

Synod Ecumenical Relations Committee

Greetings in the name of our Lord:

What follows amounts to a request for directions for the future. The Committee has run fairly effectively for the past few years but in the last 12 months we have had a number of stumbling blocks which quite candidly have limited our effectiveness. We know that we must be a catalyst for ecumenical work but we find so many congregations flat out endeavouring to make a difference in their local communities. This is no bad thing in itself but it means that matters of an interchurch nature are put well down on their list of their priorities.

While personal relations on the committee are all that could be desired, the committee itself is not without its problems. Our Chair, has been unavailable so far in 2026 and we have missed her guidance. In addition, several resignations for the committee, one on health grounds, have left us a group of four. Clearly some recruitment is called for. We look to Synod for help in that respect.

There will be no ecumenical award this year.

Our major project was a display at Blackwood Uniting Church where we sought to graphically illustrate trends in social justice on the world stage. It was reasonably well attended. Since then, we have been at an impasse. We need help in recruitment. Alternatively, would Synod, in its wisdom, prefer to write a line under us and start afresh in whatever new form to which it may discern God calling to us.

Don Hopgood

Secretary, UCSERC

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The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia