



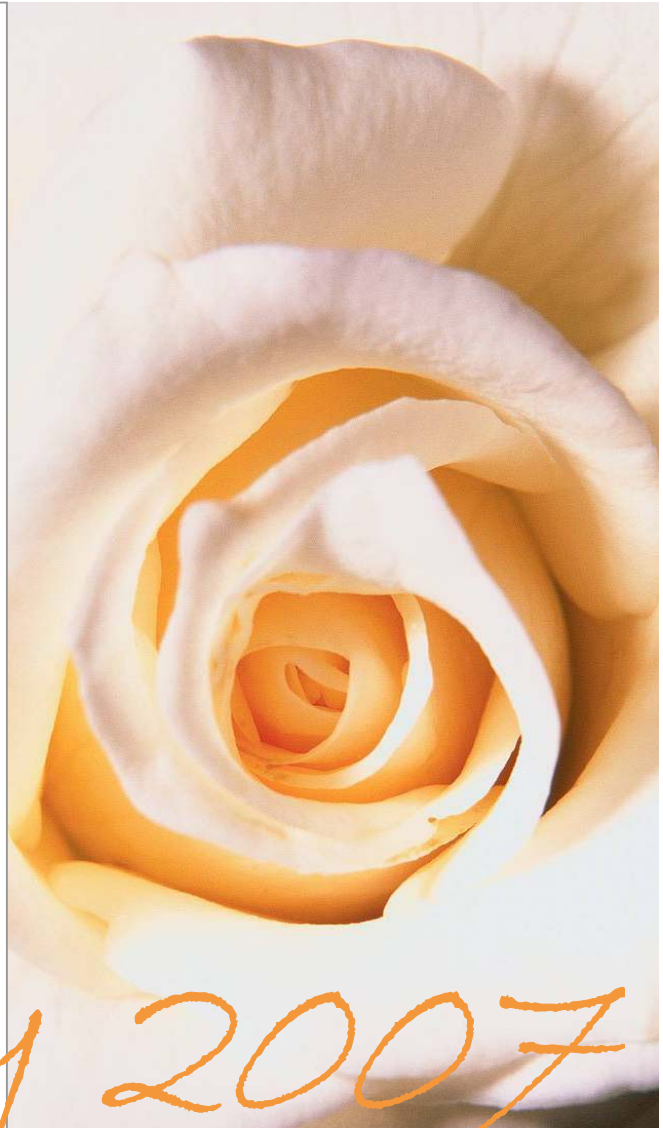
# e-Messenger

*The Methodist Church of New Zealand ~ Te Hāhi 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".*

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MAY 2007



## Official Communications

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Weather and related topics seem to keep taking our attention. We have had a great run of warm weather in the north, yet know winter is on its way – with its usual chills and ills. And further north, last month brought devastating rain and floods. Before that, it was the earthquake and tsunami in Solomon Islands.

We remember all those who have been affected by events such as these, and continue to find ways of giving support and showing our concern.

For me, April saw the meeting of the Methodist Consultative Council of the Pacific. *Touchstone* will provide some information and reflection on this significant event. It was a great opportunity for our church to host Methodist leaders from Tonga, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, and Australia. We were able to hear first-hand of the issues affecting these various countries and churches. And I thought our discussions around HIV and AIDS were really valuable. It was tiring, though!

I was glad also to spend time with those holding Connexional Appointments, reflecting on life and leadership in the church today. A weekend in Christchurch North Parish was another enjoyable time, particularly in being able to recognise the contribution of a number of Lay Preachers, each with over 40 years' experience! Around the church there are many people who contribute great service to local congregations and communities – let's treasure them.

I hope this will be a positive month for all of us around Te Haahi Weteriana.

~ John

### A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

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**Freedomair** has an advertisement at the moment,

**Grab your cozzie and head to Aussie.**

We are unlikely to take a cozzie but Peter and I are having a short holiday in Australia later in the month.

The highlight for me since our last letter was the M CCP meeting.

My eyes were opened as we listened to the stories from the Pacific Islands.

The Moderator of the Solomon Islands Rev David Barakana Havea, shared his experiences of visiting and leading prayers and worship with the displaced people in the hills. This was very moving and powerful. I found it especially emotional looking at the photographs that he brought to the M CCP.

The week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> May is Allergy Awareness week. We have a friend whose son, aged 38 recently died from a severe anaphylactic reaction to a food allergy. He had not been careless with his chosen menu at the restaurant, BUT something created this dramatic response.

A reminder to each of us that food allergies are very real, and we need to be sensitive and responsible to the possible consequences.

As we look forward to Pentecost and 'Wesley Day' I hope that our Methodist heritage can be celebrated along with the significance of Pentecost.

With God's blessing,

Mary

A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

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## **ROADSHOW**

The Connexional Roadshow has now visited Auckland, Nelson, Rotorua, Dunedin and Invercargill. Visits will be made to:

Christchurch	Thursday 17 May
New Plymouth	Saturday 19 May
Wellington	Saturday 26 May

There has been excellent representation from both Methodist and Cooperating Parishes. A reminder that KiwiSaver commences for new employees on 1 July, 2007. Information available from Peter van Hout email [peterv@methodist.org.nz](mailto:peterv@methodist.org.nz)

## **CONFERENCE 2007**

Conference 2007 will be held in Wellington at Wesley Church Taranaki Street from the morning of Saturday 3 November, until 3pm Wednesday 7 November, 2007. Information regarding programme and accommodation will be sent out in June.

