANZ Office.

Meanwhile, a blessed Easter to all.

**Adrian Skelton and Robyn Daniels**