The Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania

ABN 39 703 442 583

For the year ended 31 December 2025

This financial report covers The Uniting Church in Australia - Synod of Victoria and Tasmania as an individual entity.

The Uniting Church in Australia - Synod of Victoria and Tasmania is a non-profit entity, created under The Uniting Church in Australia Act - Victoria No. 9021 and The Uniting Church in Australia Act - Tasmania No. 38

The Uniting Church in Australia - Synod of Victoria and Tasmania.

Level 2 & 3 130 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

A description of the nature of the Synod's operations and its principal activities is included in the Standing Committee report on page 2.

Contents

Organisation Particulars

Standing Committee:

Chairperson/Moderator

Rev. David Fotheringham (to September 2025)

Rev Salesi Faupula (from September 2025)

Managers:

General Secretary

Rev. Dr. Mark Lawrence

Secretariat

Associate General Secretary

Rev Sharon Hollis

Mission Resourcing Unit

Executive Officer

Mr. Sam Nicholas

Equipping Leadership for Mission

Executive Director

Rev. Duncan Macleod

Synod Office:

Level 2 & 3

130 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

Auditors:

HLB Mann Judd (VIC)
Partnership

Level 9

550 Bourke St

Melbourne VIC 3000

Bankers:

Westpac Banking Corporation

Melbourne Office

360 Collins St

Melbourne VIC 3000

Standing Committee Report

The Standing Committee presents their report together with the financial statements for The Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania (the "Synod") for the year ended 31 December 2025. The units of the Synod include:

- Secretariat
- Mission Resource Unit
- equipping Leadership for Mission
- Uniting Aboriginal and Islanders Christian Congresses in Victoria and Tasmania
- Bequests and trusts under the management of The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Victoria) and The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Tasmania).

Standing Committee Members

Lisa Carey	Jacob Westley	Alison Overeem (UAICC Tasmania)
Helen Geard AM	Lindsay Oates	Assoc Prof Paul Chandler
Cathie Halliwell	John Diprose OAM	Rev Salesi Faupula (Moderator)
Rev Ikani Vaitohi	Cam Shields	Rev David Fotheringham (Ex-Moderator)
Fiona Ensor	Rev Lucas Taylor	Rev Dr Mark Lawrence (Gen Sec)
Rev Anneke Oppewal	Damien Tann	Rev Heather Hon
Rev Will Pickett (UAICC Victoria appointee)	Elika Schaumke	

Principal Activities

The Synod's principal activity is to have general oversight, direction and administration of the Uniting Church's worship witness and service within its bounds.

There have been no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

Review of Operations

In summary, the operating result for the year is a surplus of $21.93m which compares to a surplus of $49.39m in 2024. Major contributing items to the 2025 surplus were:

- Investment income of $37.52m (2024: $30.31m) from investment in U Ethical Australian Equities Trust, U Ethical Diversified Income Trust, U Ethical Cash Management Trust and U Ethical Enhanced Income Trust.
- Proceeds from the sale of Church properties $17.06m (2024: $11.6m).
- An unrealised loss of $9.46m (2024: $27.29m unrealised gain) relating to fair value decrease of investments in U Ethical Australian Equities Trust. Though full year returns were strong, the financial market appeared weak around year end due to adjusted expectations of RBA rates cuts and weak performance in healthcare sector. This impact is also reflected in the value of the investments held on balance sheet.

Review of Financial Position

- The overall net asset position of Synod increased to $539.40m (2025) from $517.47m (2024). Most of the Synod's assets are held in investments in U Ethical Australian Equities Trust, U Ethical Diversified Income Trust, U Ethical Cash Management Trust and U Ethical Enhanced Income Trust.

Auditors Independence Declaration

A copy of the Auditor's independence Declaration as required under s 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 is included in page 4 of this financial report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Standing Committee.

Rev Salesi Faupula	Rev. Dr. Mark Lawrence
Standing Committee Chairperson/Moderator	General Secretary

Melbourne

Dated this 13th day of June 2026

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

We declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit of the financial report of The Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania for the year ended 31 December 2025.

HLB Mann Judd

HLB Mann Judd
Chartered Accountants

Mark Peters
Partner

Melbourne
24 June 2026

hlb.com.au

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Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2025	Notes	2025	2024
Revenue		**$'000**	**$'000**
Mission & service giving		2,549	2,667
Grants		842	614
Gifts, donations & bequests		2,959	3,934
Sales, fees & tariffs	4	16,358	14,659
		22,708	**21,874**
Other income			
Net proceeds from insurance activities		(532)	(509)
Investment income		37,515	30,309
Proceeds from the sale of Church properties		17,057	11,595
Other income	5	2,807	2,993
		56,847	**44,388**
Total income		**79,555**	**66,262**
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense		18,280	17,831
Depreciation and amortisation expense		3,100	3,378
Grants expense		15,391	15,484
Cost of goods sold		4,038	520
Consulting and legal fee expense		1,110	1,976
Repairs, maintenance and property expenses		3,259	3,014
Internet, security and services		1,090	1,810
Other expenses	6	1,926	2,234
Borrowing costs		472	520
Total expenses		**48,666**	**46,767**
Operating profit		**30,889**	**19,495**
Gain / (loss) on sale of other properties		(177)	1,829
Increment / (decrement) of fair value of financial assets		(9,458)	27,292
Profit / (loss) for the year		**21,254**	**48,616**
Other comprehensive income		**-**	**-**
Total comprehensive income for the year		**21,254**	**48,616**
Net result from discontinued operations	25	678	770
Net result for the periods		**21,932**	**49,386**