~ Jill



## *News from Around the Connexion*

*100 Years*

### *Not Self - But Others*

*You are welcome to attend the Diakonia Fellowship 100<sup>th</sup> celebration of the beginning of the Deaconess Order.*

Convocation (live in or live out) will be held at Thompson House, St Andrew's College, Christchurch, commencing September 16<sup>th</sup> with a 7pm District Service at Durham Street.

Programme includes an MWF Day on Monday 17<sup>th</sup>, a Bus Tour to significant sites on Tuesday, evenings focussing on Student and Hostel Days and celebrating 100 years.

Convocation concludes Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> after an inspiring Communion Service.

Great Speakers, good company, fun and fellowship – open to all who are interested. For further information and registration forms contact:

**Marcia Baker – 11 Merton Place, Christchurch 8053 or**  
**Rona Collins – 2/129 Hills Road, Christchurch 8013**

Live-in accommodation is limited to the first 50 registered!!!

### **NZMWF SMETHURST TRUST FUND**

Applications from women for financial assistance for educational courses must be received by the Convenor Marie Smith by the **20 June 2007**.

The 2007 Application Form and Explanatory notes can be downloaded from the Methodist Church website, under MWF – [www.methodist.org.nz](http://www.methodist.org.nz).

**Advance Notice of**  
**New Zealand Lay Preachers' Association Annual General Meeting**  
**to be held on Saturday 11 August 2007**  
**in Hamilton (venue to be confirmed) 1.30pm to 3.00pm**  
**following a workshop on 'The Parable of Nature'**  
**with Joy Cowley**  
**10.00am to 12.30pm**

More information from Viv Whimster, email [jvwhim@actrix.co.nz](mailto:jvwhim@actrix.co.nz)  
phone 07-578-6056  
or any member of NZLPA Executive

**WCC online bookshop: English translation of Abbé Pierre's last book**

The book by the Abbé Pierre of the Emmaus communities was written just one year before his death on 22 January 2007 at 94. Entitled '*Why, oh why, my God?*' the English translation, just published by the World Council of Churches, is now available in the WCC's [new online bookshop](#), along with a host of other WCC titles and standard reference works.

In *Mon Dieu, pourquoi?*, France's leading champion of the destitute and homeless reflects on his life, faith, and vocation, on Christian faith and the meaning of human life, on pressing contemporary religious and social issues, and on such intimate and burning topics as sexuality and the marriage of priests, the place of women in the church, parenting by same sex partners, and the election of a new pope.

*World Council of Churches publications* - visit [publications.oikoumene.org](http://publications.oikoumene.org)

**MWF NATIONAL COUNCIL 2007**  
**FRIDAY 14 (pm) – SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER (early pm)**  
Note your diaries now!

To minimise costs to Districts, Council will be held prior to Convocation. Council dates are Friday 14 September (late afternoon) through to Sunday 16 September (lunchtime). The venue will be **Aldred Methodist Church, Nancy Avenue, Christchurch**.

Attendees (District Presidents or their proxy) will be billeted. Plan your visit to Christchurch now!

## **PAC Distribution Group DISTRIBUTION THEME 2007**

The PAC Distribution Group met in April to consider what theme it would adopt for this year's distributions. The group spent considerable time talking about the future of the church. Among the questions raised were "what is the link between our church and outside groups?", "what makes us proud of our faith?", "what makes us proud to be Methodist?", "what is the true future for the Methodist Church?", "How are we as a church going to reignite our spirit?"

From the group's discussions the theme of "**Investing in the future (securing the future)**" emerged.

In the gospels Jesus is frequently pictured as investing in the future of individuals who were not able to help themselves. In healing those who were sick or freeing those who were seen to have demons Jesus was helping them secure their future. Those who had once perhaps been shunned by society were able to re-engage with those around them. This would have meant being able to work and support themselves again, as well as gaining a renewed self-image. Jesus also went out of his way to associate himself with those people who were on the margins of society. By talking, eating, and sharing with them Jesus gave them self-respect and legitimised their place in their communities. In giving gifts of grants the PAC Distribution Group wishes to help others invest in their own or other's future.

The Distribution Group sees this year's theme as having three specific categories. These are

- re-igniting the spirit of a group,
- taking a risk through an innovative project or venture, and
- the evolutionary development of a project already begun.

Groups that might otherwise face an uncertain future through being dispirited might be given the opportunity to re-ignite their spirit through a PAC grant. Such groups might have a vision but may not have the resources to be able to carry it out. By investing in the future of a group through a grant such groups might be able to secure the future of their vision.

Sometimes risks need to be taken when investing in the future. A PAC grant may assist a project with an element of risk to get started and thus secure its future. Such a project may not be able to attract funding from usual sources but fit with the PAC Touchstones and Guidelines.

Following on from last year's vision of 'seeding' projects or ideas the evolutionary development of a project already begun may help secure its future. The PAC Distribution Group believes these may be 'infant' projects – projects that have not been under way for long and need just a little more investment in their future. The Group used the analogy of a young seedling that without some extra input would not grow.

