



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

# Period of Discernment Handbook 2025



# Period of Discernment Handbook 2025/2026

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional Owners and custodians of the land on which we meet, and pay our respects to their elders past and present. We acknowledge that the Church throughout the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania meets on land for which First Peoples have ongoing spiritual sovereignty and custodianship, and we commit ourselves to respecting Country and to working for a more just future together.

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## **Period of Discernment in the Uniting Church**

The Uniting Church in Australia has a process called “Period of Discernment”. It’s commonly referred to as a PoD. The PoD is a way in which the church supports members and adherents as they explore ways to find and express God’s call in their life.

The Period of Discernment aims to give you an opportunity to

- explore develop your relationship with God
- develop your understanding of yourself as follower of Jesus
- understand God’s ministry and mission in the church and the world
- find out about the variety of ways people serve
- recognize, affirm and build upon your skills, gifts, knowledge and experience
- learn about your personal motivations and strengths
- explore and test ways in which you might serve in the life of the church and the wider community

### **What is discernment?**

Discernment is the intentional practice by which a community or an individual seeks, recognises, and sets out to take part in the activity of God in a real-world situation.

In the Uniting Church, discernment of calling to serve God is both individual and done in community.

Discernment means

- Discovery - listening, reflecting on our own story, having new experiences
- Dreaming - exploring possibilities
- Distinguishing between options - what is best for me at this time of my life?
- Deciding - working with others to make some choices

### **Vocation - exploring call**

We encourage people to use the Period of Discernment to explore the shape of personal vocation and its expression in the world and the Church.

Vocation comes from the Latin word, vox, which gives us voice, vocal, evoke, advocate, convocation, provoke, revoke, vocabulary. As we discern our vocation, we are listening to the voice/call of God, the voice/call of the community, and the voice/call from within. We can have several vocations at a time. We may be called to express commitments to our primary community, to our family, people we live with. We may be called to a career or more than one career. We may be called to serving in a local community of faith. We may be called to ministries that are recognised by the church. Vocation can change and develop over the course of one’s life.

## Contexts for discernment

Some people find a period of discernment is a useful way to explore their call to discipleship as they approach or follow on from baptism or confirmation.

Some people find a PoD is a way to explore new options in times of transition, such as a gap year (following on from school or university study), taking a career break, approaching the end of employment or full-time care, or retirement.

Some people will be drawn to a Period of Discernment as they sense a call to ministry with the church, either in ordained roles of Minister of the Word or Deacon, or in lay roles of Ministry of Pastor and Lay Preacher.

We can have more than one Period of Discernment. For some, a Period of Discernment may be a useful way to consider next steps after they've experienced feedback from a Selection Committee or a review. For some, a new Period of Discernment may be a way to consider the next contexts for their ministry.

## How long?

The Uniting Church encourages members to undertake a year of discernment, to give time for deep listening, exploration of options, and testing of call. This is especially important for those exploring steps that will require significant commitments such as entering candidacy for ordained ministry.

The Uniting Church also encourages members to engage in shorter or longer periods of discernment that match the questions, possibilities being considered, and the time needed for clarity to emerge. It is not helpful to rush the process of discernment.



# Some helpful Discernment Steps

## Step 1 Talk to someone

Talk to your Minister or Church Council about your desire to explore the ministries of the church in relation to your discipleship. They will discuss this PoD resource with you. It is hoped that your congregation and presbytery will be keen to support you as you work through the PoD.

## Step 2 Register with Presbytery

Fill out the registration form in the PoD resource and ask your Minister or Church Council to endorse it. Send your PoD registration form to the Presbytery secretary. You will need to attach a brief statement (100 – 200 words) outlining your reasons for applying to participate in the Period of Discernment. This statement is not an entry test. Rather it will help you clarify your reasons for participating in the PoD and what you hope to gain from the experience. The secretary will pass your registration on to the PoD contact person in your presbytery.

## Step 3 Start with your mentor

Your presbytery has a committee responsible for ministry formation, and will appoint a mentor who has received training in the PoD and in mentoring. Your PoD effectively commences when the mentor is appointed. Work with your mentor to develop your Discernment Plan and Timeline.

## Step 4 Meet regularly with your mentor

Proactively plan a regular meeting with your mentor to discuss your discernment discoveries, challenges and overall progress. You may together find ways to work through your story, your feelings and thoughts, meaning and identity, testing call, and developing strategy for action.

