

Winter 2020

Investor Returns



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\$50,000 Grant to Help Bushfire Victims

SA communities were devastated by bushfires in the Black Summer of 2019/20: Yorke Peninsula, Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island were the worst affected. These fires impacted families, properties, livestock, businesses, and areas where many live and work, and others choose to find recreation.

In response to the Black Summer fires, the Uniting Church investment Committee swiftly donated \$50,000 from Uniting Fund SA to the Uniting Church SA (USCA) Relief Fund, which enabled these funds to be quickly mobilised for numerous significant initiatives. This gift was followed by generous donations from churches and individuals, all of which are being put to good use in the following ways:

- A Recovery Minister was appointed in each of the three communities to provide additional ministry support. These Ministers supplemented the work of their colleagues already in placement, and together helped address the pastoral, emotional and spiritual support needs generated by the fires in local congregations and the broader communities.
- Through this additional ministry, seeds have been sown in local congregations about how they might assist and support their communities during the long-term

recovery process. Given that disaster recovery generally takes about two years, there are many opportunities and ways to offer support, especially once outside agencies have moved on. The USCA Relief Fund may well become a source of financial support for projects still in the imaginations of these congregations.

- The long-term future of Disaster and Recovery Ministries SA has been bolstered by this gift, enabling the provision of chaplaincy to Relief Centres, Recovery Centres and on outreach teams in partnership with the SA Government whenever and wherever disasters strike in the region.

None of these initiatives would be possible without our Investors who continue to provide their support and trust.

Thank you for assisting our disaster-affected communities in SA!

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 **UC Invest**
Securing your future

Welcome to Investor Returns

Every new year brings its own set of challenges. In 2018, UC Invest started life anew under an Australian Financial Services License and within a new company. During 2019, UC Invest had some major personnel changes, and of course, 2020 started with major bushfires and a global pandemic, COVID-19.

Over the past few months, UC Invest staff have been working from home as the Uniting Church has been dealing the pandemic under SA Health directives. Some of the things we have taken for granted are at present a little different. My daily commute is now the walk from the kitchen to my back veranda where my workstation is setup, and yes, the morning air is refreshing.

A couple of weeks ago as our team caught up via video conference, I was surprised how the changing work arrangements and after-hour restrictions were enabling our team members to spend more time focusing on hobbies. I recall laughing as Stephanie, our Risk and Compliance Officer, showed off her recent crocheted creations (refer to page 4). Stephanie was not alone in her creativity, as others on the team were also knitting and crocheting in their spare time. Lately, I am reminded of my grandfather who was a carpenter, as I have been doing a bit of sawing, drilling, and assembling (I'm sure my joints aren't quite as tight as his).

As you will no doubt notice in this Investor Relations edition, 2019 was a strong year for UC Invest. We are proud of last year's performance, as it gives an opportunity to continue to support the Uniting Church by providing tangible help when needed.

For example:

- This past summer, there was capacity to offer funds to help kickstart the care needed in Kangaroo Island and the Adelaide Hills communities, whilst the bushfires were still raging.
- Solar panels were installed at Uniting College thanks to monies created by our Community's investment services activities. These panels will reduce the Uniting College's carbon footprint and reduce its energy bills over the long term.

And I would be remiss if I did not call attention to the impressive \$2.27 million UC Invest grant to the Church's operating budget in 2019 as well.

I sincerely hope you and your family are safe and well, and strong in spirit as we rise together to meet the challenges of 2020.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Paul

Paul Barnett
Manager



Here's what UC Invest has achieved this past year.

UC Invest received tremendous support from its individual Uniting Church members and organisations in 2019. By year's end, our investors had invested a total of \$204 million into the Fund. This ongoing support is what enables the Fund to continue providing grants to the Uniting Church SA.

Additionally, the Company generated sufficient net income to meet our grant commitments to the Mission & Service Fund in 2019. The Uniting Church SA Investment Fund Limited provided the operational budget of Uniting Church SA with a grant of \$2.27 million.

We understand that there will be headwinds from time-to-time, such as Covid-19, and our Committee and the investment team continuously review the Company's business model, marketing plans and activities using a developed risk management framework to enable the Company to increase its equity base.

The most important factor in the success of Uniting Church SA Investment Fund Limited is our Investors—our community has such a strong spirit.

