



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

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9 June 2026

To: All Ministry Agents in Placement
Presbytery Ministers, Presbytery Chairs and Secretaries
Church Council Chairs and Secretaries

Dear friends in Christ,

Kelesi/Grace and Melino/Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

At the 2025 Synod meeting, members of the Synod discerned together a vision for our future life and witness through the Faithful Futures process. After prayer, conversation, listening, and amendment, the Synod adopted five goals that will help shape our common life in the years ahead:

- Coordinated Ministries
- Respecting Country
- Intercultural Leadership
- All-Age Growth
- New Communities of Faith

These goals were never intended to be the work of a few people or committees alone. They are an invitation to the whole church; to congregations, faith communities, ministry agents, leaders, councils, agencies, and members; to imagine together how God may be calling us into the future.

We are now entering the next stage of this journey.

Over the coming months, Goal Groups will be established to help explore, develop, and guide practical pathways for each of the five goals. These groups will bring together people from across our Synod who are willing to share their experience, wisdom, passion, and gifts in service of the wider church.

I want to encourage congregations, faith communities, and ministry agents to prayerfully consider participating in this work. **Expressions of Interest for Goal Groups are now open.**

The Goal Groups are not intended to be representative bodies speaking on behalf of particular parts of the church. Rather, they are collaborative spaces where people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, generations, ministries, and contexts can contribute to shaping the future mission and ministry of our church.

One of the strengths of the Faithful Futures vision is that it emerged from listening to many voices across Victoria and Tasmania. That same spirit of listening, collaboration, and shared discernment will be vital as we move into implementation.

As Moderator, I continue to be encouraged by the breadth of gifts that exist across our church. In congregations large and small, rural and urban, intercultural and longstanding, there are people carrying wisdom, experience, imagination, and deep faith. The formation of these Goal Groups provides an opportunity for those gifts to be shared for the benefit of the whole church.

Our Synod theme, *Pilgrims of the Spirit*, reminds us that we do not walk this road alone. We journey together, attentive to God's leading, open to one another, and willing to take faithful steps into an unfolding future. Faithful Futures is not simply a project or a plan. It is an invitation to discern where the Spirit is already at work among us and to join in that work together.

I encourage you to consider whether you, or someone within your congregation or ministry context, may be called to participate in one of these Goal Groups.

Further information about Faithful Futures and the Goal Group Expressions of Interest process is available in a short video¹ (linked [HERE](#)), the June edition of Crosslight, and the [Faithful Futures webpage](#). A poster is also attached for you to print off and display. Share these resources with your congregations or faith communities and learn more together.

Thank you for the many ways you already contribute to the life and witness of the Uniting Church. I look forward to seeing how God continues to shape us as we walk together into the future.

Grace and peace,



Rev Salesi Faupula
Moderator

¹Full video link can be accessed here:

<https://vimeo.com/1198582947>

Faithful Futures: <https://victas.uca.org.au/faithful-futures/>

