



Tender Review of Missional Needs and Opportunities

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The Mission and Leadership Development (MLD) ministry centre of the Uniting Church in Australia, SA Synod invites proposals from individuals or organisations to conduct a major review identifying current missional needs and opportunities and to make recommendations of priorities and methods by which these might be best resourced by the MLD over the next 5-10 years, in order that the church might enter more fully into the mission of God.

The Basis of Union of the Uniting Church in Australia expresses that the purpose of the church is to participate in the mission of God. It describes the church as an instrument through which Christ may work and bear witness to himself, and promises, therefore, that Christ will renew the church. In response, the church 'prays that it may be ready when occasion demands to confess the Lord in fresh words and deeds'.

It is a time of change. The South Australian Synod has recently undergone a major restructure from one to three Presbyteries, which has had significant implications for where and how congregations seek resourcing. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a catalytic disruptor to traditional mission and ministry methods and modern life. A flux of cultural factors indicate the contexts to which we are called are changing at an increasing rate.

The mandate of the MLD ministry centre is to support the development of healthy missional churches, life-long disciples and effective leaders to bear witness to the good news of Jesus to the world.

This review will provide recommendations that are courageous and imaginative, yet realistic, pertaining to:

- 1. Missional priorities for the Synod in our new contexts
- 2. Creative options for how those priorities might be resourced by the MLD
- 3. Identification of factors that may pose a threat to their fulfilment.

The MLD currently consists of a tertiary college, Uniting College for Leadership and Theology (UCLT), and a Mission Resourcing (MR) team. UCLT is currently undergoing a significant renewal of its organisation and faculty. The MR team consists of eight staff positions, two of which are currently vacant. The purpose of the review is not to directly evaluate current team members. It will focus on the needs and opportunities that exist and make recommendations.

The review will furnish the MLD Board in such a way as to focus and prioritise, organising its structure and activities in a manner that will best enable it to fulfil its mandate over the next 5-10 years. It is envisaged that the process of review will involve wide consultation across the Synod and thorough research. The review is anticipated to take approximately 3 months, to be completed and submitted in written form no later than the **31st July 2023**.

Proposals are sought by 1st April 2023, including a budget and methodology.

Enquiries and submissions to Tim Hein
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