



Uniting Church
in Australia



Uniting Aboriginal and Islander
Christian Congress

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

MAILOGAAGA HE FONUA

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

Kua mailoga e tau tagata fakamua he fonua mo e tofia - ko e kaina kua feleveia ai a tautolu ainei, ko e _____ nation he tau 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.

Kia fakalilifu atu ke he tau tupuna he tau kaina nei pihia mo e tau atuhau tali mai ine aho mua, ainei, mo anoiha. Ko lautolu haia ne leveki e fonua tali mai tigahau.

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

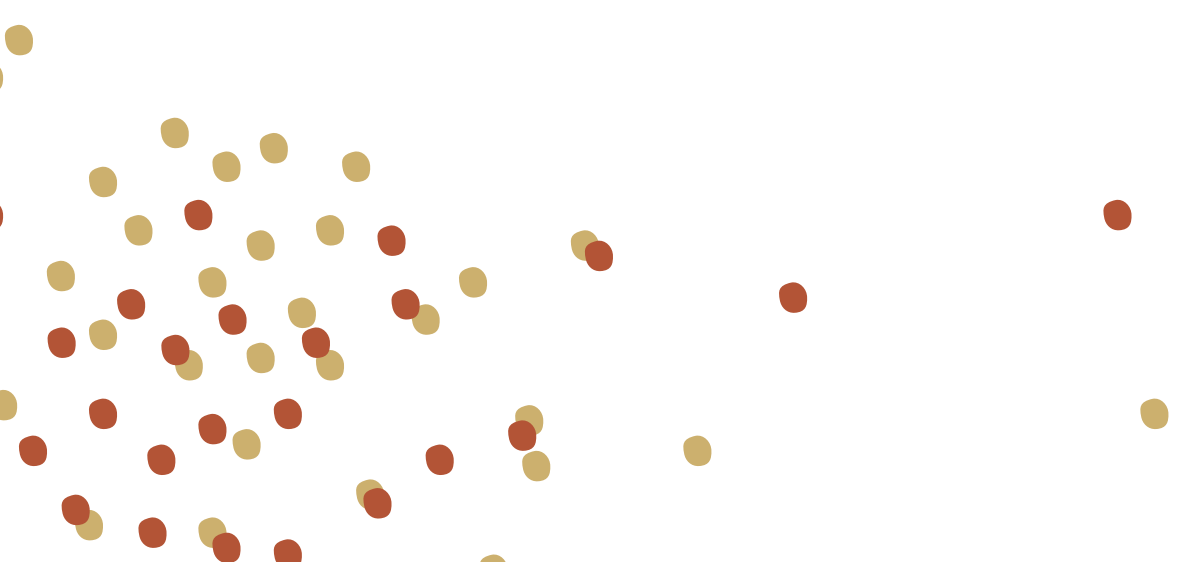
Kua fakalilifu atu foki kia lautolu e tau Aboriginal mo e Torres Strait Islanders kua ha ha i hinai mo tautolu.

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

Ko e fonua he Atua a nei, ne takele foki e Agaaga he Atua he fonua nei. Kua mailoga foki e tautolu e tau tagata _____ ko e tau leveki fonua i lalo hifo he pule he Atua.

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

Kia tumau a tautolu mo e taute e fakafeiloaga ma e tau tagata oti kua heapi he kaina nei.



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

Ko e “Mailogaaga ke he tau Tagata Fakamua” he fonua nei ko e puhala haia ke fakalilifu a lautolu he tau magaaho oti ka tolo ai a tautulou ke tapuaki, fono po ke ha fakafetuiaga he Ekalesia.

Ko e talahauaga mahuiga ke he:

- maveheaga ne kua taute he Uniting Church in Australia mo e Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress
- ha i ai ke he Mataulu he Tohi Fakave he Uniting Church in Australia
- kua liu peehi mai foki he Fono Motu lahi ke 15 aki he tau 2018 e fakamooliaga kia lautolu e tau Aboriginal and Islander Australians ko e tau Pule Fonua he motu nei.

Mailogaaga he Fonua:

- mailoga e tūaga he tau tagata Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ko e tau tagata fakamua he motu nei
- ke mailoga mo e fakaako ke he tūaga, tala tupu fakaholo mo e tau aga fakamotu he tau tagata fakamua he Fonua.
- mailoga e matutakiaga he tau tagata fakamua he motu nei mo e Fonua nei tukulagi



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.

