

Experience & Skills Required

Prior to appointment as a Pastor, a successful applicant will need to demonstrate competency in two key areas (called Core Competencies)

- understanding the Basis of Union, and the background, organisation and life of the UCA
- understanding the Code of Ethics and Ministry Practice of the UCA and an ability to demonstrate its requirements in practice

The Presbytery will assess Core Competencies at the time of selection. However, potential Pastors are encouraged strongly to complete a training and assessment process in these areas prior to making any application.

A Pastor's particular role will also require the person to have certain competencies, for example, the



A Period of Discernment will usually be expected of those seeking to serve in congregational oversight.

ability to teach and preach, to lead youth programs, to provide effective pastoral care, or to work with community groups.

These General Competencies will be assessed as part of the selection process for a Pastor appointment. These competency areas will also form the basis for any required continuing education.

For further details about Pastor Competencies, training and assessment, contact Craig Bailey at Uniting College on 08 8416 8420.

Prospective Pastors are encouraged strongly to undertake learning through the Certificate in Ministry program provided through Uniting College.

Training programs will be offered in 2011. Contact Uniting College on 8416 8420 for details.

**A Pilgrim People:
The Uniting Church**

Grow and Go: 13-15 May

**Professional Ethics
in Ministry Settings**

10-11 Aug; 15 Sept.

Venue: Adelaide College of Divinity Campus, Brooklyn Park and The Corner Uniting Church.

NEXT STEPS

Talk to your minister, resource minister or mission network co-ordinator about your interest.

For more details or to receive an information pack Call Gill Morel at the Uniting Church SA office on 8236 4204 or email gmorel@sa.uca.org.au.

Visit the UCA Assembly website for Regulations and other official information.

<http://assembly.uca.org.au/resources/40-mop.html>

Lead and teach. Serve with compassion. Share the faith. Make a difference.

The ministry of Pastor



A lay specified ministry in
the Uniting Church



Prepared by
Uniting Church SA

The ministry of Pastor



What is a Pastor?

The Ministry of Pastor is an opportunity for lay people to serve the Uniting Church in pastoral ministry in a variety of roles.

This new 'umbrella' ministry will incorporate people in a range of tasks within the Uniting Church.

Pastor Roles

A Pastor is a person whose role includes one or more of the following:

- teaching the beliefs and practices of the Uniting Church;
- pastoral oversight of members and/or groups under the auspices of the Uniting Church;
- leadership of worship within the Uniting Church;
- evangelism or service auspiced by the Uniting Church.

For example:

Youth workers
Pastoral assistants
Family ministry
Worship pastors
Evangelism and outreach workers
Congregational pastors
Community development workers

Oversight

The Presbytery determines whether a particular role is a Pastor appointment (or the Synod or Assembly in the case of a wider role.)

Pastors are accountable to the Uniting Church for the exercise of their ministry. They are supported by the church and act as representatives of the church.

The Pastor's job description is determined by the appointing body and approved by the Presbytery.

A Pastor's appointment will be a contracted position, although Pastors may be contracted to fulfil a ministerial placement.

Entry

To become a Pastor, a person must have been a confirmed member or member in association in the UCA for a period of twelve months prior to appointment.

A person can become a Pastor by applying for a position advertised by the church as a Pastor appointment

Information about current Pastor vacancies in SA will be advertised in the church media. If appointed to a position, a person is then commissioned as a Pastor.

A person can also indicate their willingness to be considered for appointment as a Pastor.

This involves submitting a profile to the Presbytery.

A person becomes a Pastor only for the duration of their appointment in a particular role.

The ministry of Pastor is not intended as a life-long ministry. People with a sense of call to long-term ministry are encouraged to undertake the Period of Discernment.



Remuneration

Pastors may be full-time or part-time, salaried or voluntary. The Pastor's remuneration will be determined by the appointing body following guidelines provided by the Presbytery, taking into account job responsibility, qualifications and experience.