



# 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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# December 2010

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





# Official Communications

## **A Message from the President and Vice President**

Greetings to you all from the Presidential Team. Our hope is that the Advent season has taken hold and you are in celebration mode with family and friends through the acknowledgement of the hope, peace and goodwill that comes with this season.

We have had a busy time since Conference. We have both been to Kawhia, Greymouth and Ashburton. Desmond has been to Bunnythorpe for a regional celebration and Otara for the opening of a new church designed by Eric Laurensen. Sue has been to Glen Eden for a church centennial, Trinity College for the annual valedictory service, Wellsford, and Rehua Marae in Christchurch for the 50th anniversary of the wharenui.

At Wellsford Jock Hosking, who had terminal cancer, invited people to share in his living wake which coincided with 50 years since his ordination. This was a wonderful affirmation of a remarkable man and his ministry. Jock has now died, and his funeral will be held on Saturday at St Johns in Whangarei. We continue to hold his family in our prayers.

Kawhia church celebrated its 76th anniversary with the opening by King Tuheitia Paki of a community centre behind the newly restored church, which was packed for the service that followed. Kawhia is historically significant to both Tainui and to Pakeha settlers.

We both represented you, the Methodist Church, at the National Pike River Remembrance Service at Greymouth, an occasion at which it was reported 11,000 people were in attendance. It was an opportunity for the nation to gather either at Greymouth or around their TV sets in a day of national mourning to mourn the loss of 29 lives in the Pike River mining disaster. There was a table set up for each miner, with photos, symbols, tributes and treasures placed there by the families. The 29 names were read out during the ceremony, which commenced with a 2 minute silence. It was a highly emotionally-charged day. Our primary purpose in being there was to support the ministry teams on the Coast, who are in good heart but very tired. There is a need for some respite and some Connexionally funded relief for them in their ongoing work amongst a community which has great needs.

In Ashburton we inducted the new Superintendency team for the Central South Island Synod. There are now three Co-Superintendents providing leadership for the Synod, which covers a large geographical area.

Travelling around the country has been very rewarding and it is good to see the life, energy and ongoing faithful witness of the churches we have visited.



As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child may we all remember those, both in our own country and overseas, who are sorely in need of good news. Let us all play our part in bringing Christ's love to them through prayer and supporting the Pike River appeals and the Christian World Service Christmas Appeal.

Grace and peace

*Desmond and Sue*

## **A Message from the General Secretary**

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Early in her career as a Psychologist Ellen Langer conducted a simple experiment in a nursing home among its elderly residents. Some, chosen at random, were given a house plant to care for and were asked to make some decisions about their daily routine. Eighteen months later less than half as many of this group had died, and they were more cheerful, active and alert than those not given choices and responsibilities.

This experiment changed Langers life. It is described in the opening paragraphs of her book Mindfulness.

Langers book came to mind last week as I watched a wonderful film on television "The Young at Heart Chorus'. The documentary tells the story of a group of singers, average age 80, with a robust love of life, as they give expression to modern and contemporary songs. Their involvement in this unique musical enterprise not only gave them an interest in life, it imbued them with vitality.

Our Churches offer many opportunities for meaningful and worthwhile investment of gifts, time and compassion. The Covenant Service reminder that there are many services to be done – some easy, some difficult, some a natural fit, others more of a struggle.....but in the sharing God's love is made known, and everyone benefits.

And we have benefited this year from the outpouring of practical love. The Christchurch earthquake, Pike River Coal Mine explosion, and many local events have been met by a gracious and generous response. Thank you.

Amy Scott is to go on maternity leave from the end of January. We wish Amy and Simon well as they await their baby's birth.

### **We Welcome**

Wendy Keir who started at the office today (13<sup>th</sup> December). Please give Wendy a warm welcome when you contact her for information or resources. Wendy's email is [wendyk@methodist.org.nz](mailto:wendyk@methodist.org.nz).



### **Contact Details Updates**

A big thank you to all of you who have sent in changes of address and contact people. This means the Directory which is printed as part of the Year Book is up to date. If you haven't sent your changes it's not too late. Post the form back, email, even phone.

