



Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

Uniting Alive: Hobart 2020 March 2010 Update

Workshops for con- gregations, faith communities and leaders

Two workshops will be on offer in Hobart over the next couple of months aimed at supporting congregations as they consider responding to *How then shall we live?*.

The first, supported by the National Church Life Survey will help congregations and congregational leaders interpret the results of the **Local Church Life Survey**, conducted during September 2009.

- Date TBA
- Venue & Details TBA

The second is entitled *Imagine: Nurturing a missional imagination in a church world* and will assist congregations and leadership teams respond to the Report by exploring ways to live missionally in a constantly changing world. Resourced by Queensland Mission Consultant Duncan Macleod, this is one workshop not to miss.

- Saturday May 15th
- 10am-3.30pm
- Venue & Details TBA

How then shall we live?

After 9 months of work, the report of the *Uniting Alive: Hobart 2020* task group has been released. The report, entitled *How then shall we live?* offers a vision alternative for the future of the Uniting Church in the greater Hobart region.

How then shall we live? describes a church that is far more concerned with participating in the mission of God, with serving in the wider community, and with being a people of God than with its own survival. The Uniting Church of greater Hobart will dream imaginatively, risk freely and resource courageously as it follows the way of Jesus. The Report offers an invitation to the congregations, faith communities and agencies of the Uniting Church in greater Hobart to enter into collaborative missional partnerships as together we live out the gospel in this city.



The vision for the Uniting Church in greater Hobart in 2020:

We believe our future will be characterized by:

- faithfulness to the way of Jesus
- commitment to justice and service
- collaboration and cooperation
- innovation and missional imagination

We must transform a pattern of inward-looking, struggling congregations into a vigorous presence which carries the Christian gospel into the life of the city.

Past traditions and heritage must be moulded into creative and relevant expressions of the gospel, rather than becoming barriers to change.

We will become a network of congregations, faith communities, fresh expressions of church and agencies giving voice and life to the gospel of Jesus Christ through this region.

UNiTiNG ALiVe

HoBaRT 2020

Making the Transition

How then shall we live? offers areas of focus and priority for the church in greater Hobart

NOW:

- Train & resource new and existing **leaders**
- Nurture our capacity to **share faith stories**
- Encourage and support new & existing **innovative approaches** to church
- Facilitate the new partnership in Hobart's **northern suburbs**
- Meeting & worshipping as a **whole church**

SOON:

- Renew our approach to **christian education**
- Complete **property survey**
- Focus on **collaborative relationships** between congregations, particularly in the **city centre**
- Implement a **regional ministry team** approach

LATER:

- Redevelop city-centre property in **response to changing context**
- Launch one new **innovative missional venture** every year
- Establish **suburban hubs** to resource networks of faith communities & congregations

Download the full *How then shall we live?* report at:

- <http://www.unitingalive.wordpress.com>
- <http://blogs.victas.uca.org.au/tasmission>

By 2020, the Uniting Church in greater Hobart will be characterized by:

THE SHAPE OF CONGREGATIONS & FAITH COMMUNITIES:

- Worship in varied location, time, format
- Marriage of traditional and contemporary
- Committed to partnership and collaboration
- Supporting establishment of new faith communities
- Hubs in north, east, south and centre of greater Hobart

APPROACH TO LEADERSHIP:

- Ministry workers in regional collegiate ministry team
- Lay and ordained leadership in strong partnership to provide leadership to the church
- Ongoing program of leadership development in place
- Willing to stop unsustainable activities to release people for other opportunities

UNDERSTANDING AND PRACTICE OF PROPERTY:

- Property decisions taken from missional perspective
- Property redevelopment is multi-purpose, efficient, widely useful
- Understand our property as gift from God, for the mission of God

AGENCY PRESENCE:

- UnitingCare Tasmania expanded services for families and those most at risk
- Uniting Aged Care offering excellent in aged care services
- Collaborative partnerships between agencies and the wider church

STRENGTHS WE HAVE DEVELOPED:

- Commitment to flexibility and creativity
- Marriage of tradition with contemporary practice
- Committed to justice and service for the disadvantaged
- Wide and deep biblical and theological knowledge

CHALLENGES WE MUST FACE:

- Age profile
- Developing the capacity to support and sustain a diverse network of congregations & faith communities
- Tendency to revert to the safety of what we know

What Lies Ahead?

Receive: *How then shall we live?* is presented to congregations, faith communities and agencies. March-April 2010.

- **Respond:** The Uniting Church in greater Hobart responds, collectively and individually to the vision contained in the Report. May-Nov 2010

- **Commit:** Implementation plan developed based on responses from congregations, faith communities and agencies. Dec 2010-March 2011.

Implement: Go to it! May 2011 and beyond

Resourced by

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