

PRINCIPLES FOR DIOCESAN RECONCILIATION WORKING PARTY

16 September 2021

1. Theological grounding

2. Listening deeply

- Explore the Anglican church's role (Bunbury diocese) in the white settler narratives told in our parishes and to become familiar with these stories from the church's historical and current perspective [this may not be easy to hear or read, but will help us in our explanations of why we are walking this particular 'songline' and journey]
- Seek contact with local aboriginal groups and individuals and listen and learn their stories if they are willing to spend time with us and include in final collection of stories
- Commence seeking artists and stories

3. Learning open mindedly and open heartedly and open spiritedly

- Understand more clearly the stories are being told from the perspective of the white colonising settlers leaving a huge void where the aboriginal stories have not been told from the aboriginal perspective and seeking to describe the gap left, its impact, the church's / diocese' role in continuing this and putting into effect the Synod's Motion of an apology

4. Building Community justly

- Invite these five (*six?*) areas / parishes and communities to join in the journey on behalf of the diocese, understanding this will only ever be part of the stories to be told
- Support the establishment of the RAP – Reconciliation Action Plan approved by Synod 2014.
- Work with Area Deans
- Work together with Wadandi Noongar people and First Nations Peoples in our parishes and pro-actively encourage projects to work together.

5. Educating selves and others

- Tell the story of this Diocesan journey to ensure we can share it and expand it, learn from it and replicate it in other parishes and communities if people are interested and wish to be included and share the journey
- Build an educational focus into the work of the Diocese for parishes to use in their journeys
- Actively work to ensure we do not retraumatize the First Nations Peoples who are willing to speak with us
- Continue to seek advice and recommended resources to build up a 'library' online and hard copies where appropriate

6. Commit to responding to the work of the Spirit