

# e-messenger

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**The Methodist Church of New Zealand  
Te Hahi Weteriana O Aotearoa**



*“Our Church's Mission in Aotearoa New Zealand is to reflect and proclaim the transforming love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ and declared in the Scriptures. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God in the world. The Treaty of Waitangi is the covenant establishing our nation on the basis of a power-sharing relationship, and will guide how we undertake mission”.*

**Web Site Address: [www.methodist.org.nz](http://www.methodist.org.nz)**

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December 2004

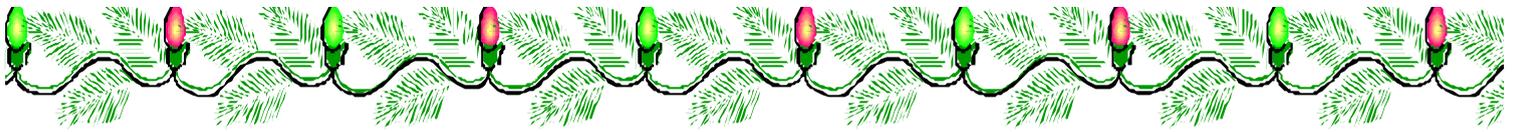
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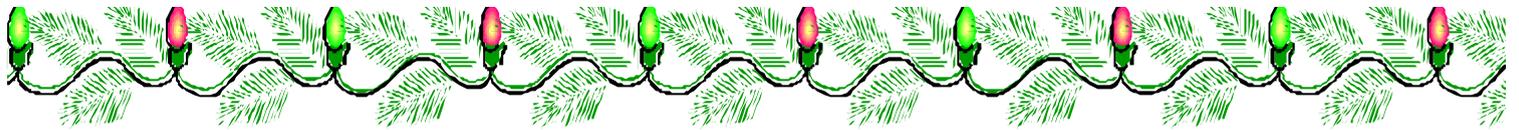
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# Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year from the Connexional Office Staff

James,  
Leah,  
Jill  
Sarah,  
David  
Noelene  
Ruth,  
Tom  
Karen  
Gail  
Stacey,  
Barbara  
Viki  
Jeg



## OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS

### A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT:

Since Conference ended I have received a number of comments about how good Conference was this year and also how meaningful the Induction and Ordination Services were. I think these are encouraging comments for us all about how we conducted our worship and business and no doubt reflect the careful preparation of the Auckland Conference Arrangements Committee, the two Chaplains, and all others concerned with running the Conference.

Since then, my routine of life has certainly included more extra activities than I had anticipated prior to the New Year. One of those was a wonderful worship and social event to celebrate the opening of the new Tongan Methodist Parish at Otara on Saturday 4th December. This occasion marked their move from being a Congregation relating to the Auckland/Manukau Tongan Parish to being a separate Parish relating to Vahefonua Tonga. Both the worship and the following social event gave a new understanding to the Psalmist's words, "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." The celebration of the new parish certainly enabled a new and vital expression of life to be given to those words of old.

To all who read this note please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable Christmas and a pleasant New Year. May God's Spirit remind us once again to whom we belong and who we are. God's people who are called to celebrate the peace, joy, and hope that Christ sets before us. Enjoy your holiday break, may travelling mercies be with those who venture out during the holidays, and the blessing of the loving God be with us all.

**Kenneth**



### FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S DESK:

President Ron Malpass has been laid low with a back injury and we wish him well for a speedy recovery.

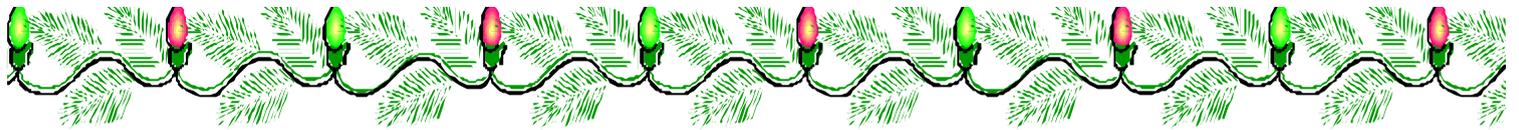
Conference is now behind us and Boards and Committees are charged with implementing the raft of decisions adopted by the Conference 2004.

The Board of Administration has a particularly busy schedule including:

- Implementing the CB&L Review Committee recommendations
- Establishing a central payroll system
- Establishing a new loan fund from 1 February, 2004 to be known as The Presbyters Loan Fund
- The Board executing a guarantee in favour of the Supernumerary Fund and to do this through a contingent Mortgage on its interests in Latimer Square and Great South Road, Penrose
- Implementing the total Archives Review recommendations
- Developing a central payment of accounts system for parishes and Boards

**Jill**

**The Connexional Office closes at midday on 24 December and will re-open on with a skeleton staff on 5 January 2005 and will be fully staffed from Monday 10 January 2005.**



## NEWS FROM AROUND THE CONNEXION



Please remember in your Prayers the families of ...

*Rev John Currie* of St Lukes Union Parish, Masterton, passed away suddenly on 15 October.

*John Goffin*, strong supporter, advocate and worker with Methodist Mission, Durham St Parish and the Connexion Office passed away on 4 December.

*John Harding* died on 6 November. John was a lay preacher for many years and Property Secretary for the Hawkes Bay/Manawatu Synod.

*Rev Ian Grant* died in Tauranga Hospital on Thursday October 14th.

*Rev Francis (Frank) Parker* died peacefully Wednesday 13th October, at Matariki Hospital, Te Awamutu, after a long illness. He was aged 90yrs.

*Rev Gordon Thomas* passed away on 26 November in Blenheim.

### INTERNET DIRECT ADDRESSES

David Bush from the Communications Committee advises that the following direct addresses are now operational. These will allow users to go straight to the pages they want.

