



Uniting Church
in Australia



Uniting Aboriginal and Islander
Christian Congress

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

TA'U ATU FAAALOALO O LE ATUNUU

1. We acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of these lands and waters where we meet, the _____ Nation (of the _____ peoples).

Tatou te ta'utino atu ma le faaaloalo, le pule maualuga a Tagata Muamua o lenei lauelele ma o latou vai, lea ua tatou potopoto ai nei, o le mamalu lava lea o le atunuu o _____ (o tagata _____).

We pay our respects to their elders past and present and to all descendants of this/these nations who have cared for this place since creation.

Tatou te ta'utino atu lo tatou faaaloalo i o latou ta'ita'i, o e ua mavae atu, ma e o loo soifua nei, faapea ai foi suli uma o lenei atunuu, o e na tausia lenei nofoaga talu mai le amataga.

We also honour all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples here today.

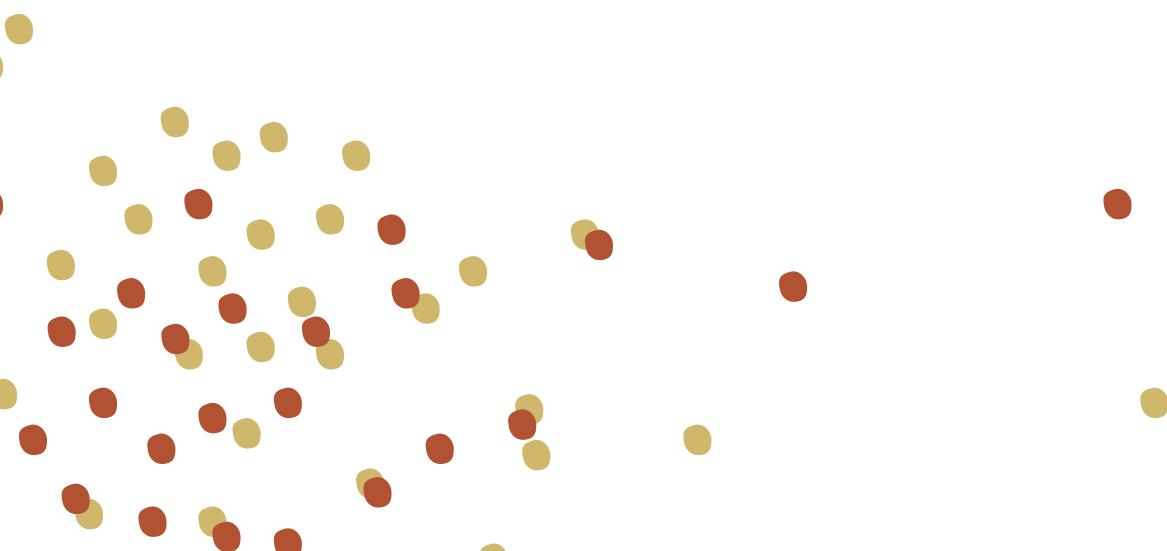
Tatou te tautino atu foi lo tatou faaaloalo i isi tagata Apoliki uma, ma tagata atumotu ole Torres Strait (ua mafai ona tatou faatasi i lenei aso.)

2. This land is God's land and God's Spirit dwells here. We acknowledge the _____ people, traditional custodians of this land under God.

O lenei lauelele o le lauelele o le Atua, ma o loo afio ai le Agaga o le Atua i le mea nei. Tatou te tautino atu ma le faaaloalo o tagata _____, o i latou o tausi eleele faaleaganuu o lenei lauelele e pei ona finagalo ai le Atua.

We commit ourselves again to working for reconciliation in this land.

Tatou te ofoina atu o tatou tagata, ina ia tatou galulue pea mo se leleiga i lenei lauelele.



An "Acknowledgement of First Peoples" is a way of paying respect to First Peoples whenever we gather together, such as the commencement of worship, Church meetings and other occasions when the Church gathers.

It is an important expression of:

- the covenant which the Uniting Church in Australia has with the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress
- the Preamble to our Uniting Church in Australia Constitution
- the affirmation by the 15th Assembly in 2018 of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians as sovereign peoples in this land.

Acknowledgement of Country:

- recognises the place of Indigenous people as the First Peoples of this land
- promotes awareness of the history and culture of the First Peoples
- formally acknowledges First Peoples ongoing connection to land

O le "Ta'u atu faalauaitele o Tagata Muamua" o se auala lea e faailoa ai lo tatou faaaloalo mo Tagata Muamua, i soo se taimi tatou te potopoto faatasi ai, e pei o le amataga o a tatou tapuaiga, ma fonotaga, faapea foi le tele o isi potopotoga a le ekalesia.

O se tulaga taua lea e faailoa atu ai:

- le feagaiga ua faia e le Ekalesia Soofaatas i Ausetalia ma le Fono Aloaia faaKerisiano, o sui o tagata Apoliki ma Tagata o Atumotu.
- ia Upu Amata o le Faavae o le Ekalesia Soofaatas i Ausetalia.
- le faaiuga a le Fono Tele Iona 15 a le Ekalesia Soofaatas i le tausaga 2018, lea ua saga faamautuina ai, o tagata Apoliki, ma tagata o atumotu o le Torres Strait, o i latou o le pule maualuga o lenei lauelele.

O le Ta'u atu faalauaitele o le Atunu:

- e amanaia ai le tulaga o tagata Apoliki uma, o i latou o Tagata Muamua o lenei lauelele.
- e siitia ai le iloa o le talaaga ma aganuu a Tagata Muamua.
- e aloaia ai le taliaina faalauaitele o le sootaga faifai pea o Tagata Muamua ma le lauelele.



The Covenanting Painting:

This painting tells a sacred Creation story of the Wagalak sisters and speaks particularly of the alliance of four Clan Nations and their responsibilities for the land and waters of their yirralka (estates).

The painting also depicts the sacred ground where ceremonies take place and in particular the Wukindi ceremony, to restore relationship when blood is spilt and bring reconciliation.

The painting is in itself an initiation for UCA members to stand with members of the UAICC in their struggle for justice.



The Uniting Church in
Australia Covenanting logo