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2025	Notes	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Assets			
Current			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	3,756	1,038
Trade and other receivables	8	6,870	12,013
Inventories	9	5,395	174
Investments	10	177,817	162,681
Other current assets	12	1,098	1,525
Assets held for sale	25	1,608	1,608
Current assets		**196,544**	**179,039**
Non-current			
Investments	11	385,592	367,165
Trade and other receivables	13	6,063	8,403
Property, plant and equipment	14	19,663	19,999
Intangible assets	15	46	120
Right-of-use assets	16.1	13,938	16,083
Non-current assets		**425,302**	**411,770**
Total assets		**621,846**	**590,809**
Liabilities			
Current			
Trade and other payables	17	6,467	10,043
Employee provisions	18	7,339	7,206
Other provision	19	7,343	5,870
Lease liability	16.2	2,105	1,968
Other liabilities	20	44,575	31,450
Current liabilities		**67,829**	**56,537**
Non-current			
Other liabilities	20	241	322
Employee provisions	18	48	48
Lease liability	16.2	14,327	16,433
Non-current liabilities		**14,616**	**16,803**
Total liabilities		**82,445**	**73,340**
Net assets		**539,401**	**517,469**
Equity			
Synod Funds	21	539,401	517,469
Total equity		**539,401**	**517,469**

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statement

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 31 December 2025	Notes	Synod Funds	Total equity
		$'000	$'000
Balance at 1 January 2024		**468,083**	**468,083**
Surplus for the year		49,386	49,386
Total comprehensive income for the year		**49,386**	**49,386**
Balance at 31 December 2024	21	**517,469**	**517,469**
Balance at 1 January 2025		**517,469**	**517,469**
Surplus for the year		21,932	21,932
Total comprehensive income for the year		**21,932**	**21,932**
Balance at 31 December 2025	21	**539,401**	**539,401**

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2025	Notes	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Operating services			
Receipts from presbytery/congregation contributions		2,549	2,667
Receipts from operations and activities		29,975	27,998
Payment of grants to organisations and individuals		(15,392)	(15,498)
Payments to suppliers and employees		(42,489)	(30,059)
Interest received		37,515	30,309
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		**12,158**	**15,417**
Investing activities			
Payment for property, plant and equipment	14	(701)	(1,458)
Payment for intangible assets	15	(33)	(2)
Payments for investments		(183,860)	(157,851)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	3,262
Proceeds from sale of investments		143,179	131,322
Proceeds from sale of discontinued operations		678	1,109
Proceeds from sale of Church properties		17,057	11,595
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		**(23,680)**	**(12,023)**
Financing activities			
Funds received from / (advanced to) related parties		1,149	(2,327)
Proceeds from / (payment of) loan advances		(81)	(266)
Inflow / (outflow) of funds held in trust		15,140	(783)
Repayment of lease liability		(1,968)	(1,838)
Net cash from / (used in) financing activities		**14,240**	**(5,214)**
Net change in cash and cash equivalents		2,718	(1,820)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year		1,038	2,858
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	7	**3,756**	**1,038**

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 General Information and statement of compliance

This financial report is a general purpose financial report and has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards-Simplified Disclosures made by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012. All amounts are stated in Australian Dollars, which is the functional and presentational currency of the Synod. Amounts are presented to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise stated.

This report is prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets which, as noted, are at fair value. Unless otherwise stated the accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

The financial statements comprise the following operations controlled by the Synod:

- Secretariat
- Mission Resourcing Unit (Formerly Department of Administration and Finance)
- The Synod's equipping Leadership for Mission (Formerly Commission for Mission, Centre for Theology & Ministry and Camping)
- The results for Uniting Aboriginal and Islander and Christian Congresses in Victoria and Tasmania
- Bequests and trusts under the management of The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Victoria) and The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Tasmania)

Control has been determined to exist on the basis that the Synod has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of those operations and is exposed to variable returns.

The financial statements include all controlled operations from the date the control commences until the date that control ceases.

All balances and transactions from activities within the operations the Synod controls have been eliminated.

The financial report does not include the operations of the following entities for which the Synod does not have direct control or is not exposed to variable returns.

- Uniting Ethical Investors Limited
- Uniting AgeWell Limited
- Uniting Church Congregations and Presbyteries
- Uniting Church Schools and University Colleges
- Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) Limited
- Uniting Church Parish Missions
- Epworth Hospital
- Uniting Housing

Where appropriate, comparative information has been restated or reclassified to ensure comparability with the current reporting period.

The financial report was approved by the Standing Committee as at 13th June 2026.

2 Changes in accounting policies

2.1 New standards adopted as at 1 January 2025

Synod has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

The adoption of these new or amended Standards and Interpretations did not have any impact on the amounts recognised in the current period and is not expected to significantly affect future periods.

Other accounting pronouncements which have become effective from 1 January 2025 and have therefore been adopted do not have a significant impact on Synod's financial results or position.

2.2 Standards that are not effective and have not been early adopted

Certain new and revised accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 31 December 2025 reporting period. The Synod does not plan to adopt the standards early. Standards are not expected to have a material impact on the transactions and balances recognised in the financial statements.

3 Summary of accounting policies

3.1 Revenue and other income

The Synod recognises revenue and other income as follows:

Sale of merchandise

Revenue from sale of goods is recognised at the amount that reflects the consideration to which the Synod is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods.

Government grant income without sufficiently specific and enforceable performance obligations

Government grant funds received by the Synod that do not have sufficiently specific and enforceable performance obligations are recognised as income on receipt of the funds.

