"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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**October 2010**

Web Site Address: [www.methodist.org.nz](http://www.methodist.org.nz)
A Message from the President and Vice President

As we write this we have a mixture of feelings. The end of the Presidential term for us is in sight! For President elect Des Cooper and Vice President elect Sue Spindler, it's the beginning of another journey.

On Sunday 10th October we celebrated with Central South Island Synod a 'Preparing for Change' service at Christchurch North, Papanui. For the presidential six (past, present and elects), this is a time of BIG change. For other Connexional support people, that means a lot of work. This is not just a Methodist 'thing' but one of the regular turnovers that affects all congregations who have a Methodist connexion. Along with other past presidential teams, we have included uniting congregations, co-operating ventures, and LEP's as we have travelled the Connexion.

The weekend of 10th October was certainly a weekend of change. Being an election weekend every parish and rohe had an interest in the outcome. In Christchurch for the Pastoral Committee, we noted the changes in and around the region of Canterbury. We recognise that the Durham Street congregation included a report on the condition of their church in their worship. We met briefly with two Methodist ministers from Christchurch who were checking on the wellbeing of parishes and personnel. We met with members of the Evangelical Network at Beckenham and looked through the door into the badly damaged hall before sitting around the table to share a meal together. Opportunity was given for people to reflect, how for them, Christchurch would never be the same again.

On 19th September, we took part in a service at Hamilton East to recognise the contribution of Rev Arthur Dickie and his wife Catherine. Acknowledgement was given of their ministries both in New Zealand and in the United States of America. We add our thanks and wish them God's blessings as they 'retire' from active ministry.

We both attended the opening of the New Zealand Methodist Women's Fellowship Convention at Willow Park Christian Camp. Dr Chita Rebolledo-Millan, President of the World Methodist Uniting Church Women's Fellowship was keynote speaker. Mataiva Robertson was inducted as President for 2010-2012 along with her Executive, most of whom are from the city of New Plymouth. Acknowledgement was given to Vaotane Samoa Saleupolu and her Executive for their commitment while in office.
While Convention was on, we also took part in the blessing of the new extension (link between the hall and church) at the Mt Eden Methodist Church. Honourable Mayor John Banks (last Mayor of Auckland City) also attended and cut the ribbon. While President Alan spoke at the communion service of re-opening the following day, Lana gave the address at the Convention where many from Sinoti Samoa came to support both outgoing and incoming Presidents. Later that same afternoon, we supported Sinoti Samoa at the Ecumenical Tsunami Anniversary Service at Malaeola in Mangere. Also present were the honourable Georgina Te Heuheu (Minister of Pacific Affairs) and the honourable Judith Collins (Minister of Police and Corrections), Leader of the Opposition the honourable Phil Goff, Samoan High Commissioner along with other New Zealand and Samoan dignitaries. With stirring renditions of the national anthems of New Zealand and Samoa, brass band, special choir singing, solo from Eroni Clarke, video footage and moving speeches all added to a fitting tribute of remembrance.

Lana attended the funeral service for the late Daphne Penman at Mt Albert Methodist Church. The service was led by the Revs Keith Taylor and Mary Caygill. While Daphne had a serious illness, she was fondly remembered for being a loving wife, mother and grandmother, host, friend, and known for her creativity. For many, this seemed like an end of an era within the life of the church. Our thoughts and prayers go to the Penman and extended families.
The next day Lana went to Pitt Street where the Auckland Central Parish had a fundraising event for the Earthquake Appeal Fund for Christchurch Methodist Mission. Choirs from Mt Albert, Pitt Street, Mt Eden, Epsom, Calvary Tamil Methodist, Rotuma, and Korea, a piano solo and singing duos all added to a grand occasion.

From 3-7 October, Te Taha Maori held their National Rangatahi Hui (Youth Camp) at Pariroa Pa in Patea. Lana and Te Rito Peyroux were able to attend from Monday to Thursