



Media Release

For Immediate Release

Monday 16 March 2009

UnitingCare NSW.ACT is giving climate change the flick for Earth Hour 2009

Join UnitingCare NSW.ACT and thousands of other groups and individuals in giving climate change the flick for Earth Hour, Saturday 29 March 2009, from 8.30pm to 9.30pm.

This global event involves turning off all unnecessary lights for an hour to save energy and take action on climate change. It is hoped over one billion people will take part in Earth Hour 2009.

Executive Director, UnitingCare NSW.ACT, Rev Harry Herbert urged everyone who hadn't already registered to take part in the event.

"Too many people feel that they are unable to make a difference but this initiative proves that when we collectively take that small action we have an enormous power to create long lasting sustainable change.

"UnitingCare NSW.ACT wants to be part of the solution rather than the problem and is asking all of its facilities and services to consider how they can contribute to this event, as well as how staff and their families can participate in their own homes.

"Although the event takes place for only one hour, it provides incentive for people to continue looking at ways to reduce energy consumption in the long term", Rev Herbert said.

Manager of Environmental Sustainability, UnitingCare Ageing, Michael Mathias, is actively promoting the event across the whole of UnitingCare NSW.ACT Service Group's six regions.

"If we all learn from this simple act and incorporate our actions from it into our everyday lives, then we are on our way to a more sustainable future.

“There is no cost involved for anyone participating but the savings are enormous – on both an environmental and financial scale”, Mr Mathias said.

UnitingCare NSW.ACT provides community services to people throughout all stages of life from children, young people and families through to older people and people with disabilities. As a practical arm of the Uniting Church it provides a voice for vulnerable people and is a strong social justice advocate.

Earth Hour takes place on Saturday 28 March 2009. For more information on how UnitingCare NSW.ACT is participating in the event please visit

www.unitingcarenswact.org.au

For an interview with Executive Director, UnitingCare NSW.ACT, Rev Harry Herbert or Manager, Environmental Sustainability, UnitingCare Ageing, Michael Mathias, please contact PR Assistant, Ingrid Hoff on (02) 8267 4374 or email ingridh@nsw.uca.org.au