In line with the 2005 Methodist Conference decisions this year 70% of the total available for distribution from the Main Fund will be set aside for Endowments to be made to a group or groups within the Church to fund important aspects of the Church's activities. 10% of the total available for distribution from the Main Fund will be made available to organisations and groups outside the Methodist Church, and the remaining 20% of the total available for distribution from the Main Fund will be made available to groups within the Church. The endowment funds are available for those groups that are on the Methodist Church's Connexional Budget. Last year the Distribution Group struggled to make 10% available to groups outside the Church because there were not sufficient applications or stories from appropriate groups. We therefore encourage groups from outside the Church to apply.

Applications or stories from groups who believe their project fits within the broad aspect of this year's theme should be submitted under one or more of the categories mentioned above. Any group's application or story should set out the group's vision for the project as well as how it fits with this year's theme. Particularly, applications and stories should address what the group is doing that is about investing in the future, and how their project is going to contribute to securing the future. The Distribution Group also encourages groups to adopt the suggestion put forward in the recent Seventh Year Review of the P.A.C. Fund and 'include things like hopes, dreams, aims, duration of project as well as the appropriate financial information.'

The Distribution Group reminds groups that grants will not be made to finance existing projects (except for the evolutionary development of a project already begun, as above), salaries, or the purchase or ongoing maintenance of property. (These are seen as requiring ongoing funding and one year's PAC Distribution Group cannot commit any future group to any future grants.)

The PAC Distribution Group invites Rohe, Districts, Sinoti Samoa, Vahefonua Tonga, Wasewase Ko Viti, missions, parishes, and other groups within the life of the Church, and groups outside the Church, to submit stories and applications for this year's distribution. These need to be submitted to the General Secretary, Methodist Church of New Zealand, P.O. Box 931, Christchurch, by **30 June 2007**.





## **Statement from Methodist Church of New Zealand participants at the Methodist Consultative Council of the Pacific meeting on sexual health issues**

The Methodist Consultative Council of the Pacific (MCCP) meeting held in Auckland 16-19 April 2007 was challenged to seriously consider matters relating to sexual health, especially HIV and AIDS. The consultation gathered to consider the theme: *“Theological ethics and cultural taboos in the context of HIV and AIDS and other sexual health issues.”* The topic was chosen because the data on HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases in the region is alarming and impacts on all.

John Salmon, President of the Methodist Church of New Zealand (MCNZ), in his opening address acknowledged this would not be an easy issue for churches to discuss, as it touches areas of human life we would rather not talk about, and raises issues of theology, ethics and culture that we do not agree on. Focussing on biblical and theological ethics he identified several key components that could usefully guide us: compassion, hospitality, and justice, including economic and gender issues. He invited participants to own the cultural taboos that can impede our ability to address the topic, and to stand back from the ready made judgements we bring to the theme.

In responding from an Aotearoa New Zealand perspective, Trinity College Principal, Mary Caygill, noted that the impact of the global HIV and AIDS epidemic has barely touched our own country and churches. She identified social injustice concerns the church needs to address. These include issues of poverty, gender and power. Mary urged us to affirm that AIDS has an impact for the MCNZ, and to uphold life in all its fullness for every person, the right to medication and healing, regard for human rights and the dignity of the afflicted.

Resource people from the NZ AIDS Foundation (Silipa Take and Eriata Peri) and the NZ Family Planning Association (Fuailalagi Samoa Saleupolu) helped participants to further explore the issues. Despite differences of biblical and theological understanding participants identified key concerns that require ongoing commitment from the church: moving beyond responses based on sin and judgement; overcoming the stigma and rejection experienced by the afflicted; recognising the role of power and control, especially in relation to gender issues; replacing ignorance with understanding; responding to homophobia appropriately; overcoming the neglect and denial that have surround the issues of sexual health. The shifts in thinking need to embrace acceptance of the afflicted; awareness of their God-given humanity; and their right to medical treatment and quality care. The church is called to:

- be active in all these areas,
- speak openly,
- advocate on behalf of those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

The MCNZ is challenged to put in place a process for all sections of the church to constructively engage with these concerns across the differences of biblical and theological interpretation and understanding. World AIDS Day, marked in December each year, can be a mobilising point for the churches.

The MCCP comprises the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, the Methodist Church of Fiji, the Methodist Church of Samoa, the United Church in Papua New Guinea, the United Church in the Solomon Islands, the Uniting Church of Australia, as well as the MCNZ.





## From the MWF Newsletter

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Lynne Scott

Prayer is an important aspect of our Christian life. Here are a few ideas –

**By the bed** – When your feet hit the floor each morning thank God for a safe night. Ask Him to show you His will for the coming day and to provide the strength, courage, wisdom and discernment you will need to obey. When you go to bed, thank the Lord for His presence and power in the past hours. Such prayers act as bookends on your day.

**In Traffic** – If you are heading toward work, thank the Lord for your job. Carpooling – Pray silently for each person in your vehicle. Observe other drivers and pray for them. When you stop at a red light, thank God for the times He stops you and helps you get back on the right road. Orange light? Yield yourself to Him. Green? Thank the Lord for going with you all day.

**On the Phone** – Use the time you spend on hold as a pocket of prayer. When a person calls to tell you of some joy or sorrow, ask if you can pray for them right that minute.