## Step 5 Develop a portfolio as you discern

At the conclusion of the PoD you will be asked to submit a portfolio to the presbytery committee that clearly states how you've gone with the goals set out in your Discernment Plan. It's really helpful to carefully document your discernment journey by maintaining a file of things like journal entries, notes, photos, reflections, prayers, sermons, etc.

## Step 6 Share what you're learning

As you and your mentor agree that your Period of Discernment is coming to an end, collate the components of your portfolio before reviewing the completed portfolio with your mentor. Send the portfolio to the presbytery committee in preparation for a meeting at which what you have achieved and discerned during your PoD will be explored. Your presbytery will issue a certificate of participation for your Period of Discernment.

## **Step 7 Explore further options**

Continue ongoing ministry and discipleship within or beyond your local congregation. If you and the church have discerned a call to one of the specified ministries you will need to explore this option by offering yourself as a candidate for ministry through your presbytery, and proceed through the usual application and selection processes for specified ministries.

Completion of the Period of Discernment does not qualify anyone for direct acceptance as a candidate for a specified ministry – you must still apply and be accepted as a candidate through the normal processes.

People in your Presbytery as well as staff at Pilgrim Theological College are available to provide you with assistance through the Period of Discernment, particularly if you need help with the process or have questions about the educational components.

## **The Conclusion of Discernment**

Discernment is a lifelong process. However, this period of intentional discernment is for a limited period of time. You will have established in your discernment plan how you will know when you have concluded your PoD. It might be a set period of time passing, or finding clarity, having satisfactorily discerned answers to your questions.

At the conclusion of your Period of Discernment, you are encouraged to celebrate your discernment. This may include a testimonial sharing of your journey with your congregation, Presbytery, or the wider Church. It may include the presentation of a certificate, or a special blessing for the ministry you have discerned you are gifted for. There are many options, and your community of discernment will work with you to determine what will work for your context. Not only will this honour and affirm your own discernment, it also serves as encouragement and inspiration to the Church to remember and celebrate the diversity of our gifts and ministries.

It is hoped that after your Period of Discernment you will continue your journey of discipleship, mission and ministry, with a clearer sense of your gifts and how you might use these to serve in the Church and the world.

For a list of Presbytery contacts in Victoria and Tasmania visit the VicTas Synod website:

<https://victas.uca.org.au/presbyteries>

## The Why of Discernment

*All who have been baptised are called into the ministry of Jesus Christ... Every member of the Church is endowed with a diversity of gifts, and there is no gift without its corresponding service: all ministries have a part in the ministry of Christ.*

Basis of Union, Paragraph 13

Each of us has skills, abilities, passions and gifts, and in turn each of us is called to use what we have to serve others in mission and ministry. Your unique combination of personality, life experience and growth, comes with a unique calling. This might be to ministry within a church or faith community, an organisation of the Church, the workplace, or the broader community. It may also be in a specified ministry of the Uniting Church in a Ministry of Deacon, the Word, Lay Preacher or Pastor.

The Period of Discernment is an intentional journey to explore who God has made you to be, the gifts you have been endowed with, and how God might be calling you to use them in this time of your life. How you undertake this discernment journey will be unique to you. This is a time set aside for you, in the context of the community of the Church, to be open to the work of the Holy Spirit.

The PoD is intended to be a blessing of the Church to God's people, so that everyone's gifts might not be neglected, but rather affirmed, supported, and given opportunity to flourish, in order that everyone might experience the fullness of life in God, and participate in the mission of Jesus Christ with meaning and joy.



## **The Community of Discernment**

The Period of Discernment is not a solitary journey but rather an invitation to discern in the context of community. This begins with your local congregation or faith community. You may like to invite your congregation and/or Church Council to support you through prayer, fruitful conversation or other means. You are encouraged to engage in ongoing conversation with your Minister or trusted church/faith Community leader about your hopes, intentions and progress through your PoD. They will also be able to connect you with your PoD Presbytery representative.

While the Period of Discernment is a deeply personal journey, the Uniting Church aspires to provide companions for that journey.

The Presbytery is the Uniting Church's regional council or network of people and congregations. The Presbytery carries responsibility to support people in their PoD. That usually starts with finding someone to be the mentor. Presbyteries have oversight responsibilities for all ministry practice within their geographical bounds, including oversight and care of the processes and people in Periods of Discernment. You will submit your PoD registration and completion forms with your Presbytery and they will be an integral part of your discernment community.

