## Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa Statement on Marriage

(Adopted by the Executive Commission in 2005 and confirmed by the General Assembly in 2006)

The Executive Commission affirms that Christian marriage is defined within the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa as an ordained covenant that exists between one man and one woman under God for life, and holds this definition to be consistent with the authoritative rule of Scripture as well as the tradition of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

The Executive Commission instructs all marriage officers affiliated with the UPCSA to remain faithful to the church's definition of marriage, and to exercise pastoral compassion and sensitivity in their dealings with all who approach the church for assistance with marriage.

The Executive Commission exhorts all members of the church to uphold the sanctity of Christian marriage, and to acknowledge its role as the proper context for the expression of sexual intimacy between a man and a woman.