Government grant revenue with sufficiently specific and enforceable performance obligations

Government grant funds received by the Synod that have sufficiently specific and enforceable performance obligations, in accordance with AASB 15, are recognised as a contract liability on receipt and are recognised as revenue as the Synod satisfies its performance obligations.

Sales, fees & tariffs

Fees charged for care or services provided to clients are recognised when and as the care or service is provided. Rendering of fees and tariffs revenue is recognised over time on the basis that the Synod's performance does not create an asset with an alternative use to the Synod and the Synod has an enforceable right to payment for performance completed to date.

Gifts donations and bequests

Gifts and donations income is recognised when the Synod gains control of the funds and are recognised as income when the funds have been provided to further the Synod's objectives for no consideration and when the funds provided do not give rise to a sufficiently specific performance obligation.

Bequests are recognised when the legacy is received. Revenue from legacies comprising bequests of shares or other property, are recognised at fair value, being the market value of the shares or property at the date the Synod becomes legally entitled to the shares or property.

Interest and investment income

Interest income is recognised on an accrual basis using the effective interest method. Investment income is recognised at the time the right to receive payment is established.

Mission and service giving

The Synod accrues mission & service giving by congregations relating to the reporting period which are received after year end and before the books of account are closed.

Proceeds from sale of Church property

Income for the Synod's share of proceeds of congregational property is recognised according to the application of Property Sale Proceeds policy.

This policy applies a tiered application of sharing between the congregation and the wider Church (the Synod). Funds are recognised after settlement provided no exemptions apply.

Insurance activities

Net proceeds from insurance activities are recognised on the basis of insurance premiums income net of premiums paid to insurers. Income is recognised when the right to receive the insurance premium has been established and there are no other performance obligations.

All income is stated net of the amount of Goods and Service Tax (GST).

Other revenue

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

Proceeds on Sale - Synod property developments

Revenue from proceeds of sale of Synod property developments is recognised when a contract with a customer exists and collection is probable. Indicators include; enforceability, significant financing components, and consideration of variable elements (rebates, incentives, liquidated damages).

Sale of an individual lot or unit is a single performance obligation to transfer control of a completed property to the customer. Revenue is recognised at settlement when legal title passes and the customer obtains control. Indicators of control include transfer of legal title/possession, transfer of significant risks and rewards, present right to payment, and customer acceptance.

3.2 Cost of goods sold (COGS)

On revenue recognition of Synod property developments, the carrying amount of the related inventory is derecognised to COGS on a specific identification basis (the sold lot/unit). Any related capitalised borrowing costs cease and are included in inventory cost.

3.3 Operating expenses

Operating expenses are recognised in profit or loss upon utilisation of the service or at the date of their origin.

3.4 Intangible assets

Recognition of intangible assets

Data warehouse is capitalised only if the expenditure can be measured reliably, the product or process is technically and commercially feasible, future economic benefits are probable and the Synod intends to, and has sufficient resources to, complete development and to use or sell the asset. Otherwise, it is recognised in profit or loss as incurred.

Subsequent measurement

All intangible assets are accounted for using the cost model whereby capitalised costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, as these assets are considered finite. Residual values and useful lives are reviewed at each reporting date. In addition, they are subject to impairment testing as described in Note 3.8. The following useful lives are applied:

- Data Warehouse: 4 years

Amortisation has been included within depreciation and amortisation.

Subsequent expenditures on the maintenance of data warehouse are expensed as incurred.

When an intangible asset is disposed of, the gain or loss on disposal is determined as the difference between the proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in profit or loss within other income or other expenses.

3.5 Property, plant and equipment

Land

Land is measured at cost less any impairment losses.

As no finite useful life for land can be determined, related carrying amounts are not depreciated.

Buildings, plant and other equipment

Buildings, plant and other equipment are initially recognised at acquisition cost, including any costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to the location and condition necessary for them to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the Synod.

Buildings, plant and other equipment are subsequently measured using the cost model, cost less subsequent depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis to write down the cost less estimated residual value of buildings, plant and other equipment. The following useful lives are applied:

- Buildings: 50 years
- Infrastructure: 20 - 50 years
- Equipment, fixture & fittings: 5 - 20 years
- Computer equipment: 3 - 5 years
- Motor vehicles: 4 - 10 years
- Artwork: infinite

Material residual value estimates and estimates of useful life are updated as required, but at least annually.

Gains or losses arising on the disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined as the difference between the disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the assets and are recognised in profit or loss within other income or other expenses.

3.6 Leased assets

Synod as lessee

Synod makes use of leasing arrangements principally for the provision of office space, IT equipment and motor vehicles.

Synod assesses whether a contract is or contains a lease at inception of the contract. A lease conveys the right to direct the use and obtain substantially all of the economic benefits of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

Measurement and recognition of leases as a lessee

At lease commencement date, Synod recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability in its statement of financial position. The right-of-use asset is measured at cost, which is made up of the initial measurement of the lease liability, any initial direct costs incurred by Synod, an estimate of any costs to dismantle and remove the asset at the end of the lease, and any lease payments made in advance of the lease commencement date (net of any incentives received).

Synod depreciates the right-of-use asset on a straight-line basis from the lease commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. Synod also assesses the right-of-use asset for impairment when such indicators exist.

At the commencement date, Synod measures the lease liability at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at that date, discounted using Synod's incremental borrowing rate because as the lease contracts are negotiated with third parties, it is not possible to determine the interest rate that is implicit in the lease. The incremental borrowing rate is the estimated rate that Synod would have to pay to borrow the same amount over a similar term, and with similar security to obtain an asset of equivalent value. This rate is adjusted should the lessee entity have a different risk profile to that of Synod.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are made up of fixed payments, variable payments based on a rate, amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee and payments arising from options reasonably certain to be exercised.

