

Strategic Planning Framework for the Uniting Church in Western Australia



Seven Core Values



Love

Love is the most essential Christian value in the Bible. God is love and through experiencing God's unconditional love, we know what love is and can love as well.



Hope

Hope means to "trust and wait expectantly." It is rooted in the love and faithfulness of God, and is therefore not mere wishful thinking, but a firm assurance that God can be relied upon.



Justice

Justice means "to make right." Justice promotes fairness, equity, accessibility, opportunity, as well as the advancement of all, while identifying and eliminating barriers.



Inclusion

Inclusion embraces diversity and the characteristics that distinct people. It acknowledges that God created people as unique and calls us to recognise, respect and embrace these individual differences.



Accountability

Accountability is about being responsible for fulfilling our duties and obligations as well as being willing to justify our actions with honesty and openness.



Integrity

As people of integrity, we are uncompromising, transparent, and consistent with the moral and ethical values we claim to embrace. We allow these values to shape who we are, what we say and do.



Creativity

Through creativity, we imitate the Creator. We therefore recognise, celebrate and support the creativity of individuals and groups as we aim to have a meaningful impact on the complex challenges we face.

Five Strategic Focus Areas

Discipleship

To TEACH and PROCLAIM the Good News of Jesus Christ

"You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts." (2 Corinthians 3:2-3)

Diversity

To EMBRACE and NURTURE all people and their gifts

"For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him." (Romans 10:12)

Sustainability

To SAFEGUARD and RENEW God's creation with integrity

"Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind... this is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth." (Genesis 9:16, 17)

Partnerships

To BUILD and GROW healthy interdependent relationships

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing." (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Reconciliation

To SEEK JUSTICE and RECONCILIATION for all

"In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us." (2 Corinthians 5:19)

Seven Strategic Focus Actions

Leading by Example

Leading by example, builds trust and respect, creates authenticity, and provides a picture of what is possible.

Inspired Action

James (2:17) states that "faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." Discernment should therefore always focus on inspiring action that will help turn convictions into reality.

Grow Relationships

Relationships are the cornerstone of human existence as they provide for a space in which love is given and received.

Form Identity

Identity provides for structure to self-knowledge, alignment with beliefs, goals, and self-knowledge, goals and direction as well as ownership over choices and outcomes.

Be a Prophetic Voice

A prophetic voice is more than insightful advice; attuned to the Holy Spirit, it is the ability to speak God's truth into the current culture and context.

Develop Resources

Developing resources is ultimately an investment in the capacity of the church to remain sustainable and become more effective in pursuing God's purpose for the church.

Education and Training

Education and training are critical for developing as well as improving knowledge and capabilities, which promote effectiveness and productivity.