

Church Council Nominations for role of Elder and Nomination for Presbytery Representative at AGM on Sunday 11th October

Ps Peter Cole – 1 Year Nomination for Elder



I feel called to nominate for the Church Council as it gives me an opportunity to serve the church using my pastoral gifts, knowledge and experience.

My gifts centre around pastoral care, leadership and encouragement. My hope is that I can help the church to grow and flourish as we move forward in our renewal process.

Anni Cramb – 3 Year Nomination for Elder



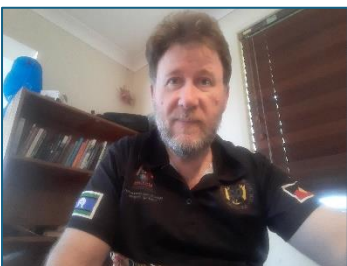
I was born in Atherton, moved with my family to Yarraman, Gympie, Brisbane. I left home and Qld at age 18, and mainly went to uni in Hobart. Had some gap years being a cook. After uni, and some work at my happy clappy church in Hobart, I lived in Melbourne, and for the last 20 years, Toowoomba, as I married Steve. It is for both of us our second marriage. We have three incredible children: Hannah, 28, Hydra, 25 and Joshua, 17.

After spending nearly three years working in the Presbytery Office where I thought long and hard about doing a year of discernment, since July I now am a social prescribing Link Worker [praying this wonderful work continues in 2027] and sometime creative workshop facilitator. I love meeting new people, helping them feel seen, supported, and encouraged. I work at the Wilsonton Heights Neighbourhood Centre and also teach mosaic jewellery and mosaic making classes that people have said bring joy and connection.

Jesus moved my heart when I was 19, and I've been blessed and shaped by some incredible friendships, many trials thankfully alongside many years of involvement in church life, where prayer, joy, discernment, worship through the arts and pastoral care have been central to my faith.

Lifeworks is becoming a more open, welcoming church that nurtures people's gifts and supports their wellbeing and reaches out more and more to others beyond the walls. Steve and I are grateful to be part of this congregation and hope to serve with humility, compassion, and a listening heart. Acts of service and words of encouragement are my best love languages. I am somewhat neurodiverse but I try to be on time.

Steve Cramb – 3 Year Nomination for Elder



I have been a member of this church formally only a short while – less than two years – but I have been attending since our son Joshua was twinkling in his parents' eyes. I am putting myself forward for election as a member of Church Council with some anxiety and with some hope.

I have been a long-term believer in the need for the expression of church to adapt. I think we are in a time of cultural change and that the style of church that worked previously does not work in the present. In that way I think it is similar to the Reformation period, just with a smaller body count from wars of religion.

In the same way that the churches that formed the Uniting Church came out of that time in history, seeking to follow Jesus in a way that met their cultural moment, I think we need to see how we meet ours.

For most of us, it will be in prayer and in the same style of following Christ that we have always done. However, since the expression of Church must change in the younger generations, some of us will need to support actions that we know would not work for us.

With your blessing, I hope to work as a member of the Church Council to travel together through this journey, which will be painful, but with God's blessing, painfully renewing.

Gordon Gillmore – 3 Year Nomination for Elder



My name is Gordon Gillmore and I am offering to serve Lifeworks in the role of Treasurer and Elder. I have been a member of the Uniting Church since the 1980s and served in various roles in a number of congregations over the years including as a mentor to youth and elder at St Davids, Lindfield, NSW and as Treasurer and Elder here at Lifeworks for the past 18 years.

I am retired after having had a career in IT, developing and maintaining financial systems in the insurance and manufacturing industries.

Although my wife's work keeps us travelling, I have found the Treasurer role offers an avenue of service to Lifeworks that both fits my situation and keeps me strongly engaged with the congregation's life.

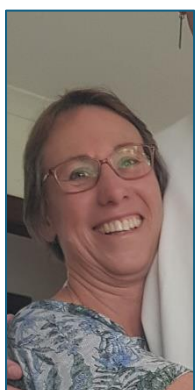
Paula Nicholls – 3 Year Nomination for Elder



Lifeworks has been a part of my life for ALL of my life, with a few church name changes throughout. (Newtown Methodist Church, Newtown Uniting Church, Russell Street Uniting Church and now Lifeworks Uniting Church.). It is where my family has marked our most significant moments, from baptisms and confirmations to weddings and funerals.

I am seeking to continue my service on the Church Council to support our calling to nurture our congregation, steward our facilities and resources, and assist Lifeworks to faithfully serve the Glenvale community. I offer my organisational and administrative skills to the church in its ministry.

Kerrie Andrews – 1 Year Nomination for Presbytery Representative



Hi as most are aware, my name is Kerrie Andrews. I have had the privilege of being Lifeworks Presbytery Rep for a number of years now. I was fortunate enough to be encouraged by Rev Ian Kerr to nominate for the position and have been inspired by the forward thinking and care with which the Downs Presbytery has nurtured the many rural and remote areas of this very large and diverse Presbytery.

I enjoy being part of the bigger picture context of the Uniting Church and this role has allowed me to not only see a vision for Lifeworks but the wider Church community across the Downs and through Synod in session the Church across Queensland.

As the Uniting Church grapples with how to journey forward in a changing landscape, I would be honoured to continue in my current role as your Presbytery Rep for the Downs during this time of transition.

Thank you for your support and encouragement over the past years. Blessings