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced by lease payments that are allocated between repayments of principal and finance costs. The finance cost is the amount that produces a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the lease liability.

Synod as lessor

As a lessor Synod classifies its leases as either operating or finance leases.

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the underlying asset and is classified as an operating lease if it does not.

Synod classifies the sublet of office space and lease of land and properties of Narana as operating leases.

3.7 Property settlement in trust

Property settlements in trust represent sale proceeds received from the sale of church property where a decision on the distribution of proceeds is yet to be determined, or the settlement is incomplete.

3.8 Impairment of assets

Assets subject to annual depreciation or amortisation are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances arise that indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may be impaired. An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For a not-for-profit entity, value in use is determined based on the depreciated replacement cost of the asset.

Assets with indefinite life are tested annually for impairment.

3.9 Financial instruments

Recognition, initial measurement and derecognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Synod becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument and are measured initially at fair value adjusted by transaction costs, except for those carried at fair value through profit or loss, which are measured initially at fair value. Subsequent measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities is described below.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and all substantial risks and rewards are transferred. A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled or expires.

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets

Except for those trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component and are measured at the transaction price, all financial assets are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs (where applicable).

For the purpose of subsequent measurement, financial assets are classified into the following categories upon initial recognition:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL)

Classifications are determined by both:

- Synod's business model for managing the financial asset
- The contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets

All income and expenses relating to financial assets that are recognised in profit or loss are presented within finance costs, finance income or other financial items, except for impairment of trade receivables, which is presented within other expenses.

Subsequent measurement financial assets

Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets are measured at amortised cost if the assets meet the following conditions (and are not designated as FVPL):

- they are held within a business model whose objective is to hold the financial assets and collect its contractual cash flows
- the contractual terms of the financial assets give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding

After initial recognition, these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Synod's cash and cash equivalents, trade and most other receivables fall into this category of financial instruments.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL)

Financial assets that are held within a different business model other than 'hold to collect' or 'hold to collect and sell' are categorised at fair value through profit and loss. Further, irrespective of business model, financial assets whose contractual cash flows are not solely payments of principal and interest are accounted for at FVPL. Funds invested in U Ethical Diversified Income Trust, U Ethical Enhanced Cash Trust, U Ethical Growth Portfolio and U Ethical Australian Equities fall into this category.

Impairment of Financial assets

AASB 9's impairment requirements use more forward-looking information to recognise expected credit losses - the 'expected credit losses (ECL) model'. Instruments within the scope of the requirements include loans and other debt-type financial assets measured at amortised cost and trade receivables that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The Synod considers a broader range of information when assessing credit risk and measuring expected credit losses, including past events, current conditions, reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the expected collectability of the future cash flows of the instrument.

In applying this forward-looking approach, a distinction is made between:

- financial instruments that have not deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition or that have low credit risk ('Stage 1'); and
- financial instruments that have deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition and whose credit risk is not low ('Stage 2').

'Stage 3' would cover financial assets that have objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date.

'12-month expected credit losses' are recognised for the first category while 'lifetime expected credit losses' are recognised for the second category.

Measurement of the expected credit losses is determined by a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of the financial instrument.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less allowance for credit losses.

The collectability of the trade and other receivables are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Individual debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off when identified. The Synod recognises an allowance for credit losses based upon anticipated lifetime losses of trade receivables. The anticipated lifetime losses are determined with reference to historical experience and are regularly reviewed and updated.

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities

The Synod's financial liabilities include borrowings and trade and other payables.

Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, and, where applicable, adjusted for transaction costs.

Subsequently, financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

All interest-related charges are reported in profit or loss are included within finance costs or finance income.

3.10 Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Costs are assigned on a first-in first-out basis for stationery stock and on an average cost basis for other inventories.

Inventories - Project

Costs of Inventories - Project include:

- Land acquisition costs (purchase price, stamp duty, legal fees, due diligence) are recognised as inventory when incurred and when control of the land passes to the entity.
- Planning and development costs (feasibility, design, consultants, planning approvals, permits) are capitalised to development WIP when incurred if directly attributable to preparing the land/units for sale.
- Construction costs (materials, labour, subcontractors, siteworks, project management) are capitalised to development WIP when incurred.
- Site overheads that are directly attributable to bringing the inventory to its present location and condition are capitalised (e.g., site establishment, site offices, site utilities, project insurance).
- General administrative overheads and selling/marketing costs are expensed as incurred unless they are necessary to bring the inventory to its present location and condition.

Inventory carried at lower of cost and Net Realisable Value (NRV). NRV is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less estimated costs of completion and costs necessary to make the sale. NRV testing performed at each reporting date using current market evidence: expected selling price less costs to complete and selling costs. Recognise write-downs (and any permitted reversals) in profit or loss.

3.11 Tax exemption

The Synod is exempt from payment of income tax under Section 50-5 of the Australian Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

3.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of cash on hand, working capital cash account.

3.13 Insurance fund operations

Insurance Fund Operations, as included in Synod Funds and Reserves, arranges the following major insurance covers for the Church in Victoria and Tasmania:

- Property (Industrial Special Risks)
- Public and Products Liability
- Professional Indemnity
- Fidelity
- Directors/Officers/Employment practices liability
- WorkCover

The Synod carries a significant level of self-insurance (deductibles). The deductibles are funded by the Insurance Reserve as designated by Synod in Synod funds, refer to Note 21.

