

Willetton Uniting Church (WUC) Mission Plan

Our Mission

To Participate in and Grow the Mission of God
at Willetton by

- Sharing the love of God and
- Telling people about Jesus

Our Vision

God's Love and Hope in Action

Our vision, mission, goals and budget are intentionally determined in light of the congregation's role to share the Gospel.

Our Values

✝ Discipleship ✝ Service ✝ Compassion ✝ Justice ✝

Our Values incorporate the following

Discipleship - A lifelong journey of following Jesus.

- Nurturing faith inward and outward
- Telling people about Jesus
- Mentoring
- Words and actions in living out the gospel.

Service – Ongoing action and commitment to helping others.

- Following the example of Jesus Christ
- Promoting life in our community by growing faith, love and hope through programs provided
- Responding to community needs through practical actions

Compassion To walk beside those in need

- Respect for all people
- Being inclusive and generous

Justice Living out equality for all people

- To work with integrity within the ethical framework of the UCA (Uniting Church of Australia)
- Being honest and accountable

Missional Goals

1 To provide Worship which is meaningful, Christ centered, uplifting and challenging

- Proclamation of the Gospel
- Sacraments are faithfully administered
- Welcoming and affirming all visitors
- Creative and innovative worship
- Being open to alternative ways of worship – Café Church, Messy Church

2 To connect the Community to Christ

The Congregational imperative is to do the Mission of God. We strive to achieve this. Members are concerned and engaged in mission locally, nationally and globally eg Christmas Bowl appeal, YouthCare, UnitingCare, Fremantle homeless support.

In recent years, there have been three factors impacting the implementation of our Mission plan. That is, the prospect of rebuilding and repurposing our building, COVID and not having an established minister. In 2023 we reignited our Mission Plan. Our vision and missional goals have not changed, but we have reviewed our actual and proposed missional activities. We are keen to implement some new and innovative missional activities, but to set realistic goals around implementation.

To this end, the Mission Group met earlier this year and established some priorities for new activities in order to meet our missional goals.

We decided to establish an evening where people who are homeless or struggling financially are invited to our church for a soup and laundry evening once a week. We are in the process of organizing this to commence in June 2023. We are still in negotiations with [Orange Sky Australia](#) to provide a laundry service at our Church. They have indicated that they have availability on some nights.

3 To better equip our members in leadership

- Continue to develop “Pastoral Partners” through training, equipping members for the use of their spiritual gifts
- Continue to develop Elders
- Continue to develop volunteers within existing groups at WUC
- Identify and encourage potential new leaders
- To consider ways we care for our church leaders and reduce overload.

4 To improve our contact and connection with more people

- Optimizing our Website
- Examine other ways of spreading our message, eg media, community based events, etc
- Equipping members with tools to invite others
- Making visitors welcome before, during and after worship
- Follow up with visitors – steps to follow

5 To exercise responsible management of our gifts.

Our Plan

Our Church

Who We Are	What we do	Possibilities	Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congregation of approximately 102 with an average weekly attendance of 65 • Long term members are becoming increasingly aged • Our congregation is becoming increasingly multicultural • A Mission Group was formed in September 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship circle • Evening fellowship • Classical Piano Recitals • Sewing group • Choir • Meditation group • Newsletter • Food collection → St Pats • YouthCARE – supporting Chaplains in local schools • Bible study (periodical) • Sunday morning worship • Café church • Elders/Pastoral Partners • Monthly services at Castledare (on hold) • Vintage Coffee Group – weekly catch up for men • Annual fun fair 	<p>Messy Church</p> <p>Soup and Laundry evening</p>	<p>Mission budget</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Church building (Herald Ave complex)</p> <p>Congregational Members</p> <p>Orange sky organization</p> <p>Annual fun fair funded from donations received at previous fun fair</p>

Our Community

The City of Canning has an increasing population. In 2016, the population of the City of Canning was 93,733 and in 2012 it was 95,860. The local population is increasingly multicultural. The largest growing cultural groups are Chinese and Indian ancestry. In the City of Canning 18.5% of the population have Chinese ancestry, compared to 5.8% in the whole Greater Perth area. 8.2% in Canning have Indian ancestry, compared to 3.5% in Greater Perth. 1.4% of the population are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.*

* Figures from the ABS 2016 and 2012 Census

Our Priorities

The mission group was established because we recognised a need to plan a way to use our resources differently and reach out to the community in innovative and fresh ways.

There has been some great progress made in identifying what we currently do and considering new ways of reaching out to the community. We have a fledgling community of **youth** – school age to young adults - and want to engage and inspire them. We also need to respond to the evolving community, with its increasing **age** and **diversity**.

Imperatives

In order to take into account our people resources, we are focusing on one new missional activity at a time.

We decided to establish an evening where people who are homeless or struggling financially are invited to our church for a soup and laundry evening once a week. We are in the process of organizing this to commence in June 2023. We are currently finalizing negotiations with Orange Sky Australia to provide a laundry service at our Church. Orange Sky is a charity provided to homeless and low-income people which has the aim of providing a positive connection through a portable laundry service. They have indicated that they have availability on some nights. We have many volunteers mobilized to make soup.

We are hoping to commence this initiative in June 2023.

Once this initiative is established, we will identify another action to work on. Other priorities established this year include revisiting Messy Church and continuing with the Annual Fun Fair. We have identified a need to review our **people resources**. Many church activities require a great deal of input by our members. There is some concern that our human resources could be stretched beyond capacity should we add more projects to the list. It has been very useful to identify this because it has shown us that changing our paradigm about the way we do things is crucial.

Willetton Uniting Church is committed to living out our missional values so that we can grow in the mission of God as we epitomize:

“God’s Love and Hope in Action”

Review

- Reviews will occur biannually at Congregational meetings when reports are presented (in written format) to the Congregation by the various Coordinators. This will also be followed up by the Mission Group and the Willetton Church Council.