COMMISSIONING of PHILIP WORRAD
as PASTOR OF THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

THE COMMISSIONING

And so we come to the actual Commissioning…

The Uniting Church believes that God’s people are the Body of Christ and a dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. Baptism into Christ’s Body initiates people into Christ’s life and mission in the world. Through baptism we are united in a communion of love, service, suffering and joy; united as one family under the Father of all people and all of creation; united in the power of the one Spirit. We acknowledge too that the Spirit has endowed the members of Christ’s Church with a diversity of gifts.

The Uniting Church in Australia affirms that each member of the Church is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified and to be his faithful servant. The Church encourages all people to discover and develop the gifts which God has given them by his Spirit.

The Synod through the Board of Education has discerned God’s call to Philip Worrad, the Chaplain, for the Ministry of Pastor to the Kinross Wolaroi School community.

In this capacity, Philip will be involved in teaching, promoting the Church’s beliefs and practices, challenging others in the witness of the Gospel values, pastoral oversight, leadership of worship, evangelism and service to those in this gathered congregation and to those associated with the broader School community.

The Board of Education has determined that the Pastor in this area will be responsible, with God’s help, for the exercise of a ministry within and to the School Community within the domains of liturgy, pastoral care and leadership.

Jim Mein and Phil Worrad step forward. Graeme continues:

Jim, I present to you Philip Worrad for commissioning as a Pastor while serving as Chaplain to the Kinross Wolaroi School community.

He was accepted by the Macquarie Darling Presbytery as a candidate for Ministry of Pastor.

He has completed the educational and theological requirements with respect to the Ministry of Pastor.

He has demonstrated competence in the ministry he already exercises in the community.

Jim Mein and Phil stand at the microphone. Graeme McRaild resumes his seat.
(Mr Jim Mein to Phil Worrad)

Jim Mein:

Philip, we rejoice that you have come today declaring your willingness to participate in Christ's ministry in this particular way. By serving as a Pastor of the Uniting Church, you are reaffirming your baptism, declaring your allegiance to the crucified and risen Lord and seeking to be obedient to God's will. Is this your understanding?

Phil Worrad:

It is.

Jim Mein:

Then I ask you now:

Philip, do you confess Jesus Christ as Lord?

Phil Worrad:

I do

Jim Mein:

Do you believe that you are called by God through the Church to the Ministry of Pastor?

Phil Worrad:

I do

Jim Mein:

Do you receive the witness to Christ in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments; and do you undertake to proclaim from these the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed?

Phil Worrad:

I do

Jim Mein:

Will you seek to live and work within the faith and unity of the one holy, catholic and apostolic church as described in the Basis of Union?

Phil Worrad:

I will
Jim Mein:

In your life and work within the Uniting Church will you be guided by the Basis of Union, and will you submit yourself to the Church’s discipline and the oversight of the Synod through the Board of Education, the Presbytery and the School?

Phil Worrad:

I will

Jim Mein:

Will you endeavour to show love, compassion, respect and justice in the name of Christ to all among whom you serve, irrespective of individual difference?

Phil Worrad:

I will

The congregation stands.

Jim Mein to the gathered community:

And I ask you gathered here today,

Will you accept Philip as a Pastor in the Kinross Wolaroi School community?

All:

We will

Jim Mein:

Will you encourage him and support him, and endeavour to serve the Lord Jesus Christ with him for the common good?

All:

We will

Jim Mein:

May God give you strength to fulfil these promises; and to God be the glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus from generation to generation for ever.

All:

Amen
The congregation sits.

Phil Worrad kneels.

Graeme McRaid (M-D Minister), Brian Mowbray (Presbytery), Noreen Towers (Orange Minister), Punam Bent (Chaplain), Jacollete van Rensburg (Staff), Allan Morrison (Community) form a semi-circle around Phil for the laying on of hands:

Jim Mein:

Let us bow our heads in prayer. Let us pray. (Silence)

Let us pray for Philip before we officially commission him as a Pastor while serving in Kinross Wolaroi by the laying on of hands.

Those named above lay one hand on Phil's head or shoulders.

Jim Mein:

By the Holy Spirit, Lord, strengthen this man, your servant, and grace him with love for you. Increase in him your gifts: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of knowledge and right counsel, the spirit of joy and of service, now and for ever. Amen.