**By the Mirror** – Whether you are brushing your hair or applying make-up, a reflection stares back! Ask for God's help in living a transparent life. Ask Him to empower you to reflect His glory. Thank Him that one day you will see Him – not dimly, through a mirror, but face-to-face forever.

**In Line** – Next time you are in a long checkout line at the supermarket, thank God for money to buy food. Pray for those enduring famine. Pray for those who will eat what you cook. Pray for others in line, for the checkout operator. Time will fly.

**In Waiting Rooms** – When facing a doctor's appointment, thank God that medical help is available. Pray for medical missionaries and for the doctors, nurses and administrative staff where you are sitting. Also, pray for people in the waiting room. Do the same at the dentist, or if you have to take a pet to the veterinarian.

May the Lord continue to bless, encourage and enrich my precious sisters and brothers in the Lord.

**Lynne Scott**

*May the Summer Sun comfort you  
May the Autumn leaves watch over you  
May the Winter leaves strengthen you  
May the Spring flowers grow with you  
May the wet and dry challenge you  
May the interweaving of the seasons  
Give you resilience  
May the moments and movements of the seasons  
bring you understanding*

[Source – Anglican Seasons of Grief & Loss Programme]



REMEMBER

## *In your Prayers*

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It was with sadness we advised the Connexion of the death of Mrs Eleanor (Nell) Dixon, wife of the late Rev Haddon Dixon, who died in the Hutt Hospital on Saturday 14 April. She was aged 86.

Her funeral was held at 1.00pm on Wednesday 18 April in Waiwhetu Uniting Church, Lower Hutt.

Any messages to the family may be sent to The Dixon Family, PO Box 30-127, Lower Hutt.

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Te Taha Maori regretfully informs the Connexion that Pari Waaka's brother Henare Te Ua passed away on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May.

Henare Te Ua's body was taken to the Anglican Church Marae Centre in Mangere and then at St Matthew's in the City Church on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of May at 10am; people were able to come and go. At 7pm a Service of Thanksgiving was held; after which the family took the body down to Gisborne.

Messages can be sent to Pari at 1 Holloway Place, Hamilton.





Secretary: John Roberts, 22a Penney Avenue, Mt Roskill, Auckland.  
Phone 09-626-3771 Fax: 09-626-6137 E-mail [mm-e@clear.net.nz](mailto:mm-e@clear.net.nz)

## The scandal of the slave trade

The transatlantic slave trade was an "African holocaust" that should never be forgotten, says a coalition of global church bodies that has called on churches, governments and businesses to repent for their part in the trade. "The global slave trade removed some of the most productive peoples in Africa, resulting in the African holocaust," said delegates representing the World Council of Churches, the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, and the Council for World Mission in a statement issued following a meeting in Geneva in March. The statement called on "churches, governments and businesses that were unjustly enriched by the slave trade not only to repent but to demonstrate fruits of that repentance". The call came on the eve of the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the passing of the "Abolition of the Slave Trade Act" on 25 March 1807 by the British parliament.

At the same time the World Council of Churches (WCC) called for an apology from Western nations. "People of African descent in the diaspora and in Africa await an unambiguous apology and a clear sign from European nations that acknowledges their participation in this terrible part of colonial history" that was the slave trade, WCC general secretary Dr Samuel Kobia told UK prime minister Tony Blair. Kobia expressed the hope that under the prime minister's leadership, European nations could "begin a process of truth-telling, repentance and reconciliation in order to promote an honest and open dialogue in relation to the scars left ... as a part of the colonial legacy".

Kobia has also reminded the UK prime minister - after having done the same earlier with the archbishop of Canterbury - of a dream cherished by the renowned British missiologist and ecumenist Bishop Leslie Newbigin. After visiting Ghana's Elmina Castle, a medieval fortress where slaves were held captive in dungeons before being forcibly shipped to America, expressed the desire that "some representative Englishman - an archbishop or prime minister - might come to Ghana and go down into that dungeon, kneel down on the floor and offer a prayer of contrition".

*ENI and WCC News March 2007*

## Spice trade

The small blue pottery jars on the pantry shelf  
Hold peppercorns, cloves, nutmegs, cinnamon quills,  
Cardamom pods and powdery ginger. Dull and drab.  
But ease the corks and breathe the sensuous scent of history.

More precious than jewels a handful of pepper  
Smuggled from the East for Europe's Queens and Kings.  
Cloves against plague, cinnamon to mask decay,  
Nutmeg for visions of flying, and ginger for gilded cakes.

For these, oceans were claimed and conquered  
And adventurers sailed beyond the world's edge  
To seize the spicy prize and trade for gold,  
And sell the people of the fragrant groves.

Empires, enterprises, corporations and cartels  
Have sprouted from the spicy-island seeds,  
To weave their tendrils in a strangling net of trade  
That traps struggling captives in a mesh of poverty.

A fortune of bittersweet spices scented the crucified body.  
The risen Jesus shed the linen shroud and spice,  
And unencumbered walked out into the morning  
To share his life and freedom and break all bonds.

*Diana Roberts*

## **Mission project updates**

### **UNITED CHURCH SOLOMON ISLANDS**

#### **Earthquake and tsunami impact**

The devastation and loss of life that occurred in villages and towns throughout the Western and Choiseul Provinces of the Solomon Islands as a result of the earthquake and tsunami of 2<sup>nd</sup> April has had a huge impact on the church. Moderator, David Barakana Havea, was quick to make pastoral visits to a number of the most affected areas. The assembly office has organized a team to make further visits, provide counseling and spiritual assistance and make impact assessment reports on property damage and its implications for community and church life. Early reports indicate substantial damage at Goldie College, which has had to close. Reports are awaited for the impact on Helena Goldie Hospital. It is known that other church run hospitals, clinics and schools have been badly affected, as have some church buildings. Methodist Mission and Ecumenical has worked with Christian World Service in the launching of an appeal at Easter to help in the reconstruction phase following this disaster. Mission and Ecumenical has attempted to keep the church informed of developments with regular e-mail updates.

#### **Projects**

It is not yet known what impact the disaster has had on building of the Davinia Taylor Memorial Hall at Helena Goldie Hospital. Its completion will almost certainly be delayed. Commencement of the youth and children's facility at Kokeqolo is also likely to be delayed as attention is given to getting other areas of church infrastructure, such as hospitals and schools, restored. The copra project based at Vonunu on Vella Lavella Island has almost certainly suffered. A report is awaited.

## **RARONGO THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE**

### **Work parties**

Several New Zealanders will join work parties for rebuilding work at this United Church in Papua Guinea theological college. Ken and Brenda Skinner (Waitakere Methodist Parish) and Dave Buchan (Te Aroha Co-operating Parish) depart on 3 May. Geoff Warth (Te Puke/Mt Maunganui Methodist Parish) and Ewen Hutchinson (Greenlane Presbyterian), together with Dave Buchan's daughter Keysha and her husband Kelvin, who are in Australia on an OE, will join the team on 19 May. We wish them all a rewarding experience. Epworth Books has donated twelve books for Rarongo library. Thank you Epworth Books. Ken and Brenda will deliver these to the college. Geoff Warth will also be taking some books provided by his parish, but for the children's section which serves the young of the college community.

### **Library book purchases**

Methodist Mission and Ecumenical continues to purchase texts for the library. With the help of Keith Carley (Kapiti Uniting Parish) 27 books have already been purchased this year and more will follow.

### **Special appeal 2007**

The appeal for a data projector purchase and internet access installation has so far raised \$2163. This is a good start. We need a good deal more to meet the purchase costs so please continue to support this appeal.

### **Student scholarships**

Assistance with tuition fees for another four students in 2007 is currently in process.

### **\$60,000**

This is the amount that has been provided by Methodist Mission and Ecumenical to assist the work of Rarongo Theological College in the past six years.

### **Zimbabwe's president challenged by churches**

Roman Catholic Archbishop Pius Ncube has called for "peaceful" street protests against the 27-year rule of President Robert Mugabe who has cracked down on opposition protests with ferocity as his country faces economic meltdown. "It's time for a radical stance and not soft speeches and cowardice and the time is now. We must stand up and fill the streets and demand that this man [Mugabe] stand down right now. As Zimbabweans we need courage to stand for our rights now. Now we must just stand up to this government" Ncube, a long-standing critic of excesses committed by Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF party told the Christian Alliance, which brings together church groups, and is campaigning for political change in Zimbabwe. At the same time churches in southern Africa have been calling on their governments to place direct pressure on the government of President Robert Mugabe. "As the church, we are convinced that Zimbabwe is under the clutches of oppressive rule, and those who are committed to democratic rule must mobilise for change," said the Rev. Prince Dibeela, general secretary of the United Congregational Church in Southern Africa. Roman Catholic bishops in Zimbabwe have called for repentance and an end to oppression by state agencies.

*ENI News March 2007*



ECUMENICAL

# NEWS & VIEWS

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## *Christian World Service*

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### **Solomon Islands Response**

CWS is grateful for the tremendous support for the Solomon Islands emergency appeal. At the beginning of May over \$80,000 has been donated to the appeal including a substantial grant from the Mission and Ecumenical office. This money is helping the Luru Land Conference, the United Church of the Solomon Islands and the Solomon Islands Christian Association to meet the immediate needs of the people and to begin reconstruction. The Luru Land Conference has reported that they realise that the assistance won't last so they need to rebuild their homes and livelihoods as quickly as possible. The people are still dealing with the trauma following the tsunami, but are grateful for the help being given to them. The report continues, 'they are also proud of who they are and want to get out of this predicament in their own special way'. The importance of allowing local people to control the reconstruction cannot be overemphasised. The appeal is still open and donations can be made through the website [www.cws.org.nz](http://www.cws.org.nz) or by phone 0800 747372 or sent to PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8142.

### **Darfur Emergency Appeal Relunched**

CWS is asking for prayers and support for the 4 million people affected by the continuing conflict in Darfur. Please give generously to this appeal and support the work of CWS partners ACT International and Caritas Internationalis, providing shelter, health services, education, drilling boreholes for water, sanitation and hygiene and much more. CWS can supply posters, more stories and a powerpoint presentation to accompany The Lord is my Shepherd as sung by Keith Green. Order from: [cws@cws.org.nz](mailto:cws@cws.org.nz).

**To download a copy of the appeal flyer or to donate online refer to the CWS website [www.cws.org.nz](http://www.cws.org.nz). Donations can also be made by ringing 0800 74 73 72 or by post to PO Box 22652, Christchurch.**

### **Fair Trade**

Churches throughout the country have been taking part in Fair Trade Fortnight from 29 April to 13 May, many by holding *A Fair Cuppa* after services. However it is never too late. With support from Trade Aid parishes are able to order a free packet of tea or coffee with their order as long as they are taking part in *A Fair Cuppa*. Last year's Annual Conference also encouraged parishes to consider becoming Fair Trade Churches. Some of the resources are available at <http://www.cws.org.nz> or can be ordered direct from [gillian.southey@cws.org.nz](mailto:gillian.southey@cws.org.nz).



## **World Watch**

The latest issue of World Watch, the CWS magazine for children is available now with a Leaders' Kit. Entitled "Dry as a Bone", it deals with water issues, particularly looking at Sri Lanka and the lives of children. Copies available from: [youth@cws.org.nz](mailto:youth@cws.org.nz)

## **Youth Topics**

The next edition is on climate change and will be out in late May. Order copies from [youth@cws.org.nz](mailto:youth@cws.org.nz).

## **Human Rights Film Festival**

CWS is one of the sponsors of this year's festival. Screenings – Auckland 2-9 May, Wellington 9-16 May and Christchurch 16-20 May. For information refer to: [www.humanrightsfilmfest.net.nz](http://www.humanrightsfilmfest.net.nz).

## **Water who owns it?**

The documentary looks at the case of Sri Lanka where CWS partner Monlar and its associated network of grass-roots organisations are struggling to ensure that the supply of water to small farmers is maintained, in the face of strong pressure on the government from the World Bank to privatize the supply. The centuries-old tradition of rice growing is particularly at risk from such policies, which would drive millions of people off the land. A documentary for reflection on water as it affects us all. To borrow a copy contact CWS, stating your preference, video or DVD and when you would like to borrow it, with an alternate date, by email: [cws@cws.org.nz](mailto:cws@cws.org.nz).

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## **Media Release - Global day of prayer for Darfur**

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April is the Global Day for Darfur. Activists, NGOs and lobby groups in countries around the world are running events with the theme "Time is running out". The Episcopal Church of the Sudan is calling for churches around the world to pray for the people of Darfur and for peace in Sudan. A copy of their prayer for Darfur will be available for download from the CWS website. CWS has been running an appeal to support its partners ACT International and Caritas Internationalis' joint initiative the Darfur Emergency Response Operation (DERO) since early 2004.

### **The situation in Darfur today**

- 2.5 million people are homeless
- Up to 4 million people have been affected by the conflict.
- Displaced people seek refuge in camps accommodating anywhere from 45,000 -150,000 people.
- People are still afraid to venture too far away from the camp, for fear of attack from the Janjaweed (pro Sudanese government militia).
- While the situation in Darfur is unpredictable, humanitarian aid remains urgent.

### **The DERO Aid programme**

The ACT/Caritas DERO programme is helping several hundred thousand displaced people in Western Darfur, providing food, shelter, equipping primary health care clinics, supplementary feeding programmes, resources for classrooms, trauma counselling, water and sanitation, agricultural training and much more. John Nduna is the director



of ACT International and has been in Darfur this month. *“The authorities would have you believe that the situation is good enough for the internally displaced people to return to their villages, but the truth is that the insecurity in the region makes people hesitant to return. The situation is worsening- with so much conflict and the numbers of displaced people is increasing.”*

### **Trauma counselling and peace building**

*“Drawing Darfur”* is a psychosocial project initiated by DERO in 2006 that has worked with many young people across different IDP camps - as a way of giving young people the opportunity to tell their stories. Through a series of workshops, young people between the ages of 8-28 drew images of what they have witnessed over the past four years. Together they have imagined what a peaceful future might mean for them and learnt what their rights are as young people. A calendar was produced from the drawings of these young people. *“This conflict has stripped thousands of people of their defences and left them so utterly vulnerable to the depredations of people with agendas that are sometimes incomprehensibly violent.”* John Nduna.

### **Media contact:**

CWS Media Officer - Ruth Greenaway, Ph: 03 366 9274, Mob: 021 238 7710, Fax: 03 365 2919  
Email: [communications@cws.org.nz](mailto:communications@cws.org.nz), Website: [www.cws.org.nz](http://www.cws.org.nz)

### **References:**

ACT/Caritas, DERO: <http://act-intl.org/actcaritas/index.html>, ACT International home page: <http://www.act-intl.org/>, Caritas Internationalis home page: <http://www.caritas.org/>

**Donations to the CWS appeal for DARFUR can be made on line at [www.cws.org.nz](http://www.cws.org.nz) or by ringing 0800 74 73 72**

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## **LAUNCH OF SAVE ZIMBABWE CAMPAIGN NEW ZEALAND CHAPTER 18 APRIL 2007 - PRESS RELEASE**

We, citizens and friends of Zimbabwe,

- *miserable* and mournful on our 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence when we should be celebrating the gains and progress we could have made since 1980;
- *troubled* due to the economic crisis caused by political the political instability;
- *concerned* about gross human rights abuses particularly violence and abductions perpetrated by police and government agents that continue unabated and with impunity since 11<sup>th</sup> March;
- *anxious* about the safety of church leaders, human rights activists, women, youth, opposition politicians, some of whom have come together under the banner of Save Zimbabwe Campaign;
- *apprehensive* about the constitution that does not guarantee basic rights such as freedom of expression, association and movement;
- concerned about the country's leadership that does not seek to alleviate the suffering of the people instead focusing all attention and resources on clinging to power;
- *worried* that the international community's reaction to the crisis cannot be said to be serious given how long it has taken for the Southern African

