Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania
Presbytery of Port Phillip West

15 September 2026

Dear Congregations and Faith Communities,

I hope this message finds you all in good spirits. I'm excited to announce that the second round of grants from the Simpson Fund for 2026 opens for applications today Tuesday 15 September 2026! You can start submitting your applications now. Please mark your calendars as the closing date is strictly Friday 9 October 2026. Unfortunately, we won't be able to accept any late submissions, so make sure to get your applications in on time. The maximum you can apply for is $6,000 excluding GST.

This year, our focus is on Mission Projects that align closely with the vision and goals outlined in the PPW Presbytery's 'Regenerating the Church 2022 - 2026 Strategy' or the UCA Vic Tas Synod Faithful Futures Strategy

The **Faithful Futures goals** as adopted at our Presbytery in Council Meeting convened on 28 February 2026. The Faithful Futures goals endorsed by the Presbytery are:

Coordinated Ministries
Coordinated ministry and mission in geographic areas such as Local Government Areas by 2030: attentive to renewing discipleship, and to the life and needs of the local context.

Respecting Country
Honouring the Church's Covenant with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, all communities of faith will listen to and be able to tell about some of the histories of the Country on which they are located by the end of 2028 and be invited to develop local and appropriate ways to respond.

Intercultural Leadership
By 2028, to:
- Be providing appropriate intercultural leadership formation and equipping for all ministry agents and congregations; and
- Develop intercultural networks for worship, witness, and service.

All-age growth
To have at least one all-age community of faith that is interactive, diverse, inclusive and transformative in 80% of Coordinated Ministries by 2030.

New communities of faith
Establish at least five new Christian communities by 2030.

All forms relating to the Simpson Fund grants can be found here

It is important that your applications clearly demonstrate how your proposed project complements these strategies.

A few important points to keep in mind:

- The funding provided is GST exclusive. For example, if you submit receipts for reimbursement of grant monies totalling $5,500 (including GST), the grant reimbursement will be $5,000 (excluding GST). Most congregations submit Business Activity Statements to the Australian

Taxation Office either quarterly or annually, and any GST amounts would be refunded to the congregation through a tax refund.

- Grants are unavailable for defibrillators.
- For more information, you can visit the Presbytery website at https://ucappw.org.au/

In summary:

- Applications are to be narrative in style accompanied by the attached Simpson Fund Checklist.
- The maximum grant amount available for missional grants is $6,000.
- Grant applications to be emailed to grants@ucappw.org.au .
- Each application must be accompanied by a completed Checklist (attached) and a copy of your 2025 annual financial reports.
- Applications will open on Tuesday, 15 September 2026, and close at 5.00pm on Friday 9 October 2026 (late applications will not be accepted).
- All applications will be reviewed by the PPW Grants Committee. The date and time for this meeting to be advised.
- The Grants sub-committee will make its recommendations to the Standing Committee at its meeting on 27 October 2026.

Looking forward to seeing your applications and the wonderful projects you have in store for our community.

Kind Regards,

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