



Uniting Church
in Australia



Uniting Aboriginal and Islander
Christian Congress

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

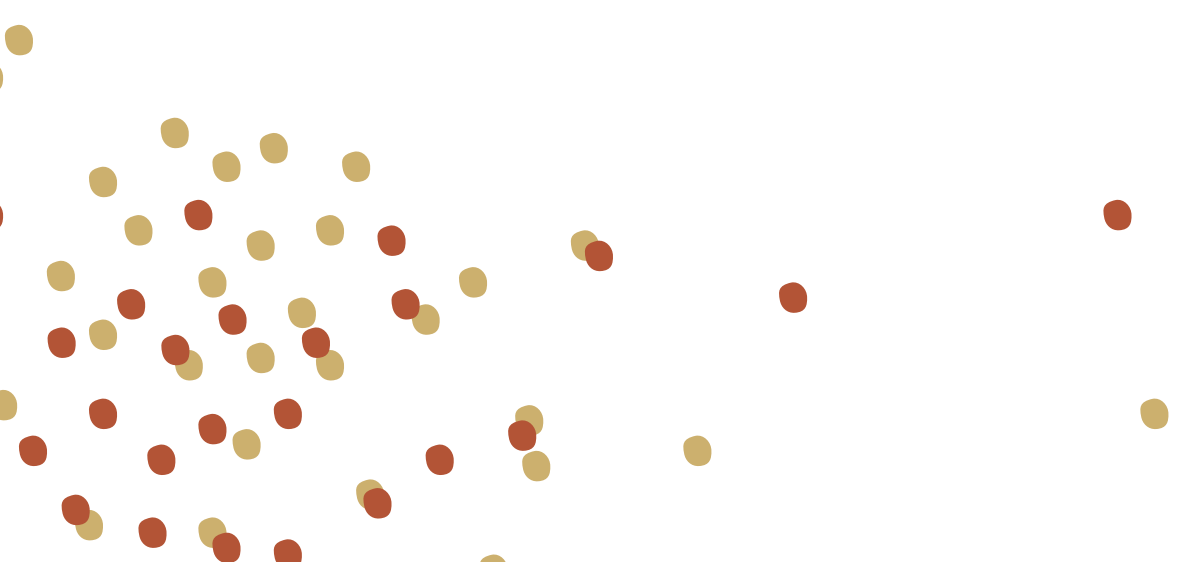
1. We acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of these lands and waters where we meet, the _____ Nation (of the _____ peoples).

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.

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

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

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



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



The Covenanted 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 Covenanted logo