Development Community (SADC) to ask President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa to mediate in the Zimbabwe crisis and given that very little action has been taken by the African Union, Commonwealth, European Union and United Nations;

and yet,

- *hopeful* that the economy of Zimbabwe will be restored to what it was once action is taken to end the political quagmire;
- *expectant* that mediation efforts by the South African government will resume promptly and that the Government of Zimbabwe will call on its agents and the police to stop all violent activity and abductions;
- *convinced* that a non-partisan nationwide constitution-making process will be regarded as one of the most important factors to be addressed before the 2008 presidential election;
- *certain* that the international community will not standby and watch the situation in Zimbabwe continue to deteriorate;
- *encouraged by* the strength, resilience, hope and courage shown by the people of Zimbabwe who have continued the uphill task of calling for a democratic dispensation;
- *confident* that Zimbabwe's hope, dignity and pride will be restored and that we will be able to celebrate our independence and freedom;

do hereby,

- *launch* a Save Zimbabwe Campaign New Zealand Chapter (SZC-NZ) which will be a multi-level, multi-media campaign with the primary aim of raising awareness on the situation in Zimbabwe and working together to find solutions to the problems;
- *call* on Zimbabweans of all faiths, colour, political persuasions, beliefs to their patriotic responsibility of restoring hope, dignity and pride to our homeland and invite them to join us as member of the Campaign;
- *invite* non-Zimbabweans to join us as friends of the SZC-NZ in order to learn about and support the people of Zimbabwe;
- *pledge* to work with the Save Zimbabwe Campaign in Zimbabwe to help them meet their collective objectives by promoting their work as churches, youth, women, doctors, lawyers, labor unions, activists, politicians, etc.
- *commit* ourselves to fundraising to assist victims of political violence by meeting their medical and legal fees and in any other way we may be called upon to do;
- *vow* to work with the governments, regional and international bodies such as SADC, AU, UN and EU to pressure the current regime to guarantee their civic and political rights through constitutional reform, guarantee the independence of the judiciary and the media;
- *avail* ourselves to work towards lasting peace and prosperity in Zimbabwe.

On behalf of the SZC-NZ

*Shupayi Mpunga*  
*National Coordinator*  
*23 Albert Tce*  
*Christchurch*

*Tel: 03 980 8842 (H) 03 364 0590 (W)*

*Mobile: 021 0622481*

# When Freedoms Collide



**The Very Rev, The Hon, Dr Lois Wilson** is a champion of social justice and religious understanding who has devoted her life to public service and social change. From her early days with the United Church of Canada, through her years of international service as President of the World Council of Churches, to her appointment to the Senate of Canada, Dr Wilson has worked passionately as a defender and promoter of human rights. Dr Wilson will provide an inspiring and thought provoking talk. She will challenge us to think creatively about the inevitable challenges and conflict faced by people in our ever changing and diverse society.

Monday 7 May **Orewa**  
7:30pm, 180 Centreway Rd  
Hibiscus Coast

Tuesday 8 May **Auckland**

Panel: Religious Diversity in NZ with  
Church Leaders chaired by  
Sir Paul Reeves, 7:30pm,  
Auckland Cathedral, 446 Parnell Rd

Wed 9 May **Hamilton**  
7:30pm Reception Lounge,  
Hamilton City Council, Garden Pl

Friday 11 May **Wellington**  
Lunch Talk: Faith & Public Policy  
St Andrews on the Tce

**Monday 14 May** Public talk,  
7:30pm, National Library,  
Molesworth St

Tuesday 15 May **Napier**  
7pm Century Theatre,  
HB Museum, Herchell St

Wed 16 May **Kapiti Coast**  
7pm Kapiti Uniting Church Hall,  
Raumati Rd, Raumati

Sunday 20 May **Dunedin**  
4pm, Knox Hall, 449 George St

Public talks are locally supported events contributing to the NZ Diversity Action Programme. All faith communities are welcome. Admission is \$10 donation to cover costs. For further information please contact 0274 853 128 or email [nzloiswilson@ihug.co.nz](mailto:nzloiswilson@ihug.co.nz).

# Human Rights Film Festival 16 – 20 May

Dear Human Rights Supporter,

Don't you sometimes wish you could talk to others in the theatre about the film you have just seen? I know I certainly did after seeing *The Last King Of Scotland* and it wouldn't have been to ask whether Forest Whitaker deserved the Oscar! I wanted to talk about the human rights issues and how Idi's regime could be compared to what was happening today in Zimbabwe. Know what I mean?

Well, actually I think you do, which is why I am writing to you today to give you advance notice of, and an invitation to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Human Rights Film Festival opening night on the 16 May.

To refresh your memory the aim of the festival is to:

- Raise awareness within New Zealand on a range of human rights issues
- Contribute to civic education in the area of human rights
- Elevate New Zealand's profile internationally as a human rights society

This year we have chosen an opening film that looks at an issue that affects us all and challenges us to re-think what we know about the concept of Race and remind us that the soul has no colour.

