



BEING AN INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH

Resource Paper #7 | INTERGENERATIONAL WORSHIP TOGETHER

The Uniting Church in Australia seeks to be a genuinely intergenerational church in which all ages are welcomed and valued, where every generation is engaged together in active discipleship, growing in and sharing faith in Jesus. This paper is one of a series that has emerged to assist the church in being and becoming more intentionally intergenerational. It is offered as a resource for all those who share the dream of a more intergenerational church – a church comprised of lifelong followers of Jesus, of all ages, caring, praying, celebrating, learning and serving faith-fully together.

One way of thinking about intergenerational worship is as multi-age worship with an intentional intergenerational overlay.

Intergenerational worship attends to...

- multi-age
- multi-ability
- multi-sensory
- multi-intelligence

Intergenerational worship fosters...

- Surprise
- Wonder
- Delight
- Fun

Intergenerational worship engages multiple generations together in the...

- Planning
- Preparing
- Presenting
- Participating
- aPpraising

Intergenerational worship involves the intentional...

- Facilitating
 - Hosting
 - Celebrating
- ... the shared life and connections
of all and any generations together

Intergenerational worship involves different people, representing a range of generations, in the various phases of worship...

- Providing intergenerational interaction in preparation
- Modelling intergenerational engagement in worship
- Demonstrating value/ethos of intentional intergenerationality
- Promoting intergenerational conversations afterwards

Some simple tips...

- Be clear
- Utilise story
- Repetition
- Include participation
- Engage senses and emotions
- Integrate content
- Use invitation
- Repetition
- Be real

Some expanded tips...

- Give high priority to visuals and kinaesthetic engagement
- Include fun, excitement and surprise in the context of genuine worship
- Provide opportunities for interaction of small intergenerational groups within worship
- Provide multi-sensory experiences, including touch and taste as well as sight and hearing
- Use language that is hospitable, invitational, inclusive and understandable to those present
- Ensure explanations, invitations and directions are clear so that participants know expectations
- Involve different people from a range of generations
- Make sure invitations to programmed movement (eg. actions, dancing, clapping during songs) are inclusive of all present and respectful of different abilities



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