

Proposal 10

Synod Ecumenical Relations Committee and Review of Ecumenical Relationships

That the Synod of SA resolves to:

1. **NOTE** the report of the Synod Ecumenical Relations Committee (SERC).
2. **GIVE THANKS** for the faithful ministry, witness, and service of the members of the Synod Ecumenical Relations Committee, and acknowledge:
 - a. the importance of ecumenical relationships as part of the Church's participation in the mission of God;
 - b. the contribution of the Committee in fostering dialogue, partnership, prayer, and shared witness with other Christian communities;
 - c. the challenges presently faced by the Committee in membership, resourcing, and sustaining engagement across the life of the Synod.
3. In response to the report, **REQUEST** the Synod Standing Committee to undertake a review of ecumenical relationships, structures, and priorities within the Synod of South Australia, including:
 - a. the role and future of the Synod Ecumenical Relations Committee;
 - b. opportunities for strengthening ecumenical engagement across the councils and breadth of the church, i.e. across congregations, communities, regions, presbyteries and Synod;
 - c. possible new models for supporting ecumenical partnerships and shared mission;
 - d. recruitment, resourcing, and leadership support for ecumenical ministry.
4. **REQUEST** that the Synod Standing Committee consult with relevant bodies and partners during the review process, including ecumenical representatives, presbyteries, congregations, and partner churches.
5. **REQUEST** the Synod Standing Committee determine the future form of ecumenical engagement within the Synod of South Australia within twelve months, and report the new forms/structures back to the next meeting of Synod.

6. **AGREE** that the current Synod Ecumenical Relations Committee enter a period of recess while the Synod Standing Committee undertakes the discussions and review so named.

Proposers: Rev Philip Gardner

Rev Sue Page

Rationale

See **Report S5.9** from the Synod Ecumenical Relations Committee for details



The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia