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 **Profile of the minister**

**Rev. Dr. Dennis Muldoon** has been minister of the PCEA Sydney west congregation since 2002. Dennis grew up on a dairy farm near Taree, NSW, and attended the Manning River congregation of the PCEA before moving to Sydney for further studies. In Sydney he worshipped at a PCEA church in the CBD of Sydney, and also at St Barnabas Anglican Church in Broadway, a university church.

Dennis studied Agricultural Science at the University of Sydney, graduating B.Sc.Agr. in 1974. He continued on with doctoral studies at the University of Sydney graduating Ph.D. in 1978. Dennis took up a position as research agronomist in the NSW Department of Agriculture at Trangie in western NSW. He moved there with his wife Elizabeth and one child in 1978. Over the next five years he researched fodder crops and pastures, publishing a total of 25 papers, including material from his PhD Thesis.

While in Trangie, Dennis and Elizabeth had two more children. They attended a small church in Trangie, before joining a few other believers in establishing a Baptist church in the nearby town of Narromine. Dennis and Elizabeth felt called by the Lord to mission work in a developing country. They joined Interserve, a Christian mission organisation. In 1983 they left for India, where Dennis joined as lecturer at the Allahabad Agricultural Institute in Allahabad, North India. This Christian college is now known as SHUATS University. Dennis coordinated a training program for village leaders, a broad-based, intensive, ten- month program in Agriculture and Rural Development. He also taught a post-graduate course in Pasture Science, and conducted research into fast-growing, nitrogen-fixing trees.

While in India a fourth child was born to Dennis and Elizabeth. Their children joined as residential students at Woodstock Christian International School in their high school years. Prior to this they were home schooled. The family became involved in ministry on the University campus as members of EGF-UESI India. They also conducted a Sunday school ministry on campus, and in surrounding villages.

In 1996 Dennis and Elizabeth returned to Australia. Dennis was able to hand over to a local person who had joined the University and the rural leaders training program. The children joined schools and universities in Australia. Elizabeth, who had trained as a language teacher before marriage, starting teaching in a Sydney school. She went on to study a graduate diploma in TESOL and Bachelor of Primary Education Studies. While in India, Dennis completed a BD, graduating from Serampore College in 1997. He went on to complete a MA in Theology in 2004, shortly after being ordained and inducted into the PCEA church at Mt Druitt, Sydney, where he continues to serve the Lord. All four children are married with children, and attend church regularly.