



Philadelphia Indonesian Uniting Church

53 Koolinda Crescent, Karama NT 0812; Postal Address: PO Box 97 Karama 0813

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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 intent to amalgamate Philadelphia Indonesian Uniting Church and Indonesia Missionary Church

Dear Rev Felicity,

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

On behalf of the church council from the Philadelphia Indonesia Uniting Church (PIUC) congregation, we would like to officially request to amalgamate our congregation with Indonesia Missionary Uniting Church (IMUC). Both PIUC and IMUC are led by the same minister since January 2017. As you may be aware, many church activities were held together and the relationship between the congregations is growing closer and stronger. Jesus Christ is longing for His children to be united, as outlined in His prayer in John 17:20-23. This verse underlies our commitment for this amalgamation. We believe both congregations will benefit from the continuity of God's ministry through the unification.

Background

PIUC and IMUC are both Indonesian congregations who share the same mother tongue language of 'bahasa Indonesia' as well as rich cultural background from various ethnics especially from provinces on the east side of Indonesia. Both congregations have the same need to form a community which provide adequate social support.

Purpose

The amalgamation of the two Indonesian congregations has the purpose to

- To recover and develop the positive, close and warm relationship between both congregations through various church activities.
- To utilise the available church, minister house and other properties provided by Uniting Church of Australia Northern Synod.
- To provide a nurturing support and make use of the potentials from both congregation to build a stronger church through the same vision and mission.
- To maintain and build relationship with other churches in Northern Territory through combined church activities and ministry.

Advantage

We believe the amalgamation of both PIUC and IMC will bring many advantages which are

- Stronger and more effective ministry when both small congregations unite into one.
- Adequate number of church council member to manage the church organisation
- Stronger relationship within both congregations



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- Able to provide sustained church activities and programs
- Improved financial condition
- Maximise the use of properties and facilities entrusted by The Uniting Church of Australia

Consultation

The amalgamation process has been going through some form of consultation to the relevant stakeholders

- Early March 2017 - The idea of amalgamation was raised and discussed by both church elders.
- 26 March 2017 - PIUC elders consulted the idea with church council members on PIUC meeting.
- March - April 2017 - elders personally approach the families and members to introduce the amalgamation idea.
- 02 April 2017 - Both elders and church council members of PIUC and IMC had a combined meeting to discuss further about the amalgamation idea including the purposes, advantages, potential response and steps on how to introduce the idea to the congregations. Both elders and church councils agreed to have socialisation session or a meeting with both congregations.
- 11 April 2017 - the amalgamation idea and plan were consulted and discussed in a meeting between both church councils with chairperson/ presbytery minister Rev. Felicity and general secretary of the Northern synod Rev. Peter Jones.
- 23 April 2017 - Official consultation and meeting with both congregations. The response was positive and encouraging. This day also became the first day when congregations agreed to continuously have Sunday service and other church activities together.
- A continuous consultation with chairperson / presbytery minister Rev. Felicity regarding the process of amalgamation of PIUC and IMUC.
- 28 May 2017 - Monthly church council meeting discussed the update in amalgamation process, decide the new name of the congregation and drafting the letter from each congregation to seek permission from presbytery to amalgamate both congregations.

We kindly ask you to consider our request and continue to assist us in this unification process. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require more information. We thank you for your kind support and love.

Faithfully yours,
On behalf of Elders & Church Councils
Philadelphia Indonesian Uniting Church

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