

Proposal 9

Synod Strategic Plan 2026 – 2030

That the Synod of SA resolves to:

1. **ADOPT** the Synod Strategic Plan 2026 – 2030.
2. **REQUEST** congregations, presbyteries, boards, committees, and synod ministry centres put the Strategic Plan into action by developing and implementing SMART* goals.
3. **REQUEST** Synod Ministry Centres report on implementation of the Strategic Plan to Synod Standing Committee twice yearly.
4. **REQUEST** congregations and presbyteries, boards and committees report on implementation of the Strategic Plan annually.

* *SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timebound.*

Proposers: Rev Philip Gardner

Rev Andrew Robertson



The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia

Rationale

This Strategic Plan is designed to guide the shared work of the Synod over the next four years. It is not a detailed instruction manual, but a resource to support discernment, conversation, and decision-making across the life of the Church.

This plan is primarily intended to guide the work of the Synod—particularly in its roles of leadership, support, and resourcing. It speaks to Synod bodies, ministry centres, and decision-making groups as they consider priorities and allocate resources. At the same time, it is relevant to the wider Church. Congregations, presbyteries, and associated organisations may find in it a resource that supports their own discernment and mission planning.

Importantly, this plan does not encompass everything the Church does. Many faithful activities and ministries will continue beyond its scope. Rather than attempting to be comprehensive, it seeks to be focused — identifying key areas where intentional effort and collaboration can make a meaningful difference.

This is a moment of opportunity for the Synod. Building on past work and shaped by present realities, the Church is invited to renew its sense of purpose and direction.

We seek to hold together belief and action, reflection and practice, tradition and innovation in a stream running along a strong theological foundation in the Basis of Union. It also reminds us that theology is not separate from practice. The way we organise our life, use our resources, and relate to one another are all expressions of what we believe.

See Report S5.2 for the Synod Strategic Plan in detail



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