



THRIVE MISSION COMMITTEE
PRESBYTERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
HAVE MUCH PLEASURE IN

INTRODUCING REV ROB DOUGLAS

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Thrive Mission Committee:
Enabling Congregations
and Faith Communities to
participate in the Mission of God

Gday,

my name's Rob Douglas and I am your bright shiny new Presbytery Minister for Mission. I'd love to connect with you at some stage and to help you as congregations and individuals in ministry as you think through what it means to be on mission for Christ.

First of all, a little about me. I was ordained as Baptist minister in 1984 and since then have worked within the Baptist denomination, both as a pastor and in management at Baptistcare where I led the organization in the areas of disability, mental health and counselling, and for a while was Leader of Mission and Service, taking responsibility for the mission of the whole organization, including responsibility for aged care chaplains.

Most of my pastoral work has been in regional WA (Narrogin, Derby, Roebourne and Carnarvon) and more recently I have been pastor of Maida Vale Baptist Church in the Perth foothills.

I grew up in Kalgoorlie and when I left school went to work with the Kalgoorlie Miner newspaper where I completed a cadetship in journalism. Over two decades I worked as a journalist, including launching and editing a newspaper in Carnarvon covering the entire Gascoyne region. Much of my regional journalism, other than my time in Kalgoorlie, was part time during my time as a pastor throughout the north west of WA.

The nine years I spent in Carnarvon was as a worker pastor which meant I found work outside of the church to support my ministry, sometimes referred to as a vocational or tentmaker pastor. However, I had a sense that this work in the broader community was my ministry, not just a means to an end. In addition to launching and running a newspaper, I also spent some time doing tourism consulting for the Gascoyne region, and led a small not for profit organization that, among other things, was successful in receiving funding to establish a women's refuge and domestic violence counselling service.

Why is a Baptist minister now working with the Uniting Church? Funny thing, I did some research and discovered that my grandparents on my mother's side first met in the Northam Methodist Church and their parents were stalwarts of the Neil Street Methodist Church in Ballarat. Perhaps that gives me some street cred?! But, the real reason is that I have had a sense of God's calling to help churches to discover the calling of the Spirit to mission, and particularly to invite others to join me in a journey towards discovering fresh expressions of church in these turbulent times.

How can I help you? Well, a chat over coffee would be a great start. I am available to run workshops in conjunction with the Thrive Committee to help your Church Council and even the whole congregation explore opportunities for mission and I'd also be available to visit your church and preach, or participate in events where I can help promote the cause of Christ's mission to the world, and what that may look like in your particularly corner of the world.

Looking forward to catching up soon.

If you would like to see some of my videos and find out more about me, please check out www.inspirenewscast.com or go to my YouTube channel : https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxK7tWgjlPX2iSW-j_4cWng

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