

ASSEMBLY STRATEGIC PLAN 2020 – 2024



MISSION AND VALUES

TRANSFORMING LIVES. TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES.
HOPE – JUSTICE – COMPASSION – RESPECT – INTEGRITY – INNOVATION

COMMITMENTS

Affirming our faith in the Risen Crucified One, who constitutes, rules and renews the Church, we will live out our covenant as First and Second Peoples, our commitment to be an inter-cultural and inter-generational Church, our commitment to the mutuality and equality of women and men in ministry, valuing the participation and ministry of all the people of God, oriented towards justice, valuing scholarly enquiry and an informed faith, engaging constructively with ecumenical and inter-faith partners and providing a safe place for all people.

CONTEXT

Opportunities and challenges presented by:

- Continuing Ethnic and Religious Diversification of Australia.
- Continuing diversity of the UCA.
- The changing Christian landscape.
- The public profile of religion generally and Christianity in particular including the impact of several Royal Commissions; declining trust in institutions more broadly.
- The need to address requirements of risk, finances and sustainability.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Seek first the opportunity to enable fruitful collaboration before doing anything alone.
- Act as the glue which draws the National Church together.
- Ensure the identity and vision of the UCA is evident.

METHODOLOGY

- Listen - constantly attend to the external context and the inner life of the Church.
- Speak - constantly remind the Church of its vision and values.
- Collaborate - create roadmaps with other Councils and Church Members and use our distinct responsibilities to enable outcomes.
- Evaluate - measure and review effectiveness against vision and values.

FIVE STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

| <p>RESPOND TO THE CHURCH</p> <p>Respond to the ongoing needs of the whole Church and other Councils</p> | <p>IDENTITY</p> <p>Communicate a clear and concise message — who are we as the UCA and what is our distinct role in working toward the coming of the kingdom of God in Australia</p> | <p>INNOVATION</p> <p>Take risks, experiment and shape our church to respond to the needs of today and those of the future</p> | <p>INTER-GENERATIONAL</p> <p>Welcome, equip and hold together the different generations, in the life, Ministry, decision making and leadership of the church</p> | <p>INTER-CULTURAL</p> <p>Learn from and enable diverse cultural groups within the church to flourish together</p> |
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| <p>Respond to specific issues within areas of mandated responsibility</p> <p>Enact Decisions of the Assembly</p> <p>Standards for Ministries (Education and Reception)</p> <p>Maintain and Extend the Work of Circles of Interest</p> | <p>Find New Ways of Telling the UCA Story</p> <p>Continue Work on Practical Implications of the Covenant</p> <p>Address National Issues in Public Spaces for the Gospel</p> <p>With Synods, Implement the Safe Church Framework</p> | <p>Support networks and Councils of the Church exploring emerging expressions of the church</p> <p>Enable Collaboration on UnitingLearning Platform</p> <p>Address the structures and regulatory framework of the whole Church</p> <p>Develop Ways for Future Sustainability of Assembly</p> | <p>Develop Models for Growing Emerging Gen Faith/Leadership</p> <p>Develop an Intergen Ministry Framework</p> <p>Support and take part in National Youth Events as negotiated with Synods</p> <p>Partner with Congress in enabling Work with Emerging Generations</p> | <p>Engage National Conferences</p> <p>Develop A Vision for Intercultural Ministry</p> <p>Collate and Publicise Language Resources</p> <p>Support Engagement of Congress with National Conferences</p> |