Your Presbytery are responsible for appointing a mentor to walk with you through your PoD. You may suggest a person whom you would like to be your mentor – perhaps someone who has served in this role for you unofficially already. Your Presbytery will work with you to find a suitable match. Your mentor will help you develop a Discernment Plan and then meet with you regularly throughout your PoD, to guide you in the action-reflection process of discernment. They will listen, affirm and support you, asking questions that help you delve deeper, explore and clarify your discernment.

## **Other Companions**

You may also find other people to help you, such as colleagues, ministry coaches, spiritual directors, and people who serve in various ministries. The congregation or Presbytery may have a team or committee who can listen to you and give you feedback about what you're discovering. In spiritual direction you will meet with a spiritual director monthly. During your time together, the director will accompany you on your journey and provide a safe environment for you to tell your story. They will facilitate the integration of all aspects of your life experience, and assist you to speak your experience of God. Career coaches provide support for people as they explore new options for employment.

## **The Activity of Discernment**

Discernment is an enquiry process of action and reflection within a framework of discipleship, ministry and mission. To begin your PoD you will submit a Registration Form with your Presbytery. When you have been assigned a mentor you will meet with them to create a Discernment Plan articulating the specific questions of your discernment and the pathway in which you hope to engage in your discernment. You will then engage in intentional action and reflection with your mentor until you feel as though this specific discernment journey has concluded.

As you create your Discernment Plan, you are invited to use a framework of discipleship, ministry and mission. Discipleship is the development of your relationship with God and your understanding of yourself as a disciple. How might you continue growing into the fullness of who God has made you to be? This involves self-awareness and self-reflection as you discern your gifts and graces with your community.

Ministry and Mission is the exploration of how your particular gifts might be of service to God in the Church and in the world. How might you, in the context of your community and time of life, participate in the work that God is doing? This may involve broadening or deepening your understanding of a variety of ministries, their nature, function and responsibilities. It may also involve recognising, affirming and building on your current skills, knowledge and experience.

Beyond meeting with your mentor regularly, there are no set requirements or obligations of how you complete your PoD. You are invited to discern at your pace, in your own way. You are encouraged to have an approach of curiosity, imagination, flexibility, humility and courage as you explore who you have been made to be and how you might live in response to God's call on your life.

### **Phase One**

If you at any point in your Period of Discernment are discerning a call to ordained ministry, you will need to undertake the Phase One component of the PoD. You may need to factor in academic study of some kind, and be focused in journaling reflections on exploration of call. There will be additional processes of communal discernment of call. See page 18.

# **Sacred Listening**

A Period of Discernment gives you an opportunity to grow, in your own self-awareness, in your relationship with God, in your connections with other people around you. A mentor will support you to listen deeply to what's happening in your life. It can be tempting to rush through a set of tasks to achieve what we see as the end goal. However, you are encouraged to take the time to reflect on your story, feelings and thoughts, meaning and identity, as you test God's call and work on strategies for action.

## **Your Story**

Being able to identify and tell your story is an important part of the discernment process. Different parts of your life will have impacted differently to get you to this point. What has brought you to this intentional time of listening? What are the key parts of the story that need to be told and revisited?

## **Feelings and Thoughts**

What are your thoughts and feelings about where you believe God is calling you in your life? What have others shared with you about what they believe God is calling you to do?

## **Meaning and Identity**

What gives your life meaning? What values do you hold? What are your particular strengths and challenges? What do you bring from your family background, your cultural background? What strengths and challenges do you have? As you look at the identity of the Uniting Church, what connections do you make? Are there questions to unpack?

## **Testing God's call**

As you've looked at possible ways to serve in the church and wider community, what are you discovering about your call? What feedback have you received from others around you?

## **Strategies for action**

What are your options, moving ahead? Can you identify small steps, big steps? Are there practical realities that need to be addressed? What will you do and when? What support do you need?

# **Discernment as a time of growth and learning**

## **Learning through study**

The Uniting Church encourages members to grow their understanding of call through reading scripture, articles and books, and through enrolling in courses and workshops. Pilgrim Theological College provides online and in-person courses through Uniting Learning, as well as University accredited courses, such as Old Testament, New Testament, Theology, Church History, Introduction to the Uniting Church.