[e-messenger.methodist.org.nz](mailto:e-messenger.methodist.org.nz)

[informationleaflets.methodist.org.nz](http://informationleaflets.methodist.org.nz)

[Conference.methodist.org.nz](http://Conference.methodist.org.nz)

[Youthconference.methodist.org.nz](http://Youthconference.methodist.org.nz)

### COMMUNION EQUIPMENT REST HOME OFFER!

Lansdowne Church is interested in acquiring communion trays (and glasses if possible) for use in a couple of local resthomes. If any Parish had some surplus trays and saw this as a good retirement option for them, please contact:

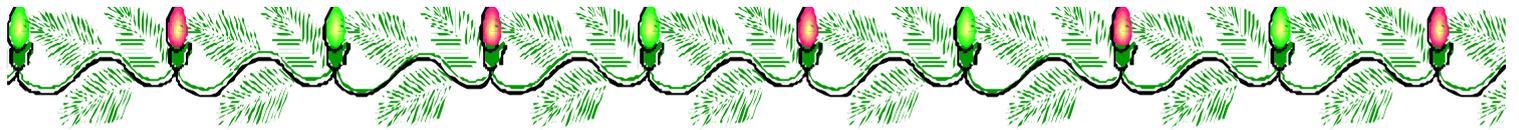
Thanks.

**Don Biggs.**

[biggsy@free.net.nz](mailto:biggsy@free.net.nz)

06-379-7090

021-479-815



## *From the Archives ...*

### **Beatitudes for Church Members – in the words of Yesterday**

1. Blessed is the member who knows there is a prayer meeting.
2. Blessed also the man who remembers the preacher on Sunday evenings.
3. Blessed is he who undertakes and does the job he undertakes.
4. Blessed the man who takes a church paper.
5. Blessed the member whose parish includes the whole world.
6. Blessed the man whose religion includes the whole week.
7. Blessed is he who always boasts, but never knocks the Church.
8. Blessed is he whose raincoat works on Sundays.
9. Blessed very much is he who loves God with his pocketbook, as well as his heart.
10. Blessed be the members who “keep a-goin”.

*by Rev. Edward L. Watson, D.D. – NZ Methodist Times*

Peace is not something you wish for, it's something you make, something you do, something you are,  
something you give away. *From Mother Teresa*

## **Marcia Baker**

### **THE WEEKEND: EPISODE 2**

*Evangelical Network Retreat* will be held in Manukau April 29 - May 1 2005. Put it in your diary now. Wonderful worship, stirring speakers, fantastic food and fantabulous fellowship. More details coming soon.

### **WITH ONE VOICE IN HINUERA**

The place that brought you Hinuera Stone is wanting to join voices with the angels - but we need some music. We have been given some word copies of With One Voice, and are looking for 3 music books. If you have spare copies of the With One Voice music book that are collecting dust in a back room, we would love to give you one less thing to clean next spring. We will even pay postage. Please contact Nigel or Tracey on [matamata.union@paradise.net.nz](mailto:matamata.union@paradise.net.nz) or Matamata Union Parish, P O Box 345, Matamata.

### **METHODIST TRUST ASSOCIATION**

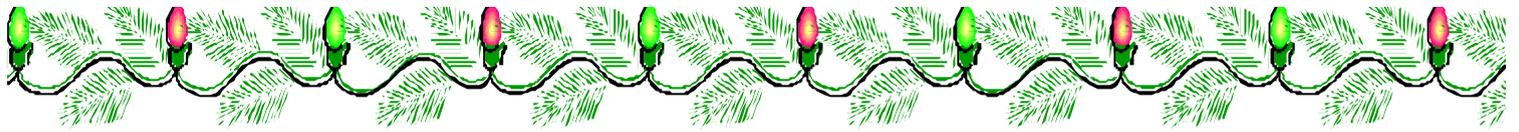
#### ***Methodist Trust Association, December Distribution.***

The Association calculates and distributes the quarterly distribution to 31 December 2004 as the office closes for the Christmas vacation.

To enable this to happen the books of the Association have to be closed for the last few days before the Christmas break and we advise that the books of the Association will close for December at 5pm on Monday 20 December 2004.

Could any depositor looking to deposit money with the Association or to make withdrawals from their accounts, please ensure that the requests are received in the Connexional Office in time for the transfers to be completed by 5 pm on Monday 20 December 2004.

Greg Wright, Executive Officer.



## NEW ZEALAND METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

### President's Letter, November – December, 2004

Dear Fellowship Members, As this is my first letter to you since my commissioning 10 days ago in the lovely chapel at Wesley College, Paerata, I want to thank you for bestowing such a privilege upon me. It is both a fine honour and great responsibility to be your President and I pray that I might serve you well. To share something of that Commissioning Service with you I quote from the minutes of Day 4 as recorded by Past Secretary, Catherine Dickie: "The President of Conference, Rev.Dr.Lynne Frith reflected on the three women in the book of Ruth. There was a special bond between them. She spoke of the choices made by Ruth and Orpah, daughters-in-law of Naomi. Both made choices that were right for them, neither choice was easy. There is a special bond between women and we have a special place in society. As Christian women we have a role to play and we must fulfil that role."

First, I want to get to know you, your local situation, your ideas, your hopes and your aspirations for MWF. So please communicate with me and your new Executive and let us know your thoughts and feelings. That's important to us and vital if we are to move forward together.

**My Thanks** to all who have sent their congratulations and good wishes to me and my committee as we set out on our journey of leadership. We look forward to your ongoing prayerful support.

**Convention:** What a wonderful time it was! Mary West and her committee in their ruby jackets led us through constructive business sessions and a fine time of celebration of our Ruby Anniversary –40 years of MWF. The blue-capped LAC looked after all practical needs most efficiently under the direction of Joan Smith and a happy spirit pervaded throughout. We departed with Mary's challenge to be **enthusiastic** and **encouraging** in our Christian witness and serving. Our sincere thanks to Mary and her team for their fine leadership over the past 2 years. Well done good and faithful servants.

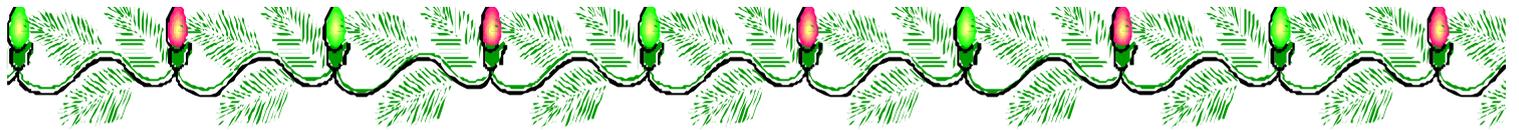
**Special Project: 2003-2004.** Jacqui Ryan from Christian World Service gratefully accepted a cheque for \$27,157,54 for the Women's Resource Centre in Madurai, South India and Rachael Ngatai representing NZPARS was pleased to receive \$10,353,23 for the Child Travel Fund. Our warmest thanks for all the effort you in the local Fellowships put in to raise these amounts.

**Love Gift:** Sincere thanks, also, to all who gave so generously to the President's Overseas Travel Fund which has now reached a total of over \$4000.

**Subscriptions:** A remit was passed that annual subs. be raised to \$6 per member.(\$4 National, \$2 District)

**Stamps:** At Convention it was agreed that Stamp Fund money and Medical & Education Fund money be combined this year and the total (\$7,698.92) be given to Helena Goldie Hospital as a memorial to the late Davinia Taylor. After consultation with H.G.H. staff it was agreed that it be put towards a new hall at that site. It may be that some of you would like the opportunity to contribute to this special fund. If so, send your donation to Treasurer Marie Smith, 18 Sunny Glen, Waikanae. But please make sure it is clearly earmarked '**Davinia Clark Memorial Fund**'.

**Still on stamps** - Earlier this year it was discovered that an error had been made in the production of last years issue of the 40cent Christmas stamps. A few copies are missing the black fern leaf in the bottom right hand corner. Nelson/Marlborough Stamp Convenor, a lady who has been collecting stamps for over 40 years, enlisted the aid of a nephew and together they painstakingly sorted through 2 kgms.of paper,



eventually finding one. Another member there has found a second one among her stamp-pile. This shows the value of having a Convenor who is also a collector. If you ask your congregation you may find someone who will help or give advice to another person. If not, try contacting the local stamp club – Philatelic Society most are called. If you find someone - work with that person. Stamps are WELL worth collecting. Many businesses will save their envelopes for you if asked. When sending mail yourself remember to get the “licking type” especially the lesser denominations and special issues as they are more valuable.

From fondly looking back over our shoulders we now face the future with its change and challenge, but as **our theme** states, we will be **“Moving On In Faith”** trusting in the empowering of the Holy Spirit. Our banner has a background of sky – symbolising constant change and movement, the unknown future. There is the scallop shell of Methodism, the cross showing God’s concern for the church and the world, MWF stating who we are and our theme “Moving on in Faith” -faith in God and His amazing love, continuing to share our faith and fellowship together. The links of the border represent our network of Fellowship friends around NZ and the world.

**Our new Special Project 2004 – 5** theme is **“God’s Love Over All”** and God’s love will be shown as those in Hospital receive **comfort and support** through **Interchurch Hospital Chaplaincy** and the people of **Palestine and Israel** are helped in their search for **Peace and Justice**. God bless you all as you work in the coming months to support these worthy causes. (A 20 minute video on the latter available from CWS.)

**Your new national Committee** – the busy, buzzing bees from Wellington – and I send our warmest greetings to you wherever you are in our lovely country. On our team are:

Linda Wilkins (Minute Secretary and NCW Representative) from Kapiti.

Alison Beeston (Corresponding Secretary) from Kapiti.

Jean Purchase (Distributing Secretary) from Miramar.

Marie Smith (Treasurer) from Kapiti.

Lyn Price (Missions and Uniting Congregations Link) from Lower Hutt.

Adele Forrester (Missions and Programmes Link) from Upper Hutt.

Margaret King (Liaison Link and President’s Travel) from Upper Hutt.

Rosalie Sugrue (World Fed.of Methodist & Uniting Church Women) from Kapiti.

The festive season is nearly here. As you celebrate Christmas in your own way throughout the country we pray that your hearts and homes may be filled with the warmth and love of Christ. God bless you all,  
**Nelma Woodfield**

**Wesley Wellington Parish**  
**75 Taranaki Street**

[www.weslevchurch.org.nz](http://www.weslevchurch.org.nz)



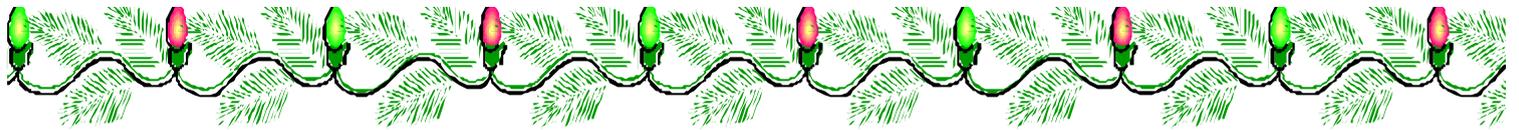
**125<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration**  
*of the opening of the present church*  
**25-27 March (Easter) 2005**

For information contact the Parish Office:

Ph: (04) 384-7695 Fax: (04) 382-9708

Email: [gen.wesley@clear.net.nz](mailto:gen.wesley@clear.net.nz)

Postal address: PO Box 6133, Marion Square, Wellington



## You are Invited to the Methodist Youth Conference 2005

For further information, check out the website

[http://conference.methodist.org.nz//index.cfm/Youth\\_Conference\\_2005](http://conference.methodist.org.nz//index.cfm/Youth_Conference_2005)

or

use the direct internet address: [Youthconference.methodist.org.nz](http://Youthconference.methodist.org.nz)

and

more information is available at

<http://www.youthministry.org.nz/?id=4>

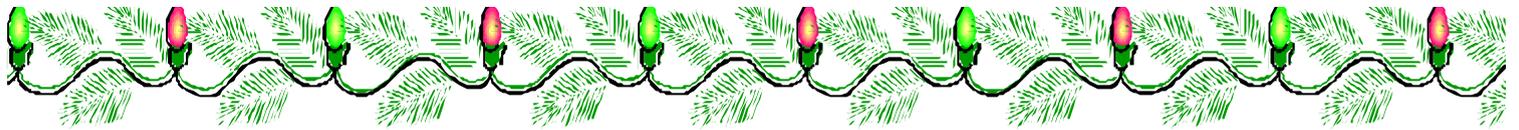
For more information contact the Registrar:

Kiersten Boughen

PO Box 11615

Ellerslie, Auckland

E-mail: [youthconference@methodist.org.nz](mailto:youthconference@methodist.org.nz) Phone: 0800 390 667



## WESLEYCOM AOTEAROA

### NEW ZEALAND COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN SOCIAL SERVICES

**Street Address:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Anglican House, 18 Eccleston Hill, Thorndon, Wellington.

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 12-090, Thorndon, Wellington.

**Phone:** (04) 473 2627

**Fax:** (04) 473 2624

**E-Mail:** admin@nzccss.org.nz

### AGED CARE BUDGET CAMPAIGN URGENT ACTION

To the Methodist Churches in Aotearoa New Zealand,

In October NZCCSS began a public campaign to make the Government invest more in services for older people at the next Budget in 2005. This campaign is having an effect. Politicians throughout the country are receiving letters urging them to take notice.

NZCCSS welcomes the resolution passed at the recent Methodist Conference urging the government to significantly increase funding for services for older people.

We urge parishes and individuals in the Methodist Church urgently to join in sending a loud and clear message to our politicians that **services for older people are significantly underfunded**. Older people in New Zealand, the workers who care for them and the organisations who provide services are not valued by our government.

Thank you to all who have already written to MPs and Cabinet Ministers on this issue.

The Budget for 2005 is being prepared right now and key decisions are being taken. NZCCSS will be meeting with Cabinet Ministers in the coming weeks.

Every letter counts! Politicians respond when their desks and email inboxes are inundated with letters and messages. Please keep sending letters.

#### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

*We ask you to send letters to your local MP as well as to the Prime Minister and the three key Cabinet ministers listed below, alerting them to the issues and seeking funding in Budget 2005.*

Rt Hon. Helen Clark  
Hon. Dr. Michael Cullen

Hon. Ruth Dyson  
Hon. Annette King

**We urge you to send a copy of the NZCCSS form letter** (see pages 2-3). Even if you are not directly involved in providing aged care, every letter can help ensure that older people receive the care they need.

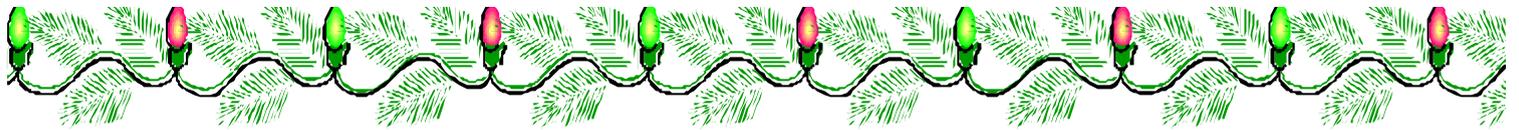
Please send your letters urgently (*no stamp is required for letters sent to Parliament*)

*We ask you also to email or phone Paul Barber at NZCCSS to let us know that you have written, tel. (04) 473-2627 or [policyadvisor@nzccss.org.nz](mailto:policyadvisor@nzccss.org.nz).*

**PLEASE LOCATE THE LETTER TEMPLATE ON WESLEYCOM'S WEBSITE, METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND.**

[www.methodist.org.nz](http://www.methodist.org.nz)

(click on Social Services)



## World Methodist Council

### PRESS RELEASE

Lake Junaluska, North Carolina (USA)

October 14, 2004

### FOUNDER OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY TO RECEIVE WORLD METHODIST PEACE AWARD

Millard Fuller, founder and President of Habitat for Humanity International, has been selected as the recipient of the World Methodist Peace Award for 2004. The Peace Award is presented by the World Methodist Council to individuals or groups who have made significant contributions to peace, reconciliation and justice. Courage, creativity and consistency are values that are considered when presenting the World Methodist Peace. The Award will be jointly presented to Millard Fuller and Habitat for Humanity International in a ceremony December 8, 2004 at 8:00 pm at Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Habitat for Humanity began twenty-seven years ago when Fuller, a successful attorney in Americus, Georgia, and his wife Linda, left their millionaire lifestyle and re-dedicated their lives to serving God. They were tremendously impacted by the simple lifestyle embraced by Clarence Jordan and Koinonia Farms. Selling all of their possessions, they gave their money to the poor and began searching for a new focus for their lives. They moved to Koinonia Farms in 1968 and began work on a new project, Koinonia Partnership Housing. In 1973 the Fullers moved to Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and took the principles of partnership housing to Africa. The success of that experience led to the Founding of Habitat for Humanity International.

Today Habitat for Humanity operates in 100 countries around the world. In 2005 the 200,000<sup>th</sup> Habitat house will be completed. At that time more than 1,000,000 persons will live in housing made possible by volunteers dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness worldwide. The goal of Habitat is to make adequate, affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat is founded on the principle that every man, woman and child should have a simple, decent and affordable place to live in dignity and safety. Habitat Houses are sold at no profit with interest free mortgages. Recipients of Habitat homes work alongside volunteers during construction.

Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical Christian organization that brings together persons of all backgrounds in the ministry of building. In Northern Ireland, Protestants and Catholics have worked side-by-side building houses. In Selma, Alabama, a city of racial tension during the civil rights movement in the United States in the 1960's, African Americans and Caucasians work side-by-side in helping to eliminate poverty housing in that region.

In bringing together persons regardless of their religious preference or background to work side-by-side to eliminate poverty housing, Habitat for Humanity International promotes peace, reconciliation and justice. Recognizing their achievements worldwide, Millard Fuller and Habitat for Humanity International will receive the World Methodist Peace Award on December 8<sup>th</sup>. His Eminence Sunday Mbang, Chairperson of the World Methodist Council and Prelate of the Methodist Church in Nigeria, will present the award.

Previous recipients of the award include Nelson Mandela; Jimmy Carter; Boris Trajkovski, former President of Macedonia; the Community of St. Egidio in Rome; the Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Argentina, among others. The award is presented by the World Methodist Council, a Christian World Communion composed of 76 member denominations in 132 countries, representing ministry that involves 75 million persons worldwide. The World Methodist Peace Award is the highest honor bestowed by the people called Methodist around the world. The World Methodist Council's International Headquarters are at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina.

George H. Freeman, General Secretary

World Methodist Council

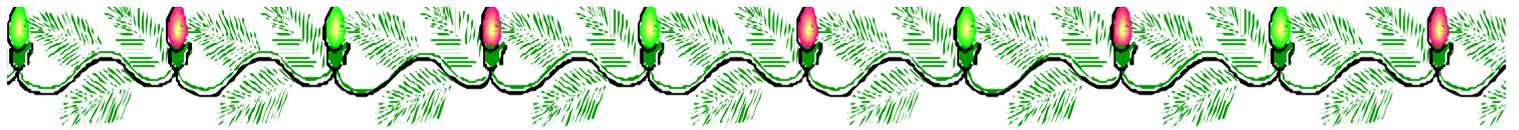
P. O. Box 518

Lake Junaluska, NC 28745 USA

828-46-9432

828-456-9433 (Fax)

georgefreeman@mindspring.com



## ECUMENICAL NEWS & VIEWS

### CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE

#### **Plant Seeds Plant Hope – Support the CWS Christmas Gift Appeal**

Share the Advent message of hope, peace, love, and joy with poor communities around the world by supporting this year's CWS Christmas Gift Appeal. As the official development, justice and aid agency of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Anglican Churches, CWS's annual Christmas Appeal is a strong tradition for many parishes. Don't forget to put out your appeal leaflets and share CWS partner stories from Timor Leste, South Sudan, India and the Philippines as you light the advent candles. Contact CWS for more information or check out resources on [www.cws.org.nz](http://www.cws.org.nz) Copies of Plant Seeds, Plant Hope, a five-minute video on the Christmas Appeal theme featuring CWS partners in action are still available for use in December. Contact [cws@cws.org.nz](mailto:cws@cws.org.nz) or phone 0800 74 73 72

#### **Meet CWS's New Youth and Schools Coordinator**

Liz Whitehead has joined the CWS national office in Christchurch to take up the position of Youth and Schools Coordinator. She has taken over from Michael Wallace, who is moving to Geneva in his new role as General Secretary, World Student Christian Federation. Liz is familiar with New Zealand church youth networks having previously worked as the Auckland Presbytery Youth Ministries Coordinator. She says, "I'm really looking forward to working for CWS, meeting people and encouraging them to engage with global justice." Contact Liz to order your free copies of the latest *World Watch* magazine (for 7-12 year olds) and *Youth Topics* (for youth groups), and to send in your Wipe out Poverty week donations. [youth@cws.org.nz](mailto:youth@cws.org.nz) You can meet Liz at the CWS stand at Parachute 2005.

#### **CWS Video Study Series 2005**

A video and study relating to the work of CWS's partner in Palestine, the Middle East Council of Churches' Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees, will be available from 14 February 2005. This study will be especially useful for the APW/MWF special project. Contact CWS for more information or to book a copy of the video. [cws@cws.org.nz](mailto:cws@cws.org.nz) or phone 0800 74 73 72 and ask for Althea (ext 105).

### **RURAL NETWORK NEWS**

The latest edition of "Rural Network News", the NZ ecumenical rural church newsletter is now available at [www.schoolofministry.ac.nz/RuralMinistry](http://www.schoolofministry.ac.nz/RuralMinistry).

International rural news, including information about the International Rural Church Association (IRCA) can be found at [www.presbyterian.kiwiwebhost.net/index.php?id=2848](http://www.presbyterian.kiwiwebhost.net/index.php?id=2848)



### **Oh Those Boys...What are we going to do...?**

Have you ever thrown up your hands in frustration because you feel that you are not getting through to the boys in your kid's ministry programme? Do you notice that they are not listening or participating? Is it mainly your boys who roll around on the floor when they could be involved in the session at the time? I know I could answer yes to all those questions, in fact, can you see Christian kids programme leaders all over NZ are nodding their heads rolling their eyes with their hands on their hips! "Boys just want to be boys," we all say & yet we seem to ignore the obvious answer to our frustrations, somehow I think, we are not letting them be boys.

Stu Thompson, a children's ministry specialist from St Peters in the City, in Tauranga has developed & trailed a brand new ministry totally suited for the boys. The initiative is a brand new ministry for Boy's Brigade New Zealand & it's called **Iconz Adventure**. Stu says the new concept eliminates the issues mentioned above. This weekly after school programme has the boys desperate to go along even when they are unwell.

Iconz Adventure, an active adventure based initiative for kids (both boys & girls) between the ages of 8 & 11 (Year 4,5 &6) brings Christian Education literally into the open with various sessions at either the beach, in the bush or in the good old Kiwi Back Yard. The concept is developed around their **SPACI awards structure**, which develops the kids Christian faith walk and also their community awareness, their quest for adventure their need for competitive physical activity & their natural desire for interesting projects or subject matter to check out.

The name SPACI is an acronym for the pool of activities that contribute to a balanced lifestyle, they are Spiritual, Physical, Adventure, Community & Interest & they are based around Luke 2: 52 where it portrays Jesus' balanced life & that He grew in wisdom & stature & in favor with God & man.

### **Mission Focus**

The Iconz programme has not yet been used as a Sunday Church Service ministry because the curriculum is broader than simply spiritual teaching. If the programme was to be used as a Sunday Children's programme Stu says it would be best used in a community outreach situation in a neutral venue such as a school or community hall while still very much intrinsically linked to the local church.

### **What's involved?**

- Effective leaders are the absolute key to any successful kids programme. So in order to get this ministry off the ground, first you need a small number of adults or teens willing to put in around 2-3 hours per week each.
- Iconz offers a three-year pre planned curriculum programme guide, which takes all the time consuming brainstorming out of the picture.
- The curriculum guides leaders & kids through the Spaci awards on a weekly basis so at the end of each year they will have up to 10 different badges to sew onto their t-shirt.

### **Profile of Stu Thompson**

Stu has over 24 years experience in a wide range of children's ministries including holiday & after school care, camping, Bible in Schools & Sunday School teaching is well qualified for the job of writing programmes suited for boys. One of four brothers raised in a rural Manawatu family. Brought up in the Baptist Church, Stu has fellowshipped at New Life Churches in addition to St Peters in Tauranga.



Stu Graduated from Bethlehem Institute of Education in 2002 with a Diploma of Children's ministries, he is a Qualified Carpenter, he's worked in Sales & Marketing & in addition to his Iconz role, he works as a supervisor at a local primary school's after school & holiday care & recreation programme. He's a self-employed swim teacher & entertainer where he gets the laughs as Skyte the Clown (among other characters), for adults & children with gigs up & down the country. Stu & his wife Karen, married since 1984, have three sons & two daughters aged between 16 & their youngest born at the beginning of 2004 who, Stu says, brings much joy to the family.

### **How can we find out more?**

Iconz Adventure are currently developing a web site & it should be online in the near future at [www.iconz.org.nz](http://www.iconz.org.nz) in the interim contact Stu, who is the Iconz Project Director & based in Tauranga on:

[skyte@bb.org.nz](mailto:skyte@bb.org.nz)

07 579 1520 or 025 655 7113

Stu Thompson

Iconz Adventure

C/O Bethlehem College

25 Elder Lane

Tauranga.

Stu can post out an Iconz Information Pack, which includes Brochures, Videos or CD ROMs, details on the curriculum, awards, set up procedures & other information.

### **VACANCY – RIMUTAKA PRISON CHAPLAIN**

The Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand is seeking a full time Chaplain to work alongside the existing full time Chaplain and Catholic Chaplain at Rimutaka Prison.

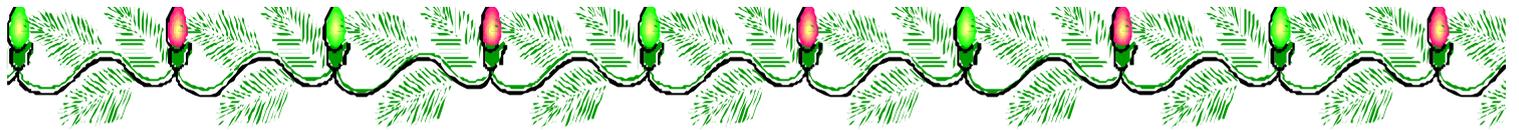
Rimutaka Prison, in the Hutt Valley at Trentham, consists of 18 Units, which locate within an area of approximately one square kilometre. There are 4 Special Focus Units, 4 Assessment Units, 6 High Medium Security Units, 3 Mainstream Units, and one At Risk Unit. Currently there are approximately 750 male inmates, this may rise to 900

The Ideal Applicant will have:

1. Proven pastoral experience, normally five years.
2. Relevant theological training.
3. Accreditation and recommendation by the applicant's denomination as a person qualified, experienced and suitable for the role of prison chaplain.
4. Cultural awareness and sensitivity to the religious, spiritual and pastoral needs of people in prison.
5. Ability to minister in a bi-cultural, cross-cultural and multi-cultural environment.
6. Ability to work as part of an interdenominational team ministry.
7. Ability to deliver services in a non-judgmental and impartial manner.
8. Ability to act with integrity at all times.
9. Good general health – sufficient to work within a secure and rugged prison environment.

For further details, job description and application forms contact the Executive Manager, David Connor  
e-mail [david@pcsanz.org](mailto:david@pcsanz.org) . Phone 09 379 3018  
PO Box 109516, Newmarket, Auckland 1031

**Applications close 20<sup>th</sup> January 2005**



## **To local congregations, ecumenical groups and Friends of CCANZ**

Kia ora koutou. Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We live in exciting times.

The year 2005 is a time for ecumenical celebration. We belong to Christ in our local communities, in our nation and within the global community. Ecumenism is alive and active at the local level and our links to the global Church continue. Important changes are taking place at national level. A Strategic Thinking Group is working with the Churches to find new ways of working together – ways which embrace a wider spectrum of theologies and a greater diversity of cultures. The Conference of Churches will complete its active life in September 2005. We will create a space within which a new expression of ecumenism can emerge.

