

STANDING COMMITTEE



Standing Committee met in Onehunga this month for the first time since Forum in April. We heard from Carol Barron about the Methodist Alliance, which brings together Methodist Missions, parishes and community based social services and trusts – yet *only two* cooperative ventures at present.

We considered feedback from the Forum and acknowledge that the history and structure of the agency called UCANZ is not well understood by all churches.

ASSESSMENT clarification

Since 2019, we have worked with the principle of a *unified* levy for all cooperative ventures. This was threatened recently when one presbytery tried to charge a supplementary rate. For clarification, there is a *single assessment* payable to one Partner at a time, the Convening Partner, for a period of three years. This period ends in June/July next year and a different Partner will invoice your levy for the next three years. MCNZ and PCANZ share that single levy between national needs and synod/presbytery support – that split is decided by the respective national Churches.

The rate of assessment is reviewed by Anglican, Methodist, and Presbyterian General Secretaries in February each year but has so far remained at 7% of gross income (modified by the eight allowable items of income and expenditure).

Statistics and Directory

Online gathering of statistics is a new feature of UCANZ activities this year. There have been comments about the seeming length of the form – although it is the same information being

collected as in previous years – so we shall try to improve the design of the form in future years. I would like to see it more compact, but it is Standing Committee that determines the range of information collected.

Once all the July returns have been received – or chased and received! – we will assemble a Directory for 2021-2022.

Both the membership and financial returns can be printed before submitting by right-clicking and selecting “Print”. Note that Financial Review certificates will be sent out next month.

Forum, Conference, ...ASSEMBLY

It will have been (future perfect!) a year full of gatherings, after the dearth of them last year: our Forum, now lodged in the autumn, followed soon by the Presbyterian Assembly (29 Sep – 3 October, Christchurch), and the Methodist Conference (17-20 November, Wellington).



Although not an Assembly or Conference ‘junkie’ I am *required* to attend an observer. As a non-delegate, I am relegated from the Assembly floor. But, as a Presbyterian minister, I *could* be available to represent any cooperative venture entitled to, but not sending a minister this year. If this applies to you and you would like to be so represented, I think we could come to a financial accommodation very favourable to your church. Please be in touch with me on 06 211 0492 – or the mobile.

A reminder that the postal address is now **UCANZ, PO Box 227, Napier 4140**, but the preference is now for electronic communication.

I te rangimarie,

Adrian Skelton

EO for UCANZ