



Our Ecumenical Commitment for Christian Unity

Together in Christ, Bound by Love, Serving as One

Inspired by the prayer of Christ for unity, we, as Churches Together in Norfolk and Waveney, strive to embody the spirit of ecumenism.

Together in Christ

With open hearts and minds, we share a commitment to foster a harmonious and loving Christian Community that transcends denominational boundaries.

Bound by Love

By respecting and valuing each other's traditions and beliefs, we seek to foster a spirit of collaboration in spreading the message of God's love to all.

Serving as One

In this spirit of togetherness, we are living out the Gospel's call to serve, uplift and support all who live, work and visit Norfolk and Waveney. As fellow pilgrims we support one another as we journey together in faith and prayer.

Our Priorities

There are five main priorities to achieve our ecumenical commitment:

1. Sharing friendship and understanding.
2. Sharing prayer, deepening our communion with Christ and proclaiming the Gospel.
3. Helping the lost and vulnerable, and serving those who suffer poverty and disadvantage.
4. Speaking with one voice in common witness whenever we are able to do so.
5. As an intermediate body of Churches Together in England, play a full part in supporting its aims and objectives.

"I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me." (Jn 17:20-21)

Together in Christ, Bound by Love, Serving as One

Church Leaders Declaration of Commitment for Christian Unity

As Leaders of Churches Together in Norfolk and Waveney we acknowledge with thankfulness:

- ❖ Our common faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- ❖ Our common call to serve in God’s mission.
- ❖ The diversity of our traditions and the different gifts each brings to our common life.

We rejoice in the partnership of trust and cooperation that has grown between us over recent years. We believe we are called by God to share our life more deeply, and to offer to the world a united witness and a shared service. We believe that we have been led by the Holy Spirit to make this public commitment, and as fellow pilgrims we declare to:

- ❖ Worship, pray, study and work together for the unity and mission of the Church to proclaim the Gospel to all.
- ❖ Consult together on issues affecting the common good.
- ❖ Whenever possible speak with one voice in common witness.
- ❖ Share resources wherever possible.
- ❖ Make available guidance and support to our Local Ecumenical Partnerships, Churches Together Groups, and all other ecumenical projects/ agencies in Norfolk and Waveney.
- ❖ Provide visible and positive leadership in support of these commitments.

We invite all Christians in Norfolk and Waveney to support us in this declaration to which we now commit ourselves, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

SIGNED BY THE FOLLOWING ON THE DAY OF CHRIST THE KING, 24TH NOVEMBER 2024, IN NORWICH CATHEDRAL	
Rev Helen Hollands Chair in East Anglia Methodist District	
Major Howard Russell East of England Divisional Commander for the Salvation Army	
Ms Liz Hoffbauer The Society of Friends – Quakers	
Rev Lythan Nevard Moderator for the Eastern Synod URC	
Rev David Mayne Regional Minister Team Leader for the Eastern Baptist Association	
Rt Rev Peter Collins Roman Catholic Bishop of East Anglia	
Rt Rev Graham Usher Church of England Bishop of Norwich	