3.14 Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are benefits, other than termination benefits, that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service. Examples of such benefits include wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits and accumulating sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Long-term employee benefits

Long-term employee benefits are the employee benefits arising from annual leave and long service leave which are not to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees rendered the related service. The benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. The expected future payments include anticipated future salary inflation, experience of employee departures, periods of service, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the timing of the estimated future cash outflows.

3.15 Project receivables

Project receivables are amounts to be collected by the Synod, which resulted from funds provided by the Synod to assist with property projects.

The property projects relate to funds provided to congregations to assist with the development of the congregations' properties, and the amounts will be returned to the Synod upon successful development of the properties.

3.16 Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST components of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

3.17 Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, which management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

Allowance for credit losses

The allowance for credit losses assessment requires a degree of estimation and judgement. The level of provision is assessed by taking into account the ageing of receivables, historical collection rates and specific knowledge of the individual parties' financial position.

Estimation of useful lives of assets

The Synod determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

Impairment of non-financial assets

The Synod assesses impairment of non-financial assets at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Synod and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. This involves fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use calculations, which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions.

Employee benefits provision

The liability for employee benefits expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date are recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

Basis of consolidation for accounting purposes

Judgement has been exercised in determining which entities the Synod has control over and thus are included in the consolidation for accounting purposes.

The entities that are not deemed to be controlled entities of the Synod for the purposes of consolidation in the financial statements are disclosed in note 1 of the financial statements. Whilst the Synod provides limited general oversight, direction and administration, operational management responsibility and control rests with the individual entities. The Standing Committee has applied judgement and determined that the Synod does not control the above-mentioned entities.

CSA provisions

The Synod assesses the risk exposure to CSA claims and estimates the monetary value of claims. This can include actuarial methods, statistical analysis, expert judgment and historical experience. Synod factors in uncertainties and potential future claims. Accordingly, the provision should not be interpreted as an indication of the ultimate costs of resolving all CSA claims.

3.18 Discontinued operations

During 2023, the Synod Standing Committee resolved to conclude UC Camping operations and approve the sale of all UC Camping sites. Norval and Camp Acacia (in Halls Gap), Adekate Lodge (near Creswick), Grantville Lodge and Merricks Lodge. UC Camping's full operations, land and buildings were put out to tender. With the exception of Camp Acacia, all other camp sites were sold during 2023. In 2024, Camp Acacia was sold for $1,109,000.

In 2024 the Wathaurong Co-Op indicated its interest in acquiring Narana Creations as an ongoing cultural centre in the Geelong district and beyond. This acquisition was complete in October 2024, and settlement will be in five years.

Synod recognised the sale of these camp sites and Narana operations as discontinued operations and follows AASB 5 for presentation and disclosure requirements:

(a) single amount in the statement of comprehensive income comprising the total of:

(i) the profit or loss of discontinued operations; and

(ii) the gain or loss recognised on the measurement to fair value less costs to sell or on the disposal of the assets.

(b) an analysis of the single amount in (a) into:

(i) the revenue, expenses and pre-tax profit or loss of discontinued operations; and

(ii) the gain or loss recognised on the measurement to fair value less costs to sell or on the disposal of the assets or disposal group(s) constituting the discontinued operation.

(c) the net cash flows attributable to the operating, investing and financing activities of discontinued operations.

As at 31 December 2024, the land, buildings and properties of Narana were reclassified as held for sale assets at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

The residential property located at Grovedale that was part of Narana's operations settled in 2025 for $678,000.

4 Revenue from contracts with customers

Sales, fees and tariffs are summarized as follows:

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Major service lines		
Institutional contribution	4,857	3,975
Sales of merchandise	199	416
Professional services	6,333	10,268
Proceeds on Sale - Synod property developments	4,969	-
	16,358	**14,659**
Timing of revenue recognition		
Products transferred at a point in time	5,168	416
Products and services transferred over time	11,190	14,243
	16,358	**14,659**

5 Other income

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Other income		
Rent	2,661	2,044
Other	146	949
	2,807	**2,993**

6 Other expenses

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Other expenses		
Motor vehicle and travelling expense	371	382
Postage, telephone, printing and stationery expense	932	964
Other expenses	623	888
	1,926	**2,234**

7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following:

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Cash at bank and on hand	3,756	1,038
Cash and cash equivalents	**3,756**	**1,038**

The deposits are bearing 2.9% to 3.65% p.a. return on Westpac trading account. (2024:3.65%).

8 Current assets – receivables

Trade and other receivables consist of the following:

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Current		
Trade receivables, gross	1,353	5,912
Allowance for expected credit losses	(200)	(456)
	1,153	**5,456**
Accrued income	2,035	2,112
Other receivables	3,682	4,445
	6,870	**12,013**

The carrying amounts disclosed above are the Synod's maximum possible credit risk exposure in relation to these instruments.

The movement in the allowance for credit losses can be reconciled as follows:

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Reconciliation of allowance for credit losses		
Balance 1 January	456	289
Debt recovered	(12)	(7)
Adjustment of allowance for expected credit losses	(244)	174
Balance 31 December	**200**	**456**

9 Inventory

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Project development	5,394	-
Stock	1	174
	5,395	**174**

10 Current assets - investments

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
Investments in U Ethical Cash Management Trust	66,636	52,612
Investments in U Ethical Enhanced Income Trust	19,122	71,841
Investments in U Ethical Diversified Income Trust	92,059	38,228
	177,817	**162,681**

11 Non-current assets – investments

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
Investments in U Ethical Australian Equities Trust	385,592	367,165
	385,592	**367,165**

12 Current assets - other

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Current assets – other		
Prepayments	1,098	1,525
	1,098	**1,525**

13 Non-current assets – receivables

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Interest bearing		
Loans to ministers, students and Church Institutions - unsecured (a)	4	9
Non-interest bearing		
Loans to ministers, students and Church Institutions - unsecured	267	238
Project receivables - unsecured	5,792	8,156
	6,063	**8,403**

(a) Loans to ministers and students - These loans are provided to assist with purchase of motor vehicles, houses or to assist while students undertake education at Centre for Theology and Ministry. Interest rates vary between 1.6% and 4.3% depending on the type of loan. Loan terms are between 3 and 10 years.