We invite you to join with us, at local and regional levels, to celebrate the continuities of ecumenism:

- our links to the global Church – the World Council of Churches and the Christian Conference of Asia
- the things we do together nationally – in prisons, in hospitals, in Universities and Polytechs, in Christian education, in social and international issues, in socially responsible investment, through the Student Christian Movement, Christian World Service and the Decade to Overcome Violence
- the things we do locally, in our suburbs, and our country districts – in worship, in community action and in advocacy

We encourage congregations, and local ecumenical groups to join with us to affirm, celebrate and nourish ecumenical life: to celebrate what has been, to affirm what continues and create a sense of expectancy for what is to come. Most of all, to listen to the stories of ecumenism at the local level.

The Conference of Churches would like to work with you to plan and organise an event in your area which is open to people from your community and from other communities further afield. We provide, in the attachment, some examples of formats, programmes and organisational structure which may be useful as you consider possibilities.

We ask you to include an ecumenical event in your 2005 timetable and to contact us to join with you in planning and preparation. Please contact either Ngaire Lennox at [admin@ccanz.net.nz](mailto:admin@ccanz.net.nz) or phone 03 377 2703 or Garth Cant ([gandecant@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gandecant@xtra.co.nz) or phone 03 3481 654) in the first instance.

Kia ora tatou, yours in Christ,

Father Ilyan Eades, Garth Cant and Diane Miller-Keeley

**for the Presidium and the Executive.**

Conference of Churches in Aotearoa New Zealand

P O Box 22 652

Christchurch

Web Page: [www.ccanz.net.nz](http://www.ccanz.net.nz)

Email: [admin@ccanz.net.nz](mailto:admin@ccanz.net.nz)

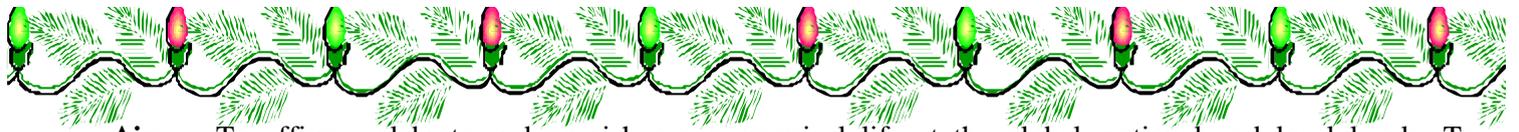
Phone: 64 3 377 2703

Fax: 64 3 377 2702

### **Celebrating ecumenical life**

#### **An agenda for 2005**

**Context.** The Conference of Churches is preparing to complete its life and prepare the way for a new ecumenical body. There are good things to remember and celebrate, significant ecumenical continuities to publicise, and new ecumenical possibilities to anticipate. The proposal which follows is designed to celebrate what has been, what is and what will come.



**Aim.** To affirm, celebrate and nourish our ecumenical life at the global, national and local levels. To celebrate what has been (eg National Council of Churches, Programme on Racism, CCANZ), to affirm what continues (eg Uniting Congregations, SCM, DoVe, WCC, CCA) and create a sense of expectancy for what is to come (New ecumenical body, national ecumenical gathering, CCA and WCC Assemblies). To listen to the stories of ecumenism at the local level.

**Format.** A constellation of local and regional ecumenical events which bring together resources from the wider ecumenical community and the people involved in local ecumenical initiatives. Events to be organised locally with support and publicity from CCANZ and assistance of its ecumenical allies.

CCANZ will provide a flexible template, with a set of options for timing and duration to fit different configurations (eg rural or regional, town and region, city). For example:

- Saturday 10am to 3.30 pm, with morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided, and no overnight accommodation needed.
- Friday evening from 7.30 pm to Saturday 1pm or 3.30 pm. (Overnight accommodation could be promoted as a small boost to local motel and hotel incomes and employment – eg Geraldine or Kaeo.
- Saturday from 10am together with a combined ecumenical service of worship on Sunday morning.

**Programme.** (Equal time to sharing a wider vision and listening to local stories). Three components with eight or more prepared inputs. Time in plenary and small groups with the possibility of electives in medium sized groups.

Four prepared inputs by outside resource people.

1. Ecumenism at the global level (two inputs selected from World Council of Churches, Christian World Serve, International Rural Church Association, Christian Conference of Asia etc)
2. Ecumenism at the national level (two inputs selected from the Strategic Thinking Group, Uniting Congregations, SCM, Chaplaincies, Churches Agency on International Issues etc )

Four to eight prepared inputs by local ecumenical initiatives.

3. Each region to identify a set of local ecumenical initiatives and invite them to tell their stories. ( Riccarton, as one local example, has the Petersgate Counselling Centre, Riccarton Neighbourhood Kitchen, and Ash Wednesday ecumenical services)

**Ecumenical Worship.** Led by a local ecumenical worship team using contemporary resources. Either 15 to 20 minutes within a Saturday programme or a Sunday ecumenical service.

**Keynote address or sermon.** Fifteen minutes on “ecumenism: looking back and looking forward” by a guest ecumenist.

**Budget support and publicity.** Each event to be low budget with a small registration fee to make it self funding. CCANZ to provide a seeding grant (eg \$250 grant and \$250 loan) and share the cost of printing low cost brochures. CCANZ is available, on request, to help publicise events nationally and Trans-Tasman to encourage visitors to travel to one or more events.

**Planning support.** A group of two or three from CCANZ and its ecumenical allies is available to work with local or regional groups to plan the event and the publicity. All events to be organised locally.

**A sense of expectancy.** The events to be designed to produce a sense of expectancy for what will happen next. ( eg a new ecumenical initiative in New Zealand, eg CCA Assembly in Chiangmai 2005, eg WCC Assembly in Porto Alegre in 2006, eg the International Rural Conference in Korea in 2006). The Strategic Thinking Group may wish to be present to share its task with the grass roots.

