

Resolutions of the Joint Summit meeting of EMU and the Reforming Alliance

Following the outcome of the 11th Assembly, the joint summit of EMU and the Reforming Alliance made the following decisions at a meeting held on 12th July 2006.

1. That this meeting (on Wed 12th July 2006) declares its belief that the 10th and 11th Assemblies of the UCA have been apostate¹ in their decisions in relation to Sexuality and Leadership in the UCA. (10th Assembly Resolution 84 and 11th Assembly Resolution 108).
We believe that this is the case because
 - i. these decisions are a departure from the faith of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church,
 - ii. and because the Assembly has failed to observe its own prescribed processes when departing from its received tradition on sexual relationships.
2. That this meeting resolves, therefore, to establish *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*.
3. That this meeting adopts the “Confessing Statement from the Executive of RA and EMU,” as the proposed confession of *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*.
4. That this meeting adopts ‘The Charter for *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*’ as the proposed charter of *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*.
5. That this meeting adopts the RA statement on sexuality as the proposed statement on sexuality of *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*.
6. That this meeting make a call to concerned congregations and individuals within the UCA;
 - i. to join *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*.
Congregations should do this at a duly called constituted congregational meeting after the congregation has prayerfully examined and endorsed the above mentioned Confessional Statement, Charter, and Statement on Sexuality
 - ii. to subsequently notify the RA Administrator of their decision to join.
7. That this meeting reconvene on or about the 13th and 14th October and invite representatives from each joining congregation to attend. On that occasion *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church* be inaugurated and its structure be determined in the light of the number of congregations who are joining.
8. That a steering committee of seven persons be appointed today to coordinate the affairs of the *Assembly* between now and the meeting on or about the 13th and 14th October. That the Steering Committee engage the gifts of a wide range of people to implement the necessary preparations for the inauguration of *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*, including legal, financial and administrative arrangements.
9. That this meeting ask the Steering Committee to explore ways in which those who have left, or leave the UCA, may be associated with *The Assembly of Confessing Congregations within the Uniting Church*, in the UCA.
10. That this meeting invites submissions from members of this meeting to the Steering Committee.

¹ The word apostasy is derived from the Greek word ἀπιστία, and is used in the New Testament in the sense of ‘to draw away from’, ‘to depart from’ (Hebrews 3:12.) Apostasy is used here to describe the failure of the Assembly to correct false teaching on sexuality and the decision to enshrine it in the Church’s understanding of what is right and good. We reject any attempt to link apostasy with violent, hateful or bigoted behaviour which demeans other people, including those with whom we must disagree on this matter.