14 Property, plant and equipment

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Land and buildings		
Land		
At cost	7,912	7,912
	7,912	**7,912**
Building		
At cost	14,153	14,061
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(4,640)	(4,360)
	9,513	**9,701**
Total Land and Buildings	**17,425**	**17,613**
Plant and equipment		
Infrastructure		
At cost	1,939	1,939
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,313)	(1,242)
	626	**697**
Equipment, Fixture & Fittings		
At cost	2,897	2,577
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,965)	(1,836)
	932	**741**
Computer equipment		
At cost	2,689	4,461
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(2,179)	(3,527)
	510	**934**
Capital Work in Progress		
At cost	170	14
	170	**14**
Total Plant and Equipment	**2,238**	**2,386**
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	**19,663**	**19,999**

Asset Category – 2025	Balance at 1 Jan 2025	Additions	Disposals	Depreciation	Transfer	Balance at 31 Dec 2025
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Land	**7,912**	-	-	-	-	**7,912**
Building	**9,701**	90	-	(283)	5	**9,513**
Infrastructure	**697**	-	-	(71)	-	**626**
Equipment, Fixture & Fittings	**741**	323	(1)	(131)	-	**932**
Computer equipment	**934**	118	(129)	(408)	(5)	**510**
Capital WIP	**14**	170	(14)	-	-	**170**
Total	**19,999**	**701**	**(144)**	**(893)**	**-**	**19,663**

Asset Category – 2024	Balance at 1 Jan 2024	Additions	Disposals	Depreciation	Transfer	Balance at 31 Dec 2024
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Land	**9,092**	451	(1,145)	-	(486)	**7,912**
Building	**10,945**	331	(136)	(322)	(1,117)	**9,701**
Infrastructure	**796**	-	(26)	(68)	(5)	**697**
Equipment, Fixture & Fittings	**632**	250	(23)	(118)	-	**741**
Computer equipment	**1,161**	412	-	(639)	-	**934**
Motor Vehicles	**19**	-	(15)	(4)	-	**-**
Artwork	**3**	-	(3)	-	-	**-**
Capital WIP	**-**	14	-	-	-	**14**
Total	**22,648**	**1,458**	**(1,348)**	**(1,151)**	**(1,608)**	**19,999**

15 Intangible assets

Detail of the Synod's other intangible assets and their carrying amounts are as follows:

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Data Warehouse	**46**	**120**

Balance 1 January	120	248
Additions	33	2
Amortisation	(62)	(130)
Disposal	(45)	-
Balance 31 December	**46**	**120**

16 Leases

16.1 Right-of-use assets

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Office spaces	**13,939**	**16,083**

Balance 1 January	16,083	18,227
Additions	-	-
Disposal	-	-
Depreciation	(2,145)	(2,144)
Balance 31 December	**13,938**	**16,083**

16.2 Lease Liability

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Current	2,105	1,968
Non-current	14,327	16,433
Total lease liability	**16,432**	**18,401**

The Synod has signed a 12-year lease agreement with Charter Hall Wholesale Management Limited for office spaces. The lease agreement includes 8 extension options, each for a further 5 years. The lease contract commenced in July 2020. At the end of 2025, the Synod is uncertain about exercising the extension options at the end of the lease term.

Future minimum lease payments at 31 December 2025 were as follows:

	Minimum lease payments due						
	Within 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	After 5 years	Total
31 December 2025	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
Lease payments	2,520	2,607	2,694	2,784	2,879	4,497	**17,981**
Finance charges	(415)	(357)	(295)	(229)	(158)	(95)	**(1,549)**
Net present values	**2,105**	**2,250**	**2,399**	**2,555**	**2,721**	**4,402**	**16,432**

17 Current liabilities - trade and other payables

Trade and other payables recognised consist of the following:

	2025	2024
	$'000	$'000
Trade payables	3,152	2,293
Other creditors and accruals	3,164	7,066
Insurance claims outstanding	151	684
Total trade and other payables	**6,467**	**10,043**

All above liabilities are short-term. The carrying values are considered to be a reasonable approximation fair value.

18 Employee provisions

	2025	2024
	$'000	$'000
Current provisions		
Ministers' benefits	4,934	4,837
Employee benefits – AL	1,318	1,347
Employee benefits - LSL	1,087	1,022
	7,339	**7,206**
Non-Current provisions		
Employee benefits - LSL	48	48
	48	**48**

19 Other provisions

A reconciliation of each class of other provision is provided below:

	IBNR (i)	CSA/Forced adoption (ii)	Total
Balance at 1 January 2025	**1,370**	**4,500**	**5,870**
Provision made during the year	150	2,345	2,495
Provision used during the year	(53)	(845)	(898)
Provision reversed during the year	(124)	-	(124)
Balance 31 December 2025	**1,343**	**6,000**	**7,343**

i) IBNR - insurance claims incurred but not reported (IBNR).

ii) CSA/Forced adoption – insurance claims related to CSA and forced adoption.

