

21 Cummins Street Rapid Creek NT 0810 Australia PO Box 667 Nightcliff 0814 Ph: 0410196354; Email: gmi.council.uc@gmail.com

Darwin, 08 June 2017

## **Reverend Felicity Amery**

Chairperson/Presbytery Minister
Pilgrim Presbytery of Northern Australia
Northern Synod of Uniting Church in Australia
E: felicity.amery@ns.uca.org.au

Re: Letter of requesting permission to amalgamate Indonesia Missionary Church and Philadelphia Uniting Church

Dear Rev Felicity,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour!

On behalf of the congregations of the Indonesian Missionary Uniting Church kindly thank you for your continued love and support to the life of our congregation's members. Particularly, we are grateful to have your prayer and support regarding our intention to amalgamate with the Philadelphia Uniting Church. As you know that IMC and PUC have been having combined service and other church's activities since the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2017, we humbly write you that we would like to seek for permission from the Presbytery and the Northern Synod to merge these two congregations based on the Uniting Church in Australia Regulations 2015 3.4.4.

As the Body of Christ, we realized that Jesus Christ is longing for His children to be united, as outlined in His prayer in John 17:20-23, which underlies our commitment for this amalgamation. Furthermore, we understood the mutual circumstances and needs of both congregations that would benefit the continuity of God's ministry through the unification. Thus, both church Councils accompanied by Rev Reva Natigor had a meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2017 and had a further discussion about it. Since there were mutual background, minister and liturgy, everyone agreed that the unification is suitable and convenient for both congregations. After the consideration of several things including the improvement of the members, services, organisation, fellowship, coaching, financial and facility, the meeting admitted that:

- The church will be stronger in ministry if the small number of members from each Congregation are combined
- The people who attend the Sunday service will increase, as well as the church councils and the elders
- The Sunday school and youth coaching can be sustained together
- The fellowship acquaintance will be maintained

- The financial condition will be improved
- The both congregations can share the facilities entrusted by the Uniting Church.

Moreover, at the same meeting, we decided to start the combined service on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2017 and the announcement to each congregation about the unification was made on 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2017. The plan of unification was mentioned in the meeting with Rev Felicity and Rev Peter Jones on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April and on the support letter for Rev Reva to the presbytery (03/05/2017).

Since then we have moved forward together and supporting each other in the Ministry of God with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we will appreciate the assistance, guidance and support from the Presbytery in the process this amalgamation so we may be able to become one strong congregation that brings more people to know about our God.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require more information. Again, we thank you for your kind support and love and look forward to hear from you about this matter. Let His will be done and to Him be the glory.

Faithfully yours,

DarmiMessakh

Secretary for Indonesian Missionary Uniting Church

M: 0401 196 354

E: gmi.council.uc@gmail.com