affirmed by our two churches. We do not see one church absorbing another, or the extinguishing of any of the existing identities within our churches. The treasures all bring are to be preserved (e.g. spiritualities, cultural identities). We seek a visible unity for our two churches that receives and cherishes all the gifts, all the insights, and all the treasures, and holds them together in a creative way that serves God's mission in the world.

[illegible]

We need to develop ecumenical space as a setting in which, even in a state of division, we bear witness to our common allegiance to Jesus Christ and cooperate to advance the visible unity of the church. Ecumenical space offers us a way forward. In such a space we affirm our common Christian identity and have the possibility for a new discourse as we talk to one another in a new way.

This provides a greater opportunity to discern together Christ's will for the church in ways that are not possible in isolation from each other. In this way ecumenical space brings the churches into living encounter with one another. We consider that the concept of ecumenical space has much to offer a covenant such as the one proposed. We commend the statement on ecumenical space in "Episkope and Episcopacy and the Quest for Visible Unity" (World Council of Churches Faith and Order Paper No. 183 1999 pages 43-45. See appendix to this covenant)

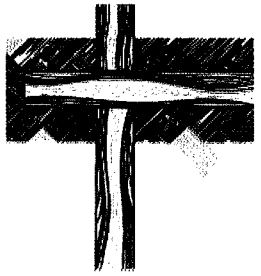
In this covenant we [illegible]

1. To develop a safe ecumenical space in which there is opportunity to explore together uncomfortable questions.
2. To an ongoing dialogue that seeks to:
   - realise more deeply our common life and mission and to share the distinctive contributions of our traditions, taking steps to bring about closer collaboration in all areas of witness and service in the world.
   - To further explore together the meaning and exercise of episkope in both our churches' life and work
   - Work towards a united and interchangeable ministry to more fully express the visible unity of our two churches.
3. To continue to provide opportunities to welcome each other's baptised members to participate in the fellowship, worship and mission of our churches, and to encourage forms of eucharistic sharing, including eucharistic hospitality, in accordance with the rules of our respective churches.
4. To provide opportunities to listen to each other and to take account of each other's concerns, especially in areas that affect our relationship as churches.
5. To provide opportunities to celebrate together annually throughout the country in an intentional way, our common faith through a focus on the offerings to the church of John and Charles Wesley who owned both the Anglican tradition and the Methodist way, on either the date set in the Anglican calendar (the Sunday nearest 8 March), or that provided for in the Methodist calendar (the Sunday nearest 24 May).

In this covenant we seek these outcomes

1. An ongoing and intentional dialogue that will deepen the present relationship of our two churches and move us towards visible unity.
2. A greater commitment to dealing with the issues that presently prevent closer communion between our two churches.
3. An open and generous relationship that holds an awareness of the other in everything we do.
4. A focus on a common mission to the world.

The Anglican Methodist Covenant

2008

'We, The Methodist Church of New Zealand (Te Hahi Weteriana o Aotearoa) and The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Te Hahi Mihinare ki Aotearoa ki Niu Tireni, Ki Nga Moutere o te Moana Nui a Kiwa), on the basis of our shared history, our agreement on the apostolic faith, our shared theological understandings of the nature and mission of the church and of its ministry and oversight, and our agreed vision of a greater practical expression of the unity in Christ of our two churches, hereby make the following covenant.'