## **Growing through experience**

A PoD can be an opportunity to try out new experiences and expressions of service in the church and wider community. You could volunteer, join a team, find a paid internship or a short-term contract. This is a time to grow and test new skills.

## **Exploring Motivation**

What are the inner motivators that will help you explore your sense of vocation? What is it that you'd like to see happen around you? Who do you feel called to connect with?

What are the challenges and opportunities that you care about?

## **Retreats and Spiritual Practices**

A retreat provides an opportunity for a life-shaping experience. Prayer, worship, rest, silence, reflective input and individual accompaniment support those on retreat. Overnight, weekend or long retreats are available for individuals and groups. You could join an Enneagram, Myers Briggs, or DISC retreat to help you uncover and grow your understanding of your motivations and behaviours.

## **The Process of Discernment**

1. Have a conversation with your Minister/church/faith community leader.
2. Submit PoD Registration Form to Presbytery who will assign a mentor.
3. Meet with your mentor and create a discernment plan. (Your PoD officially begins with this first meeting)
4. Engage in the action and reflection of your discernment pathway with your mentor and community of discernment.
5. When PoD has concluded, submit PoD Completion Form to Presbytery.
6. Celebrate discernment with your community, congregation or Presbytery.
7. Continue or step into new forms of discipleship, mission and ministry.

## Exploring New Ministries?

Even if you are already serving in ministry, there are many new expressions of service to explore in a fresh period of discernment.

- Academic research and publishing
- Administration & management
- Aged Care Chaplaincy
- Biblical Scholarship
- Camping, Adventure, Venues
- Children's Ministry
- Church History Research
- Community Work, Community Organising, Community Development
- Counselling
- Creative Arts: Music, Film, Sculpture, Fine Arts, Creative Writing
- Defence Force Chaplaincy
- Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy
- Disability Ministry: service, advocacy
- Ecology/Environment
- Education: Primary & Secondary, Religious Education
- Education: Tertiary - lecturing, research
- Ethnic Ministry, intercultural relationships
- Executive leadership, business leadership
- Family Ministry, counselling
- Frontier Service Chaplaincy
- Funerals and Grief Support
- Hospital Chaplaincy - volunteers, hospice support
- Indigenous Resource Ministry
- Interfaith Dialogue, Research, Partnership
- Marriage Ministry - preparation, wedding celebrants, counselling
- Media & Communication: Film, Television, Radio
- Ministry Formation
- Music Ministry: song writing, recording, leadership
- New Church Development
- Pastoral Care
- Police Chaplaincy
- Preaching
- Presbytery leadership: administration, pastoral care, mission, education
- Prison Chaplaincy
- Property development, oversight
- Psychology
- Publishing: print & online
- Resource Ministry
- Retreat Leadership
- Rural Ministry, Chaplaincy
- School Chaplaincy
- Seniors Ministry
- Social Justice Advocacy
- Spiritual Direction
- Supervision
- Tertiary Chaplaincy, Mission Workers
- Theology, research, writing, teaching
- Tourism Chaplaincy
- Transition/Interim Ministry
- Worship Leadership
- Youth Ministry
- Young Adults Ministry

## **Ministry with the Uniting Church**

The Uniting Church affirms that every member of the Church is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified and to be his faithful servant. It acknowledges with thanksgiving that the one Spirit has endowed the members of Christ's Church with a diversity of gifts, and that there is no gift without its corresponding service: all ministries have a part in the ministry of Christ.

The Uniting Church provides for the exercise by men and women of the gifts God bestows upon them, and will order its life in response to God's call to enter more fully into mission.

The Uniting Church seeks the guidance of the Holy Spirit to recognise among its members women and men called of God to preach the Gospel, to lead the people in worship, to care for the flock, to share in government and to serve those in need in the world.

The Uniting Church recognises that the type and duration of ministries to which women and men are called vary from time to time and place to place, and that in particular it comes into being in a period of reconsideration of traditional forms of the ministry, and of renewed participation of all the people of God in the preaching of the Word, the administration of the sacraments, the building up of the fellowship in mutual love, in commitment to Christ's mission, and in service of the world for which he died.

*Excerpts from Basis of Union, paragraphs 13 and 14*

## **Everyday Ministry**

Ministry and mission can be expressed when we take part in family life, share the lives of sick or disabled people through care and friendship, in friendships of all kinds, in daily employment or unemployment, in leisure, in sport, in creative activities, in work in the community, and participation in church activities.