20 Other liabilities

Other liabilities can be summarised as follows:

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Other liabilities – current		
Property settlements in trust	43,840	28,700
Income received in advance (contract liability)	735	2,750
	44,575	**31,450**
Other Liabilities- non-current		
Income received in advance	179	199
Contract liabilities	62	123
	241	**322**

The contract liabilities are raised from the contract between Synod and The Australian Province of the Society of Jesus (Society) in 2021 in regards to operation and management of Dalton McCaughey Library (DML). Synod manages the operations of DML utilising DML's existing net assets and provides Society access to the theological resources in DML. The balance of DML's net assets, other than gifted paintings and research collections, are recorded as a contract liability which enables Synod to fulfil the performance obligations of the contract in the future.

21 Synod funds and reserves

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Synod Funds		
Not designated (i)	154,158	136,373
Designated by the Synod (ii)	214,706	174,560
Specified by trust/bequest (iii)	170,537	206,536
Total funds	**539,401**	**517,469**

i) Not Designated – These reserves include; Unearmarked Synod Funds which are unrestricted in their use, Bequests received for the Uniting Church in Australia with no restrictions as to their use or investment, and the Mission Support Funds which include some property sales proceeds held on behalf of congregations whilst in discernment.

ii) Designated by the Synod – These reserves are for a specific purpose as decided by the Synod or a decision of a Commission or Board of the Synod.

iii) Specified by Trust/Bequest – These are reserves where the purpose is decided by a bequest or a trust. They are given for a specific purpose and the capital may need to be invested in perpetuity. Trust funds include donations received for specific appeals (including the Share Community Appeal).

22 Related party transactions

Standing committee members are appointed at each ordinary Synod meeting on a rotating basis.

The members listed below were appointed at the Synod meeting held in either 2023 or 2025 for a term up to the next Synod meeting.

Members of standing committee

The members listed below were appointed at the Synod meeting held in 2025 for a term up to 2029 Synod meeting.		
Lisa Carey	Rev Fiona Morrison	Helen Geard
Rev Heather Hon	Elika Schaumkel	Damien Tann
The members listed below were appointed at the Synod meeting held in 2023 for a term up to 2027 Synod meeting.		
Fiona Ensor	Cathie Halliwell	Rev Anneke Oppewal
Cam Shields	Rev Lucas Taylor	Assoc Prof Paul Chandler
The ex-officio members are listed below.		
Rev David Fotheringham (Ex-Moderator)	Alison Overeem (UAICC Tasmania)	Rev Dr Mark Lawrence (Gen Sec)
Rev Salesi Faupula (Ex-officio as Moderator)	Rev Will Pickett (UAICC Victoria)	
The following members ended their terms at the 30 August 2025 Synod meeting		
John Diprose OAM	Rev Ikani Vaitohi	Jacob Westley
Lindsay Oates		

22.1 Remuneration and retirement benefits of key management personnel

Income paid or payable, or otherwise made available, to Standing Committee members by the entity and related parties in connection with the management of affairs of the entity.

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Management personnel remuneration	449	431
	449	**431**

22.2 Transactions with related entities

Related party transactions with Uniting Ethical Investors Limited

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Income from related party transactions with Uniting Ethical Investors Limited		
Interest received on deposits in U Ethical managed funds	37,328	29,886
Institutional contribution	1,000	750
Information technology service provision	145	145
Leased office space	319	276
Accounting service provision	88	75
People and Culture services	4	7
	38,884	**31,139**
Balance with Uniting Ethical Investors Limited from related party transactions		
Accounts receivable	94	67
	94	**67**

Related party transactions with Uniting AgeWell Limited

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Income from related party transactions with Uniting AgeWell Limited		
Information technology service provision	3,876	7,688
Leased office space	712	593
Ground lease	619	572
Legal and property fees	36	45
Institutional contribution	1,599	1,346
	6,842	**10,244**
The Synod's distribution to Uniting AgeWell Limited		
Interest on bequests	16	9
	16	**9**
Balance with Uniting AgeWell Limited from related party transactions		
Accounts receivable	14	3,849
	14	**3,849**

The Synod leases properties to Uniting AgeWell Limited with lease term of 99 years. The annual rent was $1.00 in 2019 and 2021 and commencing 1 Jul 2021, rent is charged based on discounted market value.

Related party transactions with Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) Limited

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Income from related party transactions with Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) Limited		
Institutional contribution	1,415	1,255
Leased office space	596	509
Legal and property fees	300	207
	2,311	**1,971**
The Synod's distribution to Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) Limited		
Grant payments	1,289	2,271
	1,289	**2,271**
Balance with Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) Limited from related party transactions		
Accounts receivable	42	888
	42	**888**

Other related party transactions

Through the course of its normal operations, the Synod will transact with other bodies within the Uniting Church. These operations include the following activities for which the value of transactions is as per the amounts included in the statement of comprehensive income:

- Insurances
- Mission & Service Giving
- Grants paid
- Workers' Compensation
- Levy for Ministers Long Service Leave, Sick leave and Ministers Awaiting Placement
- Fees for use of campsites
- Sales of books

There were no other related party transactions during the financial year.

23 Auditor's remuneration

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Auditor of Synod		
Audit of financial statements	72	107
	72	**107**

Synod engaged HLB Mann Judd (VIC) Partnership for audit of financial statements in 2025. The previous auditor was Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd in 2024.

24 Financial instruments

A. Accounting classification

The following table shows the carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities.