### **Email Warning**

Virus's on the web and in emails are a constant problem. One reason they spread so easily is that they often seem to be messages from people you know. Earlier this year there were messages with invitations to join 'Fanbox' and 'Box me'. If you are uncertain delete the message and give the message sender a call to find out if it is genuine.

### **Christmas – New Year**

The Connexional Office will close at mid-day on 24<sup>th</sup> December and reopen on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January. Emergency contact while the office is closed, email [davidb@methodist.org.nz](mailto:davidb@methodist.org.nz) or txt or phone 021 392 500.

The staff at the Connexional Office extend their Christmas Greetings and look forward to seeing you again in 2011.

Grace and peace

*David*





# Connexional News

## The Connexional Office closure times over Christmas

The Connexional Office will close at midday on Friday, 24 December 2010 and reopen 9.00am on Wednesday 5 January 2011.

The answer phone will be monitored over the Christmas vacation.

The staff of the Connexional Office wish you all a blessed and joyous Christmas.



## New Zealand Methodist Women's Fellowship

**WORLD FEDERATION OF  
METHODIST AND UNITING CHURCH WOMEN  
12th ASSEMBLY  
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA  
10 – 16 AUGUST 2011**

Talofa and warm greetings to all our NZMWF members, who wish to attend the 12<sup>th</sup> World Federation Assembly in Johannesburg, South Africa August 2011.

Venue: Indaba Hotel & Conference Centre Fourways, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Dates: 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Theme: "Bambelela [Never Give Up] – Christ is our Hope"

Registration fee US\$125.00(NZ\$170.00) is required ASAP. This amount is for NZMWF members **who will not be taking up the option given by World Office** as per website. A further \$200.00 is required as deposit towards airfare.

We intend to make one Telegraphic Transfer for Registration Fees to save you money!

### **WHAT YOU NEED TO DO**

1. Contact President Mataiva Robertson informing your interest and/or confirm your attendance at 12<sup>th</sup> World Assembly, South Africa 2011  
Email: [mdrobertson08@gmail.com](mailto:mdrobertson08@gmail.com) or  
Phone: 06-769 5856 or 021 053 4894
2. Make a payment of NZ\$540.00 asap - Two options of payment below;  
**Cheque:** New Zealand Methodist Women's Fellowship; **Or**  
**Direct Deposit/Internet Banking:** NZMWF BNZ Account: 02 - 0800 - 0009230 - 000



*This amount factors in a NZD to USD conversion rate of 0.7399. Given how high our dollar is at the moment, your remaining money will remain in the account and will offset the final amount left to be paid.*

*\* Please use your full name as reference when depositing money into the NZMWF account.*

*\*\* The amount of \$540.00 is for members who will take the package option proposed by World Exec. (This includes US\$125.00 registration and deposit for accommodation, airport transfers to and from Indaba Hotel when required.) Please complete the registrations online if possible.*

**Please check that your passport is valid and don't forget your travel insurance ☺**

*Happy Planning  
NZMWF Secretary*

## **News from Methodist Archives Christchurch**

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### **Retirement of volunteer**

One of our long-standing Archives volunteers, Mrs Esther Trim, is retiring after 21 years of service on 14 December 2010. Esther's work over the last 21 years has mainly been with the Methodist Women's Fellowship records, and the Parish Archives Collection. She has listed and filled over 800 boxes of records from Methodist parishes and churches.

Another of her more recent volunteer projects has been recording the records held for Methodist Conference committees, records of departments, divisions, funds and boards, and any ecumenical or lay records held.

Esther has cheerfully volunteered, twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings. It definitely won't be the same without her here in Archives, and we wish her a relaxing retirement with the time to catch up on her backlog of crosswords.

### **Taranaki and Wanganui Districts' records**

One of the Archives' long-standing projects (contributed to by Esther Trim and other volunteers) has been to make available lists of the records held in the Methodist Archives as the collection is documented on the computer. Previous lists existed in hand-written format only.

We are using the Methodist Church website to do this: [www.methodist.org.nz](http://www.methodist.org.nz) under Archives. Just posted on the website this month, is a descriptive list of all parish and church records for Taranaki and Wanganui regions. The next list to be posted will be for the Nelson, Marlborough and West Coast.

### **Closure over Christmas and New Year**

The Methodist Archives will be closed from 14 December 2010, re-opening on Tuesday 11 January 2011

Jo Smith, Archivist

Email: [archives@methodist.org.nz](mailto:archives@methodist.org.nz)



## Mosgiel 125<sup>th</sup> Report

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Most of the 110 people attending the 125<sup>th</sup> Celebrations of the Mosgiel Methodist Church enjoyed a very busy and pleasant day starting with a Service to recognise the Ministers who had served us in the past. This was lead by Rev Cornelia Grant who had it arranged in 25 year sections. This was followed by an afternoon of catching up with old friends and a beautifully catered dinner. We had people who started at our Church in 1927 The Lord has truly blest this place our oldest present day member is 94 years old. We had a time to reminisce and tell Our stories which brought some humorous and interesting stories.

We heard from our Synod Superintendent Rev Stuart Grant, The Taieri Ministers Assc. Pastor John Stoddart, and a message from Mosgiel Community Board Chairman Mr. Bill Feather.

Miss Isabel Smith our longest continuous serving member cut our Celebration Cake. The Rev. Fred & Marcia Baker, Rev Russell and Pauline Rigby, Rev Colin Jamieson & Jennifer, Rev Jean Bruce, Rev Donald Phillipps were our past ministers who attended. The Rev Stan and Marie Goudge, Rev Alan Upson, Rev John Stringer, Rev Norma George, Rev Ken Russell, and Rev Uesifili Unasa were all unable to attend due to parish commitments. We ended our day with afternoon tea and a request from a member of our congregation to sing The Doxology which was a perfect ending to a very busy day.

R.Elaine Merrett,  
Chairman of the  
125<sup>th</sup> Celebrations.





## Conference Reports

Please complete the form for:

1. Those people within your parish who are not attending Conference (Conference attendees receive a copy of the Agenda & Minutes of Conference and the Yearbook), and/or
2. Additional copies.

**NOTE:** Conference Reports and Decisions are posted on the MCNZ website when they are available, PDF copies of the yearbook are also available via email, contact Amy [amys@methodist.org.nz](mailto:amys@methodist.org.nz) if you would like to receive these.

- Prices listed below are inclusive of delivery.
- When completed, please keep a copy of this form for your records.

### DELIVERY

- Conference Reports are distributed prior to Conference (approx. mid October 2010)
- Decisions and Yearbooks are printed and distributed after Conference (approx. early February 2011)

Please complete **ALL** sections:

Parish / Board: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish No: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

If purchasing an unbound copy of the Yearbook, we recommend that you use an A4 ring binder (size 4cm) to accommodate both reports and decisions.

Item	No. Required	*Cost		Total
		Exclusive GST	Inclusive GST 15%	
*NB: GST is payable by Individuals & Union Parishes only				
Shrink wrapped Agenda, Minutes of Conference & Yearbook		\$40.00	\$46.00	
Bound Agenda, Minutes of Conference & Yearbook		\$50.00	\$57.50	
Additional Set of Addresses		\$10.00	\$11.50	
Bound Financial Statements		\$35.00	\$40.25	
<b>Total payment enclosed:</b>				

Please post your order, including payment to:

Methodist Connexional Office  
 PO Box 931, Christchurch 8140

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
INV No.	PAID:







# Vacancies

## YOUTH WORKER

- Got a year to give?
- We want you



Are you

- Youth Friendly
- Experienced in youth work
- Under 30
- Computer savvy



Under the New Order of St Stephen the opportunity exists within the Waimakariri Shared Ministry (North Canterbury) for a full-time volunteer youth worker with a support structure.

Expressions of interest please by January 20 with CV and references to:

Revs Peter Jackson & Brian Turner  
Waimakariri Shared Ministry  
176 King Street, Rangiora.  
Email: [rangioramethodist@clear.net.nz](mailto:rangioramethodist@clear.net.nz)



## **Chaplain (Part-Time) Christchurch Methodist Mission – Wesleycare Chaplain**

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This position is for 20 hours per week providing pastoral care to the residents of WesleyCare Rest Home, Hospitals and Village, Harewood Road, Papanui, Christchurch.

Applications are encouraged from those who have experience within such a setting and have a passion for the challenges and fulfilment such a position will bring. The position is open to both ordained and lay persons.

Applications close on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010. For more information please contact:

Reverend Mary Caygill

Superintendent Christchurch Central Parish and Mission

54 Chester Street West

Christchurch 8013

Phone: 03 3749751 or 3666049 or 0272518611 [maryc@mmsi.org.nz](mailto:maryc@mmsi.org.nz)





REMEMBER

## *In your Prayers*

*Christina Morunga's father, Arthur Brocket, died 13 October in Whangarei hospital following a time of failing health. The funeral service was held on Saturday 16 October at the chapel of Morris and Morris Funeral Directors, Whangarei.*

*May the Lord guide and strengthen Christina and all her family through this time and bless and keep their memories of their father.*

*Me te Atua koe e tiaki, e manaaki i nga wa katoa.*

*We are sorry to advise the Connexion of the death of Kathleen Greta Thomas, widow of the late Rev Gordon Thomas in her 88<sup>th</sup> year on 16 October in Blenheim. Kathleen's funeral was held on Tuesday 19 October at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Picton.*

*Messages can be sent to Kathleen's daughter, Mrs Jill Struthers, 271 Redwood St, Blenheim. Ph 03 577 6123. Email: [jstruthers@glenhill.co.nz](mailto:jstruthers@glenhill.co.nz)*

*We are sorry to advise the Connexion of the death of Noel Wilfred Lloyd, aged 86 on 11 October 2010 in Christchurch. Noel was for a significant time the master of the Masterton Methodist Children's Home. His wife Ruth passed away in recent years and they regularly attended the Durham Street Church. Noel has requested that his body be bequeathed to medical science. An informal gathering of family and friends was held on 31 October at the Cashmere Club, Christchurch.*

*Messages can be sent to PO Box 24033, Christchurch 8642.*

*It is with deep sadness that we inform the Connexion of the death of the Rev. Apakuki Raturuoka on Saturday 16 October. Apakuki was the presbyter of the Fijian congregations in Hamilton East, Rotorua and Tauranga. He was a member of Wasewase Ko Viti Kei Rotuma E Niu Siladi and of the Waikato-Waiariki Synod.*

*Apakuki's funeral service was held at St John's Methodist Church on Thursday 21 October.*

*Apakuki's death is an enormous loss to his family and friends, his congregations and colleagues and to the wider Connexion. Please keep in your prayers his wife Laisa and their children, members of the Fijian congregations and all of Apakuki's friends and colleagues.*

*Messages can be sent to Laisa Raturuoka, 19A Bankwood Rd, Chartwell, Hamilton 3214, Phone 07 855 5656.*



*We are sorry to advise the Connexion of the death of Jennifer Cowley, wife of Graham Cowley who was the former Principal at Wesley College. Jennifer's funeral service was held at the St Heliers Bay Presbyterian Church on Thursday 25 November.*

*Messages may be send to Graham Cowley is 86 Maskell Street, St Heliers, Auckland 1071.*

*With sadness we inform the Connexion of the death of Colin Southey, father of Gillian Southey and father-in-law of Jim Stuart. Colin died on 25 November 2010 peacefully at Middlemore Hospital aged 74 years.*

*He was the dearly loved husband of Margaret, father of Gillian and Jim, Ian and Gillian, Pamela, Bruce and Sandra, grandfather of Nicole and Thomas.*

*A service for Colin was held at the Pukekohe Methodist Church Wesley St, Pukekohe on 30 November, followed by a private cremation. In lieu of flowers donations to the Coast Guard Northern Region, P O Box 2195, Shortland St, Auckland would be appreciated.*

*Gillian and Jim's contact details are: 48 Lionel Street, Christchurch 8061, Email: [wjstuart@actrix.gen.nz](mailto:wjstuart@actrix.gen.nz)*

*With sadness we inform the Connexion of the death of Rev Dr Jock Hosking. He died on Saturday evening 11 December, surrounded by family and friends. His funeral will be at St John's Church Centre, Kamo, Whangarei, on Saturday 18 December at 1pm. There will be 45mins of his favourite music and some photos of his life prior to the service.*

*Communications to the family through Catherine Wylie, PO Box 178 Clevedon, 2248. phone 09 292 9442. The e-mail address [jockh@vodafone.co.nz](mailto:jockh@vodafone.co.nz) will continue to be active for a few more weeks. Cathryn, Jenny and Rachel thank you all for your kind messages over the past few weeks.*





# Methodist Mission & Ecumenical

## Newsletter November 2010

Secretary: John Roberts, 22a Penney Avenue, Mt Roskill, Auckland 1041  
Phone 09-6266130 Fax: 09-6266137 E-mail [mm-e@clear.net.nz](mailto:mm-e@clear.net.nz)

### Faith and Order at one hundred

Tuesday 19 October 2010 marked the 100th anniversary of the Faith and Order movement. That seeks Christian unity through theological dialogue among representatives of various churches.

The beginnings of Faith and Order are closely linked to the World Missionary Conference of June 1910 in Edinburgh, Scotland. The focus of the Edinburgh Conference was cooperation in global Christian mission. Questions around church-dividing issues and controversial points of doctrine were intentionally avoided during public discussions in Edinburgh, yet they were in the minds of many who attended.

One participant in the conference was Charles Brent, a Canadian by birth, a missionary bishop then serving in the Philippines on behalf of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America. The idea of a Faith and Order conference began with Bishop Brent, who made the link between the Edinburgh Conference with its call for Christian unity and the need to resolve issues of faith and order in the divided churches.

He recognized that the decision not to discuss questions of difference was appropriate in the context of missionary strategy, but that questions of faith and order needed their own appropriate forum, and in such a forum they might be discussed and resolved through dialogue.

At the end of the Edinburgh Conference, Brent said: "During these past days a new vision has been unfolded to us. But whenever God gives a vision He also points to some new responsibility, and you and I, when we leave this assembly, will go away with some fresh duties to perform." Bishop Brent returned to the United States in 1910 for the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, held in October of that year. Brent prepared a resolution for the General Convention that would have major consequences for the newly emerging ecumenical movement. On 19 October 1910, the General Convention unanimously passed a resolution calling for a world conference of the representatives of all the churches "for the consideration of questions pertaining to the Faith and Order of the Church of Christ".

This action of a church – not a theological faculty or missionary society – ensured a commitment to overcome past histories by means of theological dialogue and to prepare the way for the Church's unity in faith, order, life, work, worship and mission so that the world may believe in Christ.



There were other significant American calls for the resolution of church-dividing issues around the same time as the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, notably from the National Council of Congregational Churches and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), both on 18 October 1910.

However, the date of 19 October 1910 marks the institutional beginning of the Faith and Order movement that would lead directly to the First World Conference on Faith and Order in Lausanne, 1927. Bishop Charles Brent presided over the 1927 event. Faith and Order, along with the Life and Work Movement merged into the life of the World Council of Churches at the inauguration of that body in 1948. The Commission on Faith and Order continues to be a vital dimension of the work of the WCC.

*Rev. Dr John Gibaut director of the WCC Commission on Faith and Order,  
WCC news 14 October 2010*

## **Reaching out to Evangelicals**

The head of the World Council of Churches (WCC) has reached out to a global gathering of Evangelicals saying Christians of different traditions need to learn from each other to participate together in God's mission. "We are called to be one, to be reconciled, so that the world may believe that God reconciles the world to himself in Christ," the WCC general secretary, the Rev. Olav Fykse Tveit, said in a 17 October address on the opening day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lausanne Congress for World Evangelization.

It is the first time a WCC general secretary has addressed a congress of the Lausanne Movement formed in 1974 to promote evangelism. "This historic invitation is a sign that God has called all of us to the ministry of reconciliation and to evangelism," said Tveit at the Cape Town meeting which gathered more than 4000 participants.

