



Uniting Church. **Uniting People.**

**Mission and Service Fund**

## **Fact Sheet: Mission and Service Fund Contributions**

The Mission and Service Fund provides vital funds for every aspect of our church's mission. Congregations make a significant contribution to the work of the wider church through allocating **10%** of their receipts to the Presbytery and Synod Mission and Service Fund.

The Uniting Church Presbytery and Synod of South Australia rely on Mission and Service contributions to ensure the continuing work of the wider church is maintained. Without these contributions from all congregations and faith communities the mission of the Uniting Church is restricted.

The Mission and Service Fund calculation is based on the previous year's **income** (not the net profit) less the following amounts:

- Funds received for forwarding on to another organisation e.g. Christmas Bowl, Lenten Appeal.
- GST refunds (if they have been received as income)
- Grant funds received from Grant in Aid or Uniting Foundation
- Funds raised for a specific purpose e.g. a fundraising evening for the upgrade of an organ
- Expenses relating to the maintenance of an income-producing property building can be deducted from the total rental income received e.g. \$1000 rental income received but repairs and maintenance totalled \$400, therefore the congregation would include \$600 as rental income in their Mission & Service Fund calculation.

Each November all congregations are requested to complete & submit a **Mission and Service Fund Response Form**, available at <http://sa.uca.org.au/mission-and-service-fund> to provide an indication of planned contributions for the next year.

Contributions can be paid via monthly Direct Debit method or by cheque. Direct debit is encouraged as this allows congregations to budget their monthly commitments more easily, and also contributes to more efficient processing within the Financial Services Team. Direct debits occur on the 25<sup>th</sup> monthly (or next working day).

Mission and Service Fund contributions from congregations are an expectation of the Uniting Church (Regulations, 3.8.6), after paying ministerial stipends and essential operating expenses. Congregations who are experiencing financial difficulties may apply for a variation for the Resources Board to consider.

For further information or advice on completing the Mission and Service Fund Response Form, please contact the Financial Services Team on 08 8236 4270 or email [finance@sa.uca.org.au](mailto:finance@sa.uca.org.au)