# **Presbytery & Synod SA Strategic Plan**

2014 - 2018

## TRUSTING RELATIONSHIPS

# **Key Direction 1:**

Build and deepen trusting relationships, in response to the gospel of Jesus the Christ.

- 1. communicate the resources, personnel, and governance processes of the ministry centers across the church.
- 2. establish a specific forum to encourage robust theological reflection through respectful conversation.
- 3. initiate quarterly gatherings of the Network reps to converse, share ideas, air concerns, cultivate understanding & build relationship.
- 4. encourage all members of the UCA to specifically initiate & foster personal friendships wider variety of (unlikely) people.

## **GIFTS & STRENGTHS OF THE UCA**

## **Key Direction 2:**

In gratitude, affirm and celebrate the signs of God working in the world through the gifts and strengths of the UCA in SA.

- 1. communicate in a range of mediums the stories of courage & risk-taking change in discipleship and mission.
- 2. champion & develop our growing multi/intercultural fabric & ministries.
- 3. participate in initiatives of justice & compassion in Australian society.
- 4. give thanks to God for those who have found hospitality, community, salvation, transformation over many years through the ministry of all parts of the Uniting Church SA.

# **FOUNDATIONAL VALUES & CORE ACTIVITIES**

#### **Key Direction 3:**

Remind, refresh and resource the whole church regarding our foundational values and core activities.

- 1. Discipleship:
  - foster life-long Christian discipleship marked by spiritual vitality, through radical practices, deeper biblical understanding, and sacrificial faith.
- 2. Evangelism:
  - proclaim the gospel clearly, contextually & prayerfully in today's world.
- 3. Every Member Ministry: engage & enable every member to actively serve in God's mission, building up the whole Church through our diverse gifts.
- 4. Worship:
  - develop congregational worship that enables a wider variety of people in our contemporary culture to encounter the divine.

# **KEY ISSUES SHAPING THE NEXT TEN YEARS**

#### **Key Direction 4:**

For the Presbytery, Synod and Ministry Centres to engage and resource the Church to address key issues that will shape the future of the church over the next ten years.

- 1. foster a theology and understanding of change & continuity in order to better enable the church to embrace our missional call into the future.
- 2. prepare for the regeneration of the church by exploring diverse models of church-planting.
- 3. develop the ability to discern the evolving social fabric and varied cultures of their local community.
- 4. maximise the resources of our asset-rich church to meet the mission & ministry opportunities of the 21st Century.
- 5. PSPT to focus its attention specifically on big-picture future-oriented matters, bringing recommendations to the Synod.