The WCC and the Lausanne Movement have often been seen as representing different strands of Christianity - the WCC being seen as focussing more on social action, and the Lausanne movement known for its promotion of evangelism.

In his address, Tveit, a Lutheran theologian from Norway, said he had read the Lausanne Covenant for the first time when he was 15 years old. "I was struck by the clarity of its vision: We are called to share the gospel of reconciliation with all," he said. Tveit added, "The need of the world for reconciliation with God, with one another, and with nature are too big for a divided church."

He noted how many of those at the Cape Town gathering had taken part with WCC representatives at a meeting in Edinburgh in May to mark the 100th anniversary of the World Missionary Conference held in the Scottish capital.

"I can see how much we share a common vision of the holistic mission of God," said Tveit. "I am very encouraged by how Evangelicals, churches and individuals share our calling as the WCC to address the needs of the whole human being and the whole of creation."

*ENI News [www.eni.ch](http://www.eni.ch) 18 October 2010*



## United Church PNG confronts social issues

The 22<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the United Church in Papua New Guinea was held at Lae in October.

Some critical social issues were raised:

**Vote buying:** the assembly warned its regional offices and members to beware of cash donations from political leaders and intending candidates for national and provincial elections. Such donations may be made expecting political support in return. Moderator Samson Lowa expressed a concern that such donations to the church could compromise its gospel based principles. A policy to guide all parts of the church in this matter is being developed.

**Environmental damage:** damage caused by mining is seen as an ongoing problem. Land, is becoming unusable. People's livelihoods are being affected. People are now asking the church to be their voice to government and the mining companies to express their concerns.

**Unemployed youth:** There are increasing numbers of unemployed youth who are becoming unproductive and lost to society. Many lack the skills and knowledge to become economically productive. Crime is the alternative they turn to. This is a challenge to the church.

**HIV & AIDs:** the incidence of HIV and AIDS is very high in Papua New Guinea. Many, including church members, have died of AIDS and others are living with HIV, some may not even be aware of this. The loss of skilled people and experienced leaders affects the church as well as society in general. Some regions of the church are actively engaged in awareness raising and the counselling of HIV&AIDS affected peoples. Much more needs to be done.

The assembly meeting also addressed some significant internal church matters:

**Church properties:** some have become redundant or have been liquidated. Others deteriorate and may end up in the wrong hands. The proceeds from some properties do not seem to appear at the right places. In some instances, money has been stolen. Property managers are needed to make property work for the church.

**Schools:** teachers are needed for Sunday Schools, elementary and primary schools. Sunday School teachers are needed in all regions. The United Church has many schools and the need is for trained teachers.

*Post Courier 18 October 2010*



## **New images of masculinity required to stop violence against women**

Christians involved in church-based gender justice movements say that men must develop a sense of positive masculinity in order to counter increasing levels of violence by men against women. Citing reports by the United Nations and human rights groups that the extent and type of violent attacks on women is escalating, representatives of global church organizations say initiatives aimed at changing male patterns of behaviour are urgently needed.

“Mass rapes in the Congo, mutilation, domestic violence, dowry murders, honour killings: these horrors must stop,” said Setri Nyomi, general secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC), ahead of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25 November).

“There is violence too within the church – in parishes and in church members’ homes,” Nyomi adds. “We are aware of systemic violence that puts down women and their gifts in many structures and communities. Yet too often we turn a blind eye or are silent before what we know to be happening even though our faith teaches us that women and men are created in God’s image.”

In an effort to stem the rising tide of violence against women, WCRC is collaborating with the World Council of Churches (WCC) and other faith-based organisations to develop a worldwide network of men’s groups that challenge conventional images of masculinity which promote the ideal man as strong, dominant, and in charge. This image, church gender justice advocates say, justifies the use of violence to resolve conflict and to establish male control of public, faith and domestic spheres.

To mark the international day, the WCRC and the WCC co-published a manual of resources for use by churches, seminaries and civil society groups to promote new images of positive masculinity.

