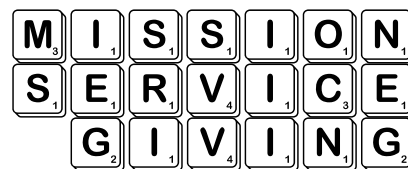




Uniting Church in Australia
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA
Presbytery of Tasmania



Supporting the mission and service of the
Uniting Church across Tasmania & Victoria

Church giving in 'non-contact' times

Continued collection of giving is important – *despite Coronavirus*

Regular planned giving to our local congregations & faith communities, and to the wider Uniting Church through **Mission & Service Giving** (see below), is an important aspect of our Christian faith and discipleship. *God gives us many good gifts; we are called to share those gifts with the world.*

While gatherings for worship, fellowship and pastoral care are not possible at present, there are many ways to ensure financial contributions keep the mission and ministry of the Church going.

If you are responsible for local finances, ask your members about their giving at this time:

- (a) remind everyone of the various financial commitments the congregation or faith community has, and that there are a range of ways to give, both now and in due course;
- (b) recognise that some people's financial situations have changed significantly, and ask how much they see themselves giving at this point in time: some may have to reduce for a time, others who are still employed may see this as a moment to be more generous, still others may decide now is the time to give some 'rainy day' money to those in desperate need;
- (c) provide a list of ways to give, ask which they choose at this time, and notify your Treasurer.

Caution about scam calls requesting donations – *for Coronavirus*

Scam phone calls requesting donations do occur from time to time, and are likely to appear soon. A caller may say they are from the Uniting Church, from UnitingCare (now Uniting VicTas, our community services arm), or from some part of the Uniting Church you have never heard of (it probably doesn't exist), and may say that even small donations will help. They are right...

... but the Uniting Church and Uniting VicTas will not phone people requesting donations ('cold calling'). Uniting VicTas already provides emergency relief to people now affected by Covid-19, on top of existing poverty, homelessness, domestic violence, mental health issues, and more. Covid-19 makes these situation even more dire. You can donate now: phone 1800 668 426 or [click here](#).

God gives us many good gifts, and we are called to share those gifts with those most in need.

A list of ways to give – which will work for you?

1. **Direct regular offering:** set up direct debit giving so people can make regular contributions to your Church: you can find the 'Direct Offering Form' for UEthical (previously UCA Funds Management) at <https://www.ueethical.com/forms-and-documents>.
2. **Direct EFT:** provide your Church's bank account details so people can use online banking (EFT) or telephone banking, for regular or 'one off' payments. If your local church has an account with UEthical, provide BSB 704-907, use the 9-digit UEthical account number, and the account name of your local church.

3. **Post a cheque:** simple but effective (and remember to date, and cross as Not Negotiable)
4. **Planned giving envelopes:** arrange to collect existing planned giving envelopes safely by a small team of two Church leaders, then count and bank as usual
5. **Home offering:** put cash in an envelope or an offering bowl at home, collect periodically by a small team of two Church leaders, then count and bank as usual
6. **Banking envelopes:** provide envelopes with your Church bank account details on the front, which can be delivered to a bank periodically, or collected safely by a small team of two Church leaders
7. **Give a gift, leave a legacy:** some people may recognise now is the time to make arrangements to make a larger gift during their lifetime, or to leave a bequest to the Church in their will. Contact the Trusts Group in the Synod's Legal Services Unit: email: trusts@victas.uca.org.au or phone (03) 9251 5927, or visit <https://victas.uca.org.au/resources/donations-bequests/>.

Giving to the Uniting Church

The Uniting Church in Tasmania supports congregations and faith communities across Tasmania, providing resources for local leaders involved in worship, witness and service in their local communities (including responsibility for safety, property and cemeteries), coordinating the three Committees of the Presbytery which fulfil the oversight & governance responsibilities of the Church, and liaising with the other Synod offices in Victoria. Donations to the Uniting Church in Tasmania can be earmarked to support particular areas of passion or need, such as innovative mission, ministry with children & younger people and their families, or relief efforts in Australia or overseas. Contact the Tasmanian office (above) or visit <https://victas.uca.org.au/resources/donations-bequests/>.

Uniting VicTas is the community services arm of the Uniting Church across Tasmania and Victoria. Uniting VicTas already provides emergency relief to people now also affected by Covid-19, on top of existing poverty, homelessness, domestic violence, mental health issues, and more. Covid-19 makes these situation even more dire. You can donate now: phone 1800 668 426 or visit <https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/donate/>.

Uniting Church Assembly includes Frontier Services, UnitingWorld and the National Disaster Relief Fund, each of which provides support and resources for people in remote and isolated rural areas, overseas relief and development working with our church partners to connect communities for life, and in providing disaster recovery chaplaincy and support programs to help families rebuild their lives and their homes after a natural disaster. Donate now: <https://assembly.uca.org.au/donate>.

What is *Mission & Service Giving*?

Mission & Service Giving enables the Church together to provide services that would not be possible alone:

- grants to provide ministry in communities that could not sustain mission to their local area or region;
- training for ministry candidates and local leaders;
- Presbytery Ministers and ministry placement support;
- communications like *Crosslight* and *eNews Update*;
- services that help us to meet the government-regulated requirements to keep everyone safe, and our properties;
- resources to assist in worship, witness and service.

Mission & Service Giving contributions from Tasmania total around \$145,000 each year. In 2019 the Church in Tasmania received over \$200,000 in grants to support ministry in the Midlands-Glamorgan region and in Bridgewater-Gagebrook. This funding from Mission & Service Giving does not include the Presbytery Ministers and eLM PeM, the Synod Liaison Minister and part-funding of the Tasmanian office, nor grants from the Synod Regionalisation Fund for some educational programs.

eLM PeM: Rev Hoon You is the Synod *equipping Leadership* for Mission unit's Presbytery eLM Minister in Tasmania, as well as the Presbytery Minister for Mission Development