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Standing Committee met at Miramar on 1st November. Philip Garside <https://pgpl.co.nz> was our speaker and told us how publishing has changed, that it is now possible to print shorter runs at a reasonable cost. He is principal stockist for the New Zealand Hymnbook Trust. Reprintings of *Alleluia Aotearoa* and *Faith Forever Singing* are available and planned respectively. The popular *Carol our Christmas* would make a good seasonal gift.

We were pleased to have the Rt Rev Fakaofa Kaio present – the first national Presbyterian moderator also to be a local churches’ representative on UCANZ Standing Committee.



For Christian Churches representative, Paul Burton, it was his last meeting and he was thanked for his lively involvement over six years.

The Congregational Union reported that the oldest union parish, at Raglan, has asked to explore dissolution. We understand that it seeks to “return to its Congregational roots”. Sad though this is, it paves the way for CUNZ to approve Option C, the last of the five Partners to do so.

The Methodist Church reported that a minister’s working week has been redefined from 48 to 40 hours, mainly to enable part-time ministers space to take up other employments.

“Option C” agreed

With Presbyterian, Methodist, Anglican, and Christian Churches (formerly Churches of Christ) now agreed on the amendments to *Procedures*, a new schedule of Convening Partners (who will rotate automatically) is being prepared. New financial assessments based on a common formula related to gross income will be advertised to local churches in early March.

EO visits

Dunedin Diocesan Office hosted a Southern Region Partners’ meeting, allowing the EO opportunity also to visit thriving CVs at Milton and Alexandra.

St David’s Union Church, Timaru, hosted a gathering of five South Canterbury CVs who offered comment on Option C and resolved that they had enough in common to make it an annual meeting.

Methodist Conference and Presbyterian Assembly ran back to back, and your Executive Officer was one of a half dozen or so attendees at both events. Six days of solid business was intriguing, bewildering, shocking, saddening, occasionally inspiring and ultimately exhausting. Well done to my fellow inmates!

Ecumenical Induction at Levin

A full church greeted the Rev Sandra Williams at Levin Uniting Church on 15th October. A member of the Levin Anglican community, Sandra is now



Peter Mackenzie, Ian Harris, Sandra Williams © Janine Baalbergen inducted to the charge of a Methodist-Presbyterian Parish. Each denomination was well represented to wish her well.

UCANZ Forum 2019 runs 17-20th October and is based at Alexandra-Clyde-Lauder Union Parish. The theme is **“Making a Difference”** and we hope you will contribute to that world of difference by being there. More details and bookings from the start of April.

Christmas/New Year closure

The UCANZ office will be closed from Friday 21st December to Monday 7th January inclusive.

Since April, our **postal address** has been **UCANZ, PO Box 12 046, Wellington 6144** since April. Although we have made arrangements to collect from the old mail-box, those arrangements run out in January, so the several pieces of mail a week that are still mis-directed will then be returned to sender. Please also see that you have the correct phone number or check the bottom left of the website - **04 471 8593**.

Mere Kirihimete, ngā mihi o te tau hou
Adrian Skelton and Robyn Daniels

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