



Cultivating a Shared Future

Churches considering amalgamation or merger are often looking to pool resources and release them into mission. But the process of navigating a merger can be difficult. Expert advice and assistance can be invaluable to avoid common pitfalls, unintended consequences and appropriately honour past contributions.

That's where Ecclesia Leadership comes in. We can provide the skilled facilitation, support, and objective perspective you need to ensure a successful merger. We are committed to helping churches navigate the challenges of merging while ensuring that the process is smooth, efficient, and respectful of all stakeholders.

Benefits of Working with Ecclesia Leadership

- 1. Neutral Third-Party Perspective:** We provide unbiased guidance and support to help manage conflicts and ensure that all stakeholders are heard and empowered to contribute to the process. This can increase engagement and reduce resistance.
- 2. Fresh Ideas and On-Track Merger:** As an external facilitator, we can provide fresh ideas and help keep the process on track. We ensure that key decisions are made in a timely manner, reducing the risk of delays or misunderstandings. Our expertise and knowledge of other church mergers can be invaluable in ensuring the shared future process is successful.
- 3. Efficient and Successful Shared Future Process:** We help manage the process of merging two or more churches, from organisational aspects to ensuring attention is given to the different cultures of each church. We provide valuable assistance in navigating the various steps of the process and ensuring that everything is in place. All of these benefits can help increase the likelihood of a successful church merger and make the process as effective as possible for everyone involved.





Don't Let the Challenges of Church Mergers Hold You Back

At Ecclesia Leadership, we understand the unique challenges that come with merging churches. Let us help you proceed with wisdom, using a process that engages your members and guides your leadership. Contact us to learn more about our Shared Future process and how we can help you move forward with confidence.

"Engaging Ecclesia Leadership was crucial for our amalgamation. Phil's fresh perspective and independent facilitation were invaluable. His significant expertise and experience in church mergers were an essential resource."

Daryl Hawkey - Whitehorse UCA

Who is Phil McCredden?

Phil McCredden Dip Min, BTheol, MA (Church Leadership) is the principal consultant of Ecclesia Leadership and an experienced leader, facilitator, trainer, and coach. With a passion for seeing congregations shape themselves around a mission to make a difference in their local communities, Phil has a wealth of experience in leading churches through complex transitions and challenges in a post-Christendom world.

As a former minister and the founding leader of the ministry team of Northern Community Church of Christ, Phil has first-hand experience in guiding churches through the process of merging. He has also worked as a consultant, trainer, and coach to ministers, church leadership teams, congregations, and denominational systems. Phil's expertise in facilitating shared future projects is evident in his work with a number of churches, including Manningham Uniting Church and Whitehorse Uniting Church in Victoria, Southside UCA in Queensland and current projects in Victoria, South Australia and Queensland. Additionally, he is co-writing a book on the experience of Australian churches who have formed shared futures.

Contact

Phil McCredden

Ecclesia Leadership

Phone: 0417 343 645

Email: phil@ecclesia.com.au

