



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN THE PHILIPPINES

877 Epifanio de los Santos Avenue, Quezon City

P.O. Box 718, Manila Central Post Office, 1099 Ermita, Manila

Telephones: (632) 426-9157 • 426-3790

E-mail: ogs@uccpchurch.com

Telefax: (632) 426-1729

Website: www.uccpchurch.com

UCCP GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFICERS 2018-2022

Mr. Keith Arleigh D. Quebral
Chairperson

Ms. Evelyn V. Yap
Vice Chairperson

Bishop Melzar D. Labuntog
General Secretary

Mr. Lauro C. Millan
National Treasurer

Mr. Segundino T. Zantua, Jr.
National Auditor

JURISDICTIONAL AREA BISHOPS

Bishop Joseph G. Agpaoa
North Luzon Jurisdiction

Bishop Joel E. Tendero
South Luzon Jurisdiction

Bishop Emergencio D. Padillo
Middle Luzon Jurisdiction

Bishop Feliciano P. Tenchavez
West Visayas Jurisdiction

Bishop Jerome C. Baris
East Visayas Jurisdiction

Bishop Ligaya F. San Francisco
*Northwest Mindanao
Jurisdiction*

Bishop Hamuel G. Tequis
*Southeast Mindanao
Jurisdiction*

STAND UNITED IN DOING CHRIST'S MISSION IN THESE CHANGING AND CHALLENGING TIMES

(A Statement on UCCP-Haran)

Over the past seven decades (7) of its existence as a church, the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) had unswervingly been accompanying the poor and oppressed sectors of our society. It has never waived in its commitment to deplore any forms of injustice committed against the helpless and the destitute. UCCP-Haran's ministry to the Lumads in Davao is one of our concrete expressions of serving the least of our people.

As leaders of the UCCP, we see the reported possible filing of charges against UCCP-Haran as a gesture of harassment and intimidation against those who advocate peace and justice. It is a threat against the commitment of the church to do Christ's mission of ministering to the oppressed and the marginalized.

UCCP-Haran has for many years now been serving as a domicile for Lumads who had been forcibly displaced by violence and attacks by paramilitary groups. It has served as a home for victims of oppression and unpeace. It has become a place of healing among them who have been distressed by intermittent harassment and violence committed against them. It also provides a venue for the schooling of Lumad children. But more than these, UCCP-Haran is a sanctuary of peace in keeping with God's own purpose: *"For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight."* — Psalm 72:12-14

Like any other advocates of peace, UCCP-Haran is constantly susceptible to dangers and threats. Yet our faith and commitment have never weakened.

We therefore declare our unwavering support to the Southeast Mindanao Jurisdictional Area as they stand firm in their commitment to serve the indigenous peoples especially in their area through UCCP-Haran's ministry.

Quadrennial Theme: **"Doing Christ's Mission in these Changing Times"**

Member: National Council of Churches in the Philippines • Christian Conference of Asia • World Council of Churches • World Alliance of Reformed Churches
• World Methodist Council • Christian Peace Conference • United Evangelical Mission (UEM)

WE also implore our entire constituents to extend support to UCCP-Haran through prayers, solidarity statements or any other forms of concern and support.


Let us stand united in doing Christ's mission in these changing and challenging times!

In solidarity with UCCP-Haran,


THE UCCP COUNCIL OF BISHOPS


May 25, 2019

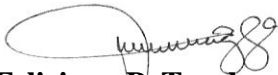

Bishop Melzar D. Labuntog
General Secretary

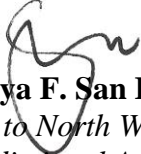

Bishop Joseph G. Agpaoa
Bishop Assigned to North Luzon Jurisdictional Area


Bishop Emergencio D. Padillo
Bishop Assigned to Middle Luzon Jurisdictional Area


Bishop Joel E. Tendaro
Bishop Assigned to South Luzon Jurisdictional Area


Bishop Jerome C. Baris
Bishop Assigned to East Visayas Jurisdictional Area


Bishop Feliciano P. Tenchavez
Bishop Assigned to West Visayas Jurisdictional Area


Bishop Ligaya F. San Francisco
Bishop Assigned to North West Mindanao Jurisdictional Area


Bishop Hamuel G. Tequis
Bishop Assigned to South East Mindanao Jurisdictional Area

Bishops Emeritus:

Bishop Arturo R. Asi

Bishop Jezer E. Bertoldo

Bishop Isaias L. Bingtan

Bishop Erme R. Camba

Bishop Ebenezer C. Camino

Bishop Constante D. Claro

Bishop Gabriel A. Garol

Bishop Hilario M. Gomez, Jr.

Bishop Marino I. Inong

Bishop Reuel Norman O. Marigza

Bishop Roel P. Mendoza

Bishop Jaime R. Moriles

Bishop Eliezer M. Pascua

Bishop Dulce Pia-Rose

Bishop Elorde M. Sambat

Bishop Anacleto G. Serafica

Bishop Jessie S. Suarez

Bishop Rizalino Q. Taganas

Bishop Modesto D. Villasanta

Quadrennial Theme: **“Doing Christ’s Mission in these Changing Times”**

Member: National Council of Churches in the Philippines • Christian Conference of Asia • World Council of Churches • World Alliance of Reformed Churches
• World Methodist Council • Christian Peace Conference • United Evangelical Mission (UEM)