

Shaping the Future: Strategic Priorities for the Uniting Church Synod of SA 2021-2025

Guiding Principles:

*Covenant with 1st Peoples / Growth and renewal of the church / Innovative and courageous / Safe church / Creation care /
 Strength in diversity / Stewardship / Discipling*

Priorities	Regulated Roles & Responsibilities of the Synod	What will be different as a result of the plan?	Initial Steps	Priority Actions	KPIs/SMART Goals*	Evaluation
<p>1. Evangelism – “Explore the Faith. “ (Bring people to faith in Jesus; Explore new forms of worship (traditional and contemporary); training in worship leading and talking to non-churched;</p> <p>2. Create local connections “Love the People” (Partnerships, between neighbour churches, organisations, and community).</p>	<p>Mission of the Church</p> <p>Mission of the Church</p>	<p>Worship that is more appealing to newcomers. Lay people will feel more comfortable leading worship and talking their faith.</p> <p>Improved links and connections with neighbourhood and community groups, and other western UC's and ecumenical groups.</p>	<p>Encourage ‘buy in’ from the congregation. Training leaders and promoting.</p> <p>Liaise with groups and other churches.</p>	<p>Discussion with the Congregation. Setting timelines for exploration, trials and assessments.</p> <p>Create opportunity for neighbourhood and community interaction and action.</p>	<p>Lay leaders taking responsibility. Positive feedback.</p> <p>Information sessions well attended; initiatives in place; Contacts made and followed up.</p>	<p>Stepping stone assessments organised and deadlines met.</p> <p>All program feedback recorded and analysed.</p>

<p>3. Ethical Living “Caring for God’s Creation” (social responsibility, stewardship, caring for the planet. Justice)</p>	<p>Resources, Property and Enhancing Assets</p>	<p>Responsible use of resources; Green projects in the community. Awareness and support for marginal groups.</p>	<p>Information Sessions. Listening and speaking with marginal groups.</p>	<p>Develop herb gardens for the community. Education re environmentals. Marginal groups approached and contacts sourced.</p>	<p>Herb gardens established. Congregation aware of goals. Actions agreed with Marginal groups.</p>	<p>Level of involvement of both church and community. New relationships established.</p>
---	---	---	--	--	--	---

- KPIs – Key Performance Indicators
- *SMART – Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-based
(Version as at 24/3/2021)

Questions:

1. What will create excited passionate disciples who want to share our faith and take action for change in the world?
2. How do we partner together – creating connections and healing divisions?