The manual *Created in God’s Image: From Hegemony to Partnership* – a set of guidelines for discussion, theological reflection and bible study has been developed from work at the local level, encouraged by workshops and encounters in church halls and community centres. It aims to strengthen men’s role in ending gender violence. It provides an inclusive approach for men to participate in transforming gender relations which produces male violence.

Co-edited by Philip Vinod Peacock and Patricia Sheerattan-Bisnauth, the manual provides tools for workshops with men at the community level.

“A more positive image of masculinity is needed”, says Philip Vinod Peacock, a theologian and deacon with the Church of North India. “When we move away from a situation where men





seek to dominate women and into situations where men and women are in partnership, we will be more faithful to God. ... The idea is for men to recognize that patterns of male violence against women result from negative images of masculinity - images of men as warriors and gods," Peacock says. "We want them to see that there are other images for men that see strength in partnership with women rather than dominance over them. We need to look to biblical teachings which present those alternate images of partnership between men and women."

Guyanese theologian Sheerattan-Bisnauth says "Concepts of masculinity and gender are explored with the aim of enabling men to become more conscious of gender as it affects their own lives as well as those of women. ... The manual aims to strengthen men's role in ending gender violence. It provides an inclusive approach for men to participate in transforming gender relations which produces male violence.

Partners in this initiative include the World YWCA, Lutheran World Federation, World Student Christian Federation, and the World Alliance of YMCAs.

The manual, *Created in God's Image: From Hegemony to Partnership* is available in pdf format: [http://www.wcrc.ch/sites/default/files/PositiveMasculinitiesGenderManual\\_0.pdf](http://www.wcrc.ch/sites/default/files/PositiveMasculinitiesGenderManual_0.pdf)

*WCC News 23 November 2010*

## **They have no wine**

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) invites us all to read, digest and reflect on the 2010 Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic and to join in the vision: "Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths."

Despite all the well articulated progress, the report highlights that infections are outpacing treatment by 2 to 1 and 10 million people are still waiting for treatment. On the other hand, people living with HIV who have shared their experiences remind us always that living with the virus is a very difficulty journey but confronting stigma, discrimination and rejection is even harder and very painful reality.

Certainly, many people are out promoting universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support campaign but the number is still small given the huge magnitude and intensity of the social injustices that drive the pandemic. Put differently, in the words of Jesus in the Christian gospels "the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few" (Matthew 9: 37 & Luke 10: 2).

Africa continues to carry the burden of the HIV and AIDS pandemic even as some other regions are listed as beginning to share in this burden by increased cases of HIV prevalence. Yet, there are countless stories of a critical mass of children (read siblings), teenagers, women and men, among them millions of HIV positive sisters and brothers scattered all over the continent – from the Arabic North to the Cape of Good Hope, from Timbuktu to the shores of Djibouti – who are agents of change promoting healthy and positive living in the midst of multiple



diseases, scarce nutritious meals, far in between health care, services and medication and stigma-free voluntary counseling and testing centres. And so it feels as if in the words of Mary mother of Jesus, “They have no wine.” (John 2:3)

So even as we digest the achievements in the UNAIDS 2010 report as Christian churches and in the global ecumenical movement we are invited to reflect and ponder on the wisdom of Mary to her own son and the servants (John 2: 4-11) as she (during this advent season) joins millions waiting for their turn to receive HIV treatment, compassion, love and restored dignity.

Mary’s faith in Jesus and her actions in this particular wedding incident in Cana in Galilee invite the followers of Jesus (the body of Christ) to speak out, act and to provide insightful, courageous, compassionate and effective leadership in finding solutions to the many social injustices and violations of human dignity that have been so eloquently revealed by the epidemic.

“They have no wine”, nor food security, nor security from bodily violations (sexual and gender-based violence), nor equal access to education, health care, economic opportunity, nor political power, nor cultural respect, nor dignity because they are orphans, children, poor, women, widows, widowers and HIV positive.

Mary, mother of Jesus, stood among the people who had no wine, and her actions revealed God’s glory made manifest as women and men drunk the good wine and celebrated the wedding feast. The call to journey with people living with HIV and those most affected by the pandemic is a challenging plea for Christian churches and the global ecumenical movement to rethink our understanding of God’s hospitality and the divine reign of justice and peace on this earth.

