

Synod '24



General Information for the 2024 Meeting of Synod

The meeting of the Synod of South Australia will be held:

Date: *Thursday 24 October to Saturday 26 October 2024*

Venue: *Adelaide West Uniting Church and Yarthu Apinhi
(312 Sir Donald Bradman Dr, Brooklyn Park SA)*

Membership

Membership of the Synod meeting is via appointment by your presbytery or a synod council or committee. Members of the church who are not members of Synod will be able view a live stream of parts of the meeting. Members of Synod, by registering to attend the meeting, give their permission to be live streamed.

Registration

Registration for the Synod meeting is a two step process.

1. **First**, all members attending are required to register **online** by **30 September 2024**. **Members have been sent a link to register via email.**
The information gathered from the online registration contributes to the effective management of the meeting, particularly with regard to catering.
2. The **second** step in the registration process is to check in **at the meeting** by **11:30am on Thursday 24 October**, when the membership roll of the meeting will be closed.

If you are not able to complete this two step registration process for any reason, please contact the Synod 2024 Event Manager, Sue Page at synod24@sa.uca.org.au as soon as possible to make arrangements to register at a later time.

Attendance

As we come together for the Synod meeting, we form the community of discernment that is the Synod meeting. As such, members are expected to attend every session of the Synod meeting, unless a medical or other urgent matter prevents you.

During our meeting, we will meet all together, in plenary, and be seated in theatre style. At specified times we will be gathering in designated working groups to consider identified proposals. These working groups

will be located around Adelaide West Uniting Church and Yarthu Apinthi (where Uniting College for Leadership and Theology is located).

If for any reason members are not able to attend in person, there is not an option to participate online. Only members in the room will be part of the Synod meeting decision making process.

Reports & Proposals

All general meeting information and proposals to be addressed will be available to download in the coming weeks from the meeting webpage: [UCA SA - Synod Meeting 2024](#)

If you are not able to download information from the internet, please contact us at synod24@sa.uca.org.au or 8236 4200 to request that papers be mailed to you. Members are encouraged to regularly check the website for reports and other information relating to the meeting. If there are any questions arising from a report, please email or talk to the report author prior to the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted using the Manual for meetings processes. These can be located at https://assembly.uca.org.au/images/stories/Regulations/Manual_for_meetings2015.pdf

Synod members may submit proposals for consideration by the Synod on any matter in the reports or the working papers, and on any matter that falls within Synod's responsibility.

Proposals are required to be submitted no later than 5pm Monday 2 September 2024.

New proposals should be sent to:

Sue Page assocgensec@sa.uca.org.au (or) GPO Box 2145, Adelaide SA 5001

This is to:

- Encourage members to think well ahead of time about the proposals they want to bring to the meeting
- Allow the wording of proposals to be refined so that they can be dealt with in the best way at the meeting
- Allow members time to reflect on the proposals and;
- Enable a realistic agenda to be created giving adequate time to all aspects of the meeting.

If you want to submit a proposal for consideration by Synod, please ensure that it is put in writing and includes the names of two (2) members of Synod, and has with it a paragraph of rationale.

A guide to writing a proposal can be found at [UCA SA - Synod Meeting 2024](#)

Further assistance in the structure and wording of new proposals will be offered so that the proposals can be dealt with as efficiently as possible by the meeting.

Report Electives

To encourage greater engagement, some reports will be presented in smaller groups as electives during the meeting of the synod. Details about choosing which report electives to attend will be sent to members in due course.

Working Groups

There will be times during our meeting when we will break into smaller working groups to discuss proposals. Each member of Synod will be randomly allocated a working group which will have an appointed co-ordinator.

Elections for Councils and Committees

There are vacancies occurring on some Synod Committees, Councils or Boards. Some of these are filled by appointment and some are filled by a nomination/election process. Further information about board and committee vacancies, along with nomination forms will be sent out in due course. With due attention to Synod by-laws, members of Synod are invited to submit nominations for vacant positions.

Please note that it is preferred that nominations are received by **5pm on Friday 11 October, however** nominations will formally close at **3.30 pm, Thursday 24 October 2024**.

Conducting of Ballots

The ballots will be conducted electronically via Survey Monkey. During the Synod meeting you will receive an email with a unique link to the surveys for these elections. Members only are entitled to participate in the ballot and only one vote is allowed per Synod member.

Each of the ballots will include instructions specific to that election and ballots will open and close at designated times.

Any questions about the process should be directed to Sue Page assocgensec@sa.uca.org.au
Votes will be counted by the Ballot team led by Chief Scrutineer, Mrs Anne Wilson.

Catering

Tea/coffee will be provided upon arrival, as well as complimentary morning and afternoon teas. A range of lunch options will be available for purchase on site. Further information about catering options will be provided soon.

Wifi, Power & Parking

Wi-Fi will be available.

Power will be available to connect and charge electronic devices.

Parking spaces for those with a disability are available. Please indicate on your registration if you require a reserved disability parking space.

Travel & Accommodation Reimbursement

The Synod travel and accommodation reimbursement guidelines and forms can be found [UCA SA - Synod Meeting 2024](#). These forms will also be available at the meeting.

Program

Information about the program and key issues coming before the meeting will be made available soon.

COVID-19 and other Respiratory Illnesses

We encourage members to still be mindful of COVID safe measures that help us all stay well from a number of respiratory illnesses. If you have any symptoms (even if mild) please do not attend this event.

Practice good hygiene – wash your hands often with soap and running water, for at least 20 seconds. Dry them with paper towel or a hand dryer. Alternatively use alcohol based hand sanitizer.

Prayer

An important part of the meeting of the Synod will be prayer. A prayer space will be set up at the meeting and details of a daily prayer meeting during our Synod meeting will be sent out closer to the time of our gathering. During our time together, the Moderator will regularly call the meeting to prayer. Please begin now to pray for the Synod meeting 2024.

No supervised facilities will be available for infants or children at this meeting, however, Adelaide West does have a creche room which is included in the bounds of the house.

Thank you for being prepared to serve God and the Church as a member of Synod 2024. Please continue to pray for one another and for our meeting together. If you have any concerns before or during the meeting please phone Sue Page on 0430 666 959.

Grace and Peace



Sue Page

Associate General Secretary Governance and Operations
Synod 2024 Event Manager