

# Eldership and Mission

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# ***Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia***

## **ELDERS**

3.1.10 (a) The ministry of Elder is one of spiritual oversight, and may also be exercised in pastoral visitation, teaching, encouraging members of the Congregation to share in mission, and assisting the Minister in leadership of worship and administration of the sacraments and other areas in the life of the Congregation. Elders who serve on the Church Council have a particular responsibility to ensure that matters of spiritual oversight, pastoral care and the mission of the Church have priority in the work of the Church Council.

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

3.1.13 (a) The Church Council shall give priority to building up the Congregation in faith and love, sustaining members in hope, and leading the Congregation to a fuller participation in Christ's mission in the world. This priority shall be reflected in the agenda of its ordinary meetings.

(b) The duties and responsibilities of the Church Council include the following:

- (i) sharing with the Minister(s) in mission and in the pastoral care and spiritual oversight of the Congregation.;
- (ii) nurturing the members and adherents in their growth in grace;
- (iii) making decisions in accordance with the Regulations concerning baptism, confirmation and membership, and the keeping and reviewing of the rolls of the Congregation;
- (iv) assisting the Minister(s) in the conduct of worship and in the administration of the sacraments;
- (v) determining the time and place of services of public worship;
- (vi) carrying out its functions concerning applicants for the ministries of Minister of the Word, Deacon, Community Minister, Lay Pastor, Lay Preacher and Youth Worker, having regard to the Regulations;
- (vii) managing the financial affairs and the general administration of the Congregation including the reception, preparation and presentation of all necessary budgets, statements and reports;
- (viii) managing and controlling property in accordance with the Regulations;
- (ix) preparing and presenting to a meeting of the Congregation an annual report concerning the life and work of the Congregation including its worship, mission and service, and making recommendations with regard to the program for the ensuing year;
- (x) exercising oversight of the appointment of officers and leaders of Congregational organisations;
- (xi) referral of matters to Presbytery as prescribed.