*Rev. Dr Nyambura Njoroge, programme executive for the Ecumenical HIV and AIDS Initiative in Africa of the World Council of Churches. Written for world Aids Fay 2010 (1<sup>st</sup> December)*

*Season’s greetings to all from Methodist Mission and Ecumenical.  
May you have a blessed Christmas and a good beginning to the New Year*





ECUMENICAL

## News & Views

### **School of Theology for the Lower North Island Synod**

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**Dates:** Midday Thursday July 21 to midday Saturday July 23

**Venue:** Whanganui Girls College – live-in venue

**School Theme:** Many Shores, One Ocean of Peace: Christ and Culture in the Pacific.

For further information, contact either Anna Gilkison ([amgilkison@clear.net.nz](mailto:amgilkison@clear.net.nz)) or John Thornley ([john.gill@inspire.net.nz](mailto:john.gill@inspire.net.nz))

### **A Service of Remembrance and Hope**

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will be held at the New Brighton Union Church (Cnr Collingwood & Union Streets New Brighton) on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7pm**. Candles, music, meditation, reflections and healing. All Welcome. Light refreshments in the hall to follow. Enquiries Phone 3889 220.

### **Purple Door Opportunity Shop**

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The New Brighton Union Parish, Purple Door Opportunity Shop is finishing off the year with \$5 bag (supermarket) days, every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am - 2pm. Great Bargains from this great little community focused Op Shop. The last day of trading for the year will be Friday 10th December when the hard working volunteers will be taking a well earned rest until January 25<sup>th</sup>. Thanks everyone for your support during the year.

### **Fundraising CDs of sacred songs**

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Two fundraising CDs of sacred songs, sung by Christchurch teenage soprano, Samantha Jeune, have raised over \$8,000 for the Canterbury Charity Hospital.

Both *In My Father's House* and *Grant Us Thy Peace* are still available and can be purchased for \$25 each by sending a cheque made out to Samantha Jeune – CD For Charity and posted to P O Box 29403, Christchurch 8540.

To hear excerpts from both CDs, please visit [www.cdforcharity.org.nz](http://www.cdforcharity.org.nz)



## CPE – Christchurch

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**Date of Course:**

14 March - 1 July 2011 (15 weeks) **Apply by:** 14 Jan 2011

14 Nov 2011 - 10 Feb 2012 (11 weeks) **Apply by:** 14 Sept 2011

**Contact Person:**

Rev Helen Roud

678 Cashmere Road, Halswell 8025

Phone: 03-322.8346; E-mail: [helen.roud@gmail.com](mailto:helen.roud@gmail.com); or

Ms Jo Noble

8 Jane Deans Close, Riccarton 8011

Phone: 03-343.3103; E-mail: [noblejo@xtra.co.nz](mailto:noblejo@xtra.co.nz)





December Amendments

# To the Yearbook

## Connexional Boards & Committees Membership (Pg 8)

### WESLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (NZ)

#### Treasurer

Robin Ziegler

6 Brouder Place, Manurewa, Manukau 2102

[H] 09 267 6515

## Names & Addresses (Pg 25)

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1982	5	<b>Samoa Saleupolu, Aso</b> 24 Redoubt Road Goodwood Heights Manukau 2105	[H] 09 263 4484 [O] 09 571 9148 [Em] <a href="mailto:atss17@xtra.co.nz">atss17@xtra.co.nz</a> [Em] <a href="mailto:asos@methodist.org.nz">asos@methodist.org.nz</a>	2600
1998	D1	<b>Williams, Richard</b> 3 Avon Place, Springvale Wanganui 4500	[H] 06 348 7709 [O] 06 345 7394 [Em] <a href="mailto:rmwilliams@clear.net.nz">rmwilliams@clear.net.nz</a>	4090

*If you have any amendments or updates to the yearbook please feel free to email Amy at [amys@methodist.org.nz](mailto:amys@methodist.org.nz) with the updates and they can be published here for the information of the Connexion.*