## 'Race is a Four Letter Word'

is a thought provoking Canadian documentary that follows the stories of four Canadian citizens as they question their identity and how much influence the colour of their skin can/should have. Preceding the main feature will be the equally thought provoking short film - **Living Proof** – a glimpse of what life is like for the intellectually disabled in Croatia.

The evening begins with an opportunity to connect with other human rights' supporters over drinks and nibbles at 7pm. We also invite you to join in the discussion afterwards about the issues raised in the film facilitated by a special guest speaker.

The deadline for preferential bookings is the 14 May but you can reserve your seat from the 1 May onwards by phoning the Regent on Worcester on 366 0140. Tickets are \$18.00 for an evening of wine, cheese, outstanding documentaries and of course the chance to discuss with others what you thought about the film without leaving the comfort of the theatre seats.

We hope you will join us in making this Human Rights Film Festival even better than the last and thank you for your support.

Kind regards



For Carolyn Brown

For the Christchurch Human Rights Film Festival – [www.humanrightsfilmfest.net.nz](http://www.humanrightsfilmfest.net.nz)





# Job Opportunities



**THE INTERCHURCH COUNCIL FOR HOSPITAL  
CHAPLAINCY AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND**  
*Te Kaunihera Whakawhanaunga  
o nga Minita Hohipera, Hauora*

## **ECUMENICAL HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN** **Gisborne Hospital, Tairawhiti DHB**

Due to the retirement on 30 June 2007 of the Chaplain at Gisborne Hospital, applications are being sought from experienced chaplains and other suitably qualified ordained clergy for this **full - time** Hospital chaplaincy position. The position is being offered on the basis of a 2 year term initially.

Applicants should have completed a minimum of one CPE Course and must have experience in hospital chaplaincy, parish ministry or other relevant ministry positions. An ability to speak and lead worship in English and Te Reo Maori will be an advantage as 65% of the patient admissions are Maori.

The Chaplain must have the ability to provide spiritual health care to people with a range of health needs and from a variety of cultural and religious backgrounds, and be able to participate in a multi-disciplinary health care team, consistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The Chaplain must also be able to lead, train and supervise a team of part-time voluntary Chaplaincy Assistants providing Christian ministry, spiritual and emotional support and pastoral care to patients, their families and staff in the Gisborne Hospital.

An appointee who is not already an accredited healthcare chaplain will be required to work towards obtaining accreditation. Chaplains are now required to become accredited within 5 years of appointment.

**The closing date for the receipt of applications is Monday 30 April 2007.**

An information pack is available from:

The National Executive Officer  
Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy  
PO Box 6427  
WELLINGTON 6141

Phone: 04-801 8008  
Fax: 04-381 4842  
E-mail: [admin@ichc.org.nz](mailto:admin@ichc.org.nz)



## *Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand*

### **VACANCY**

# **CHAPLAIN - SPRING HILL CORRECTIONS FACILITY**

The Prison Chaplaincy Service of Aotearoa New Zealand is seeking a full time Chaplain to form, with the new Catholic Chaplain, the inaugural Chaplaincy team at the new Spring Hill Corrections Facility.

Located in North Waikato, approximately 20 minutes drive from Huntlytrf and about 30 minutes drive from Manukau city, Spring Hill Corrections Facility (SHCF) will open in August and start receiving prisoners in November 2007. There will be 341 staff responsible for providing a safe, secure and humane environment for approximately 650 prisoners, proactively working with them to reduce re-offending.

The Department of Corrections is working in partnership with Ngāti Naho; there will be a clear focus on protecting and integrating Maori cultural concepts within the facility and integrating Maori values, beliefs and practices.

The institution will have a Pacific focus unit which will work with Pacific prisoners, providing rehabilitative programmes that incorporate common Pacific cultural values, principles and beliefs.

- Proven pastoral experience i.e. responsibility for a parish or equivalent for five years or more
  - Relevant theological and pastoral training
  - Accreditation and recommendation by the chaplain's denomination as a person qualified, experienced and suitable for the role of prison chaplain.
  - Excellent leadership, relationship management and communication skills; ability to be the "Manager of Religious Services" in the prison
  - Cultural awareness and sensitivity to the religious, spiritual and pastoral needs of people in prison
  - Ability to accept responsibility and to recruit, inspire, lead and manage a team of volunteers
  - Ability to minister in a bi-cultural, cross-cultural and multi-cultural environment
  - Ability to minister sensitively to followers of all faiths
  - Ability to work effectively in a team with chaplains and prison staff
  - Ability to deliver services in a non-judgmental and impartial manner
  - Ability to act with integrity at all times
  - Ability to use Microsoft Office applications
  - Strong administration and organisational skills, ability to prioritise, manage work flows and apply initiative and direction in solving complex problems
  - Good general health – sufficient to work within a secure and rugged prison environment
- An appointee who has not completed a CPE Course or equivalent will be expected to obtain accreditation within three years of appointment.

For further details, job description and application forms contact the Executive Manager, David Connor

Email: [david@pcsanz.org](mailto:david@pcsanz.org) - Phone 09 302 3201 - PO Box 37 796, Parnell, Auckland 1151

**Applications close 12<sup>th</sup> July 2007**