	2025 $'000	2024 $'000
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss		
Investments in U Ethical Cash Management Trust (Note 10)	66,636	52,612
Investments in U Ethical Enhanced Income Trust (Note 10)	19,122	71,841
Investments in U Ethical Diversified Income Trust (Note 10)	92,059	38,228
Investments in U Ethical Australian Equities Trust (Note 11)	382,592	367,165
	560,409	**529,846**
Financial assets measured at amortised cost		
Cash at bank (Note 7)	3,756	1,038
Trade receivables (Note 8)	1,153	5,456
Other receivables (Note 8)	5,717	6,557
Loans to ministers, students and Church Institutions (Note 13)	6,063	8,403
	16,689	**21,454**
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Trade payable (Note 17)	3,152	2,293
Other creditors and accruals (Note 17)	3,164	7,066
Property settlements in trust (Note 20)	43,840	28,700
	50,218	**38,059**

B. Measurement of fair value

The fair value of cash and cash equivalents and non-interest bearing monetary financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amounts.

The net fair value of other monetary financial assets and financial liabilities is based upon market prices where a market exists or by discounting the expected future cash flows by the current interest rates for assets and liabilities with similar risk profiles.

All financial assets measured at fair value are based on level 2 inputs in the fair value hierarchy. Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices in an active market. No transfers across levels has occurred.

25 Discontinued operations

In 2024, the final camp site, Camp Acacia, was sold for $1,109,000.

At the beginning of 2024 the Wathaurong Co-Op indicated its interest in acquiring Narana Creations as an ongoing cultural centre in the Geelong district and beyond. This acquisition was completed in October 2024 and settlement will be in five years. As result, the value of buildings and properties of Narana of $1,608,000 was reclassified as Held for sale assets as at 31 December 2024. The residential property located at Grovedale was settled in 2025 with net proceeds of $678,000.

Revenue & expenses and gains & losses relating to the discontinuation of this activity have been removed from the results of continuing operations and are shown as a single line item on the face of the statement of comprehensive income in current year performance and comparatives. The operating results of the discontinued operation up to its disposal were as follows:

			2025			2024
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
	Narana	Camping	Total	Narana	Camping	Total
Revenue						
Sales, fees & tariffs	-	-	-	308	-	308
Grants	-	-	-	98	-	98
Other income						
Other income	-	-	-	58	-	58
Total income	-	-	**-**	464	-	**464**
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense	-	-	-	378	-	378
Depreciation and amortisation expense	-	-	-	47	-	47
Grants expense	-	-	-	14	-	14
Cost of goods sold and conference expense	-	-	-	243	-	243
Repairs, maintenance and property expenses	-	-	-	52	-	52
Internet, security and services	-	-	-	3	-	3
Other expenses	-	-	-	29	-	29
Total expenses	-	-	-	766	-	766
Net operating result from discontinued operations	-	-	-	(302)	-	(302)
Gain on sale of other properties	678	-	678-	-	1,109	1,109
Gain on sale of business	-	-	-	(37)	-	(37)
Net gain / (loss) from discontinued operations	**678**	**-**	**678**	**(339)**	**1,109**	**770**

26 Contingent liabilities

The Assembly and Synod continue to work collaboratively on a single response to the Commonwealth redress model. Similarly, the Synod seeks to respond to Forced Adoption claims as appropriate. The organisation and its related entities may have financial exposure to civil and redress (CSA only) claims in the future and at the date of this report it is not possible to reliably estimate the quantum (if any) of additional claims of this nature which may emerge. The Assembly and Synod continue to closely monitor the impact on the organisation and its related parties.

There are other legal matters in Synod where provision is not required as, at the date of preparation of this financial report, it is not probable that a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required and/or the amount is not capable of reliable measurement.

On 26 June 2025, The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Victoria) entered into a construction loan facility with Westpac Banking Corporation to fund the construction of a junior college at The Scots School Albury. The facility has an approved limit of $10.5 million and is secured by a mortgage over land held by the Property Trust. The Synod is not the borrower under the facility and has not provided a guarantee or indemnity. Accordingly, no liability has been recognised in these financial statements. The borrowing was entered into under the governance framework applicable to the Property Trust, which is overseen by the Synod. Disclosure is provided to enable users to understand material funding commitments and risks associated with trust assets under the Synod's management.

27 Commitments

Synod missional grants assist congregations and UCA entities to fund mission & ministry programs and capital works projects. These grants come from a combination of bequests, specific purpose funds and general Synod funds (Mission and Service Giving and interest on investments). Synod's 2026 Budget includes $5.97m of missional grants (2025: $5.38m). During 2025, of $5.38m budgeted grants expense, $1.58m was unpaid as at December 2025.

28 Events after the report date

No events have occurred after the reporting date that would require adjustment to, or disclosure in the financial statement.

Standing Committee Declaration

The Standing Committee declares that the financial statements and notes set out on pages 5 to 34.

a. comply with Accounting Standards in Australia and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and

b. give a true and fair view of the Synod's financial position as at 31 December 2025 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations, changes in equity and its cash flows, for the financial year ended on that date.

In the Standing Committee's opinion:

a. there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Synod will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

b. the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2022.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Standing Committee.

Rev Salesi Faupula	Rev. Dr. Mark Lawrence
Standing Committee Chairperson/Moderator	General Secretary

Melbourne

Dated this 13th day of June 2026

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of The Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of The Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania ("the Synod") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the declaration by those charged with governance.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Synod has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012,* including:

(a) giving a true and fair view of the Synod's financial position as at 31 December 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

(b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022.*

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Synod in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* ("the Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to those charged with governance, would be in the same terms if given as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Synod's annual report[1] for the year ended 31 December 2025, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

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If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Synod's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate the Synod or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Synod's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Synod's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Synod's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Synod to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

HLB Mann Judd

HLB Mann Judd
Chartered Accountants

Mark Peters
Partner

Melbourne
24 June 2026