



# COMMONWEALTH GAMES

THIRD ASSEMBLY, UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA  
Resolution 82.49

82.49 It was resolved that the Assembly:

- 1) give thanks to Almighty God that “He has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and ... has enlisted us in this service of reconciliation”. (2 Cor 5:18, NEB);
- 2) acknowledge that reconciliation which is of God is not human togetherness based on appeasement or sentimentality. It is renewal of life based on God’s word of judgment and forgiveness. It is a costly and joyous process of change, of personal and social conversion in which God sets His people free to become fit instruments for His will;
- 3) commit the people of the Uniting Church to use every opportunity during the Commonwealth Games to proclaim the Gospel of peace and reconciliation which is addressed to all peoples of earth;
- 4) declare that for such reconciliation to become fully effective in our own nation there must be the right of every Australian of whatever race, age or sex to live a life of human dignity and equality;
- 5) call upon the Australian community to recognise the hopes and aspirations of its Aboriginal and Islander people, and strongly support them in their legitimate seeking after social, legal and economic justice and equality;
- 6) commit itself to a ministry of reconciliation, recognising the injury inflicted on the Aboriginal and Islander people of Australia by the injustices and exploitation that have accompanied 200 years of colonisation of their land, and call on all Australian Christians, black and white, to participate in this ministry;
- 7) reaffirm the call to the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments to grant secure title to the present Aboriginal and Islander reserve lands, and to recognise the right of the Aboriginal and Islander people to determine their own future as Australians.