**Points of Contact.** Contact either Ngaire Lennox at the CCANZ Office (email [admin@ccanz.net.nz](mailto:admin@ccanz.net.nz) or phone 03 377 2703, fax 03 377 2702) or Garth Cant ( e mail [gandecant@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gandecant@xtra.co.nz) or home phone/fax 03 3481 654)



**NEWS from**  
**Churches' Agency on Social Issues**  
**(Methodist, Presbyterian, Churches of Christ, Quakers)**

**Putting your fundraising where your mouth is**

*Question:* What do these groups have in common?

Anglican Action (Waikato)  
Child Poverty Action Group  
Downtown Community Ministry

(Wellington)

Hamilton Combined Christian Foodbanks  
Knox-St Columba Presbyterian Church

(Lower Hutt)

Pets on the Net  
Porirua Rongopai Trust

NZ Coalition for Gambling Reform, Inc  
(GamblingWatch)

*Answer:* These eight refuse to take money from poker machine trusts or any similar groups where gambling generates the income. Standing against the torrent of self-promotion from the poker machine operators who claim the community can't do without them, these eight deserve support for their refusal to be 'bought' and silenced – even if it hurts.

It hurts especially when the poker machine trusts run scare stories about 'good causes' that will 'miss out' because of new site payments rules. Communities will miss out because, the Trusts claim, the changes in site payments mean that the bigger gambling venue operators will reduce their 'services' – providing gambling opportunities is now a service – to their neighbourhoods.

'Those adversely-affected operators say they will reduce hours and service to ensure they only do the work they are recompensed for,' according to Karen Good of the Southern Trust, one of the big societies making up the Charity Gaming Trust. 'I do not blame them for taking that attitude.'

However, she also admits 'we do not have huge amounts of evidence at this time to prove that what our operators are telling us will happen.' But she pleads that 'if funding levels are reduced' (in other words, if site payments reflect actual costs rather than a proportion of the gross take), 'this trust will be forced into an untenable situation of having to make choices about what worthy groups will get funding.'

The clubs' and pubs' income for management and overheads is expected to be \$264 million. This is indeed lower than the \$300 million they took last year. Government takes one-third in tax and the remainder is distributed to community groups which apply for it. However, as Gamblingwatch's coordinator Dave Macpherson pointed out, far from reducing the payouts to community, sporting and educational groups, limiting payments to owners and operators should leave more in the jam jar for these groups.

'The argument about how much money will be available to schools and community groups also begs the question as to how desirable it is for the community to come to rely on money that is primarily lost through the misery of people with gambling addiction problems,' he said.

**Some statistics**

Since the Gambling Act was passed in 2003, the number of gaming machine venues and the number of machines has dropped for the first time ever. At 30 September 2004 (after a year of the new legislation), the number of pokies had dropped by 3000 (to 22,294), the number of venues was 1897 (down from 2122) and the number of societies (organisations which own gambling machines, from the very large trusts to small clubs owning two or 3) from 699 to 626.

New Zealand gamblers lost a net \$941 million on poker machines in 2003

**New ways of living - energy consultation**

A just-released publication, *Creating a Sustainable Energy System for New Zealand*, offers a view of New Zealand's energy future and a discussion of how we might shape it for the benefit of our future generations. It looks at the opportunities and threats this country faces,

what policy has been developed so far, and suggests some possible further steps towards a more sustainable energy system.

The paper is being used as a basis for discussion over the next six months. Key



stakeholders are formally involved, but that doesn't stop anybody taking their own steps to express opinions on the policy. The 70-page book also has useful statistics, charts and graphs for those wanting to take action at local level.

Church groups on CASI's mailing list are being sent copies of the publication, and we have a few spares for others interested. We're also keen to hear from any church or community group which may have taken some of their own steps towards sustainable energy use – solar water/church heating, their own windmill, wood-fired heating etc – and anyone with experience in working with regional or local bodies in this area.

This is a useful next step for groups who have done the CASI studies on climate change (*Outlook- Unsettled 2002*) and who want to move on to thinking about practical expressions of concern.

### **Race Relations**

It's becoming very clear that 2005 will be a defining year for relationships between the various racial groups in this country. CASI is working with other churches through the Capital City Forum to put on a major seminar on race relations in the context of an election year, mostly likely in early March 2005. It will be in Wellington, an all-day Saturday seminar to do the topic justice, and the draft programme ranges from comments on New Zealand's race relations journey in an international context, analysis of public opinion and comments on the political scene, to people from church communities talking about their practical experiences of working through local issues.

We are working with the Human Rights Commission on aspects of the programme, and will have full details in time for next *Broadsheet* (dateline February 2005). Those living in the Wellington region and nearby, do pencil in Saturday 5 or 12 March, 9.30-4-ish. We hope the seminar will result in a

publication which will be available to reach a wider audience.

### **What CASI is working on**

A resource about the physical discipline of children and the **repeal of Section 59 of the Crimes Act** will be available early next year.

Planning is under way for a joint publication for the **2005 General Election**, working with the Catholic and Anglican churches. We are currently exploring ideas for key election issues to background. Suggestions about the issues important to you when you cast your vote are much appreciated.

Submissions on the current **Social Security Amendment Bill** and the Public Health Advisory Committee's paper on *Emerging Issues for Public Health in New Zealand*, are in the pipeline. We are also awaiting the promised proposals to amend the **Resource Management Act**.

The cataloguing of the **CASI specialist library** on church and social issues in New Zealand is now complete. We are working on protocols for borrowing from the library and welcome inquiries from church and community groups and people seeking information and publications.

### **Resources**

The **Social Issues Resource Kit** has been distributed throughout our four member churches. If your church or parish did not receive a copy, contact us.

**Thinking Through Immigration** - a good basis for a four-part Lenten study series on this important issues.

*(Extended versions of these and other stories appear in the August edition of Broadsheet, CASI's bimonthly print and web publication. Get your own copy by email or post – contact [casi@casi.org.nz](mailto:casi@casi.org.nz), or download from [www.casi.org.nz](http://www.casi.org.nz).)*