Thank you for trusting us with your investments. We genuinely appreciate your patronage.

Assets

Cash held in accounts	\$25.5m
Loan to The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (S.A.)	\$187m
Other Assets	\$0.03m
Total	\$212.5m

Liabilities

Investors	\$204m
Other Liabilities	\$0.71m
Total	\$205m
Equity	\$7.6m



Uniting College is Harnessing the Sun

The Uniting College for Leadership and Theology in Brooklyn Park South Australia will receive a \$35,000 grant from Uniting Fund SA to install 66 solar panels and an inverter to provide the college with a 22kw solar power system.

The Uniting Church Investment Committee were thrilled that solar PV panels would help produce enough energy to potentially offset the College's electricity consumption on site, resulting in a sustainable and clean way to keep operating costs down.

"We were delighted that Uniting Church Investment Committee agreed to provide a grant enabling us to purchase and install such a robust solar power system," said Diane Hughes, acting Business Manager for Uniting College's Brooklyn Park campus. "We look forward to reaping the benefits from this system, which plays a large part in our efforts to increase environmentally responsible decisions and practices on the campus."

Uniting College is ready to embrace renewable energy sources as part of the recent refurbishment of the Yarthu-Apinthi 'to educate, to grow' (Brooklyn Park) building. The name Yarthu-Apinthi is an important recognition of the First Peoples, and with their permission, art by aboriginal artists are on display throughout the building. The college supports the education and training of people from a range of church backgrounds and ministering interests, including the diaconate and youth workers.

The solar panel installation is the final piece of the Brooklyn Park Refurbishment project.



Uniting Church SA Investment Fund Ltd.

For more information and to view our 2019 financial results, visit:

ucinvest.com.au/about-us/financial-results





Crocheting During Covid-19

For many of us life has changed since Covid-19. Over the past few months, Stephanie Simpson, Risk and Compliance Officer for UC Invest, has taken these changing times as an opportunity to explore her creative side.

With her morning commute decreasing from 40 minutes to a quick walk to her lounge room to turn on her PC, she has rediscovered her passion for crocheting, which she learned from her Mum. Stephanie crochets colourful animals and dolls and gives them to family and friends as gifts.

Even though she is working from home, she remains committed to completing all her work tasks and ensuring UC Invest complies with all its rules and policies—all the while continuously reviewing our operations remotely within our risk management framework.

Steph will continue crocheting in the future and plans to expand her collection to include crocheted koalas, which she'll be sending to her nieces and nephews in the U.S. for Christmas due to Covid-19 travel restrictions.



Here are some health tips from SA Health

Stop the spread of colds, flu, and gastro with these three quick tips:

1. WASH your hands well and often throughout the day.
2. WIPE down frequently touched surfaces regularly.
3. COVER your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your arm.

Stay away from others if you are sick, social distance as much as possible.

Visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au for more tips on staying well this winter.

Uniting Church SA Investment Fund Ltd ACN 620 095 472 AFSL 501022 ("theFund") is a public company, limited by guarantee and registered under the Corporations Act 2001.

The Fund exists for the charitable purpose of advancing religion by supporting the mission of the Uniting Church in Australia. The Fund is not prudentially supervised by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. Therefore, an investor in the Fund will not receive the benefit of the financial claims scheme or depositor protection provisions of the Banking Act 1959. Investments in the Fund are intended to be a means for investors to support the charitable purposes of the Fund.

The Fund is required by law to advise investors that investments in it are only intended to attract investors whose primary purpose for making their investment is to support the charitable purposes of the Fund, that investors may be unable to get some or all of their money back when they expect or

at all, that investments are not subject to the usual protections for investors under the Corporations Act 2001 or regulation by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), and that the investment is not comparable to investments with banks, finance companies or fund managers.

The Fund holds an Australian Financial Services licence (AFSL) number 501022 authorising it to deal in, and provide general financial product advice in relation to, securities (which include debentures) and non-cash payment products. It also operates under an instrument made by ASIC the effect of which is to exempt it from the requirement to comply with Parts 6D.2 and 6D.3 of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to offers to issue debentures (ASIC Corporations (Charitable Investment Fundraising) Instrument 2016/813). Our Charitable Investment Fundraiser Identification Statement provides more information and explains how investment funds are used to support the charitable purposes of the Fund.