Our occupations, whether paid or unpaid, may be a calling from God to service to the wider community. This applies as much to process workers, workers in the service industries, tradespeople, professional people, those who draft public policy, health care workers, those who serve the community in the public service, as to those who work at home. Whether employed or unemployed, we help to establish the power of God's love and make the community a more compassionate and caring place by the way we relate to colleagues, neighbours and family.

## **Commissioned Ministries**

Commissioning involves recognising individuals for particular tasks and roles, for a specific time and place. All baptised people are commissioned for God's service when they are baptised, no matter what age they are. Throughout our lives new gifts and graces will be called forth by the Spirit. All of us are called to God's service.

Some may be commissioned in a more public way to be in mission in their daily work as well as for tasks within the congregation. Congregations often commission people to particular tasks within the life of the congregation and the wider church, such as church council members, youth leaders, ministry with children and families, music ministry, preaching, pastoral care. There are many other ways we can recognise God's call to serve.

## **Working for the Uniting Church**

The Uniting Church employs people, who may or may not be members of the Uniting Church, for particular responsibilities requiring specialist skills and training. They are selected on the basis of their skills, qualifications and competence. They often apply for their position out of a concern for the people they will be serving, or a desire to work in a particular context. Some have a sense of call about the work they do for the church.

## **Specified Ministries**

Some members of the Uniting Church feel a call to ministry and offer their gifts, abilities, skills, faith and calling to be used by the wider Uniting Church. If this felt call from God is affirmed by the Uniting Church, these people are trained, formed, recognised, supported and held accountable by the Church. The Uniting Church in Australia provides for four specified ministries, each with selection and formation processes in the Regulations:

- Commissioned Lay Preacher
- Commissioned Ministry of Pastor
- Ordained Minister of the Word
- Ordained Ministry of Deacon

## **Context-related ministries**

People in the Uniting Church ministries serve in many contexts. Many serve in congregations, providing pastoral oversight. Some are called to work with people at different times of life, such as children, youth, young adults, families, seniors. Some are called to start new expressions of church. Some are called to serve in chaplaincy roles, in prisons, aged care and hospitals, schools, armed forces. Some are called to provide support to the wider church, working in Presbytery, Synod, Assembly and inter-denominational roles. Some are called to represent the Church in the wider community.

## **Ministry of Lay Preacher**

This is a lay ministry recognised by the Uniting Church in Australia, usually voluntary, exercised by people whose call has been affirmed by the church through accreditation by the Presbytery. They have the abilities and character needed for leading worship and preaching. Lay Preacher candidates usually undergo formation to prepare them for this ministry. Once accredited by the presbytery, Lay Preachers are recognised by the Uniting Church in Australia, usually for life.

Uniting Church members may be invited to preach by their local congregation. In some cases we talk about “Local Preachers”, people who have been given some training and are trusted to preach by their congregation.

## **Ministry of Pastor**

The Ministry of Pastor is a role where a lay person exercises a significant ministry on behalf of the Uniting Church in one or more of the following areas:

- teaching the beliefs and practices of the Uniting Church; and/or
- pastoral oversight of members and/or groups operating under the auspices of the Church; and/or
- leadership of worship in congregations or faith communities of the Uniting Church; and/or
- oversight ministry of children, youth and families: and/or
- evangelism or service beyond a gathered congregation but which is exercised under the auspices of the Uniting Church

In addition to having the competence and capacity to exercise the responsibilities of the specific ministry to which they are to be appointed, a person serving in the Ministry of Pastor must have a suitable character, personal and spiritual maturity.

A key pre-requisite for ministry as a Pastor is the completion of the core competencies training and assessment program around Uniting Church ethos and polity. Another important component of the Ministry of Pastor is the commitment to ongoing professional development. Pastors may be full-time or part-time and may be engaged as volunteers. Applicants for the role must be a member or be prepared to become a member or an associate member of the Uniting Church.

The ministry of Pastor is recognised by the Presbytery and Synod for a particular ministry setting. At the conclusion of an appointment, a person would cease to be recognised as serving in a Ministry of Pastor. They may be eligible to apply for another Ministry of Pastor role.

## **Ordination in the Uniting Church in Australia**

Ordination is the “setting apart” of baptised people, called by God as discerned by the Church, to serve as Deacons and Ministers of the Word. Ordained ministers exercise their ministry as part of the ministry of the whole people of God. They have a particular relationship to other parts of the body of Christ. The Uniting Church maintains that ordination is with the whole Church across the world and across denominational boundaries, not just within the Uniting Church. However, not every Christian denomination will recognise the ordination of Uniting Church ministers.

The question is often raised whether ordination is about function or a change of the person in themselves. It is a matter of a new relationship in the body of Christ. This new relationship, recognised and established by ordination, is normally for life.

Ministers exercise their responsibility to Christ and the Church by representing Christ to the people and the people to Christ. This representative ministry involves focusing, modelling, supervising, shepherding, enabling and empowering the general ministry of the Church.

### **Minister of the Word or Deacon**

Each of the ordained ministries has a different emphasis. Ministers of the Word have a particular responsibility for safeguarding the unity of the body of Christ; and Deacons, for the church’s service in and for the world. Neither of these particular responsibilities excludes the other.

In the Uniting Church, the Minister of the Word usually is called to focus on ministry to and with the gathered congregation. A Deacon usually has a particular calling to serve the “dispersed body of Christ” in the world, which includes ministry to those on the fringes of society. Both roles are forms of ordained ministry, have different focuses, but are equally accountable to the Presbytery for their work.

Deacons are involved in community and social justice issues, working with the marginalized, while Ministers of the Word focus more on the health and spiritual growth of the local church community. Both are called to provide leadership in the mission of the church.

Both are accountable to the Presbytery for their ministry. Deacons have a liturgical role and authority to preside at the sacraments in their ministry context, similar to Ministers of the Word.

## **Phase One - exploring ordination as a call**

When undertaking a Period of Discernment, you will articulate specific questions you are discerning. If your pathway involves the exploration of a call to ordained ministry, you will need to engage in the Phase 1 program as a component of your Period of Discernment. You can elect to engage in Phase 1 discernment at any point during your PoD by registering with your presbytery. Please note that if you pick up Phase 1 part way through your PoD, it may be necessary for your presbytery to appoint a new mentor who has sufficient experience and training to take you through this particular journey.

Phase 1 marks the first phase of the Uniting Church National Assembly's phases of formation for ordained ministry.

Phase 1 - Period of Discernment (PoD)

Phase 2 - Core Phase - Candidates for ordained ministry

Phase 3 - Initial three years after completing ministry candidate process

Phase 4 - Continuing education in mission and ministry practice.

The Phase 1 program is a prerequisite to applying to the Presbytery and Synod Selection Committee for approval to move to Phase 2 candidature. How long Phase 1 takes depends on your context and previous experience. You will work with your mentor and your community of discernment to determine which components of the program will be beneficial for your particular pathway. Be open to the process so that authentic discernment may take place for yourself and your community of discernment. The exploration of your call to ordained ministry involves your own personal sense of and response to God's call on your life, as well as the Church's discernment regarding your gifts and graces and how they might fit for a particular ministry in the life of the church. These are held together.

Everyone's Phase 1 journey will be different.

At the conclusion of your Phase 1 PoD, if you feel called to continue the journey of discernment towards selection as a candidate for ordained ministry, you will move through a process of formal and collaborative discernment with your presbytery and synod. The Presbytery has the capacity to decide "yes", "not yet" or "no" to further exploring the call with the Synod. The Synod Selection conference, held in September/October each year, has the same capacity to decide "yes", "not yet", or no to becoming a candidate.

You will need to demonstrate the following when talking with Presbytery and Synod Selection Conference:

1. What have you learned about your self during your Period of Discernment?
2. What experiences and conversations helped you in your exploration of call?
3. How have you discerned the call to one of the ordained ministries, not the other?

## **Further Period of Discernment resources**

### **VIC/TAS Synod Discernment resources**

Period of Discernment Handbook

Assembly Period of Discernment guidelines

POD Registration Form

POD Discernment Plan

POD Mentor Training and Guidelines

Assembly documents on ministry

<https://victas.uca.org.au/pod-resources>

### **NSW/ACT Synod Discernment resources**

Period of Discernment Handbook

POD Registration Form

POD Discernment Plan

POD Mentor Training and Guidelines

<https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/resources/period-of-discernment-information>

## **Pilgrim Theological College Courses**

Courses available through University of Divinity

Courses available through the Uniting Learning platform

<http://www.pilgrim.edu.au>

