

Christian Unity Working Group (UCA):

<http://assembly.uca.org.au/cunity/index.htm>

Contact Details

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Internationally, the Uniting Church in Australia is part of an amazing web of relationships with other churches through the World Council of Churches, the Christian Conference of Asia, the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the World Methodist Council. Within Australia, we are linked to 16 other Christian denominations through our involvement in and membership of the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA).

Christian Unity focuses on these ecumenical relationships. This is undertaken by the voluntary Christian Unity Working Group, supported by the National Secretary (Rev Dr Sandy Yule) in a half-time appointment and reporting through the General Secretary, the Rev. Terence Corkin. The Christian Unity Working Group relates to the committees concerned with ecumenical relations in each state synod.

Christian Unity also oversees bi-lateral [dialogues](#). The aim is to develop friendly relations, deepen understandings and where possible recognise ministry and develop cooperation. Currently there are active bi-lateral dialogues with the:

- Anglican Church of Australia
- Roman Catholic Church
- Lutheran Church
- Baptist Church
- Salvation Army

Documents and Resources:

<http://assembly.uca.org.au/cunity/docsnresources.htm>

UCA response to questions in the World Council of Churches 9th Assembly statement on Christian Unity - *Called to be the one Church*

Response from the Uniting Church in Australia

In 2006, at the WCC Assembly in Porto Alegre, a new statement *Called to Be the One Church* was released. It links mission and unity in a fresh way. While recognising that some Churches cannot fully recognise, the statement also recognises that many will be able to go on mission together for the sake of a world which is sadly fragmented and sorely in need of healing. The Uniting Church, along with many other Churches, has made an official response to the statement, indicating our re-commitment to mission and to Christian unity. Read the [statement](#)

Ninth WCC Assembly, Porto Alegre, Brazil, February 2006

Report from Rev. Sandy Yule

The 9th Assembly of the World Council of Churches was extremely well communicated through the WCC media, though not the secular Australian press, so I shall not attempt a complete account of all that transpired. Read [full report](#).

When Churches Join

[Guidelines for Uniting Church congregations seeking cooperation with congregations of other churches](#)

This comprehensive resource looks at the concept and practicalities of churches of different denominations working together. It has been collated from a variety of sources, and includes:

- reasons why congregations join together
- ways to begin the process
- pitfalls and difficulties
- specific denominational issues
- covenants and agreements ([new Anglican/Uniting agreement from Mt Hawthorn, WA](#))
- general documents

In Christ's mission, be open to "what is possible if we go to the limits of what is permissible"! (NCCA)

For the Sake of the Gospel (pdf - 130KB)

Mutual Recognition of Ordained Ministries in the Anglican and Uniting Churches in Australia

This document was officially signed on 18th February, 2001. It is an important step forward in the relationship between the two denominations, and enables them to work together more closely.

Also available: **Summary - For the Sake of the Gospel**

Towards a Common Witness (pdf - 89KB)

This discussion starter for groups and congregations looks at 'liberal' and 'evangelical' perspectives in a conversation on faith sharing and witness. It aims to enable us 'to talk and work together so that our Church may not be divided but be so truly united that it can effectively proclaim the good news of Christ to the world'.

Note: This document is designed to be printed double-sided and form a booklet.

**Interchurch Marriages - Their ecumenical challenges and significance for our churches
(book - not available online)**

Produced by the UCA/Roman Catholic dialogue.

It is available within Australia for \$8 plus postage from:

[The Uniting Church Synod of Victoria Office](#)

130 Little Collins Street

Melbourne, Victoria 3000

Ph. (03) 9251 5200

OR

[Uniting Education](#)

PO Box 1245

Collingwood, Victoria 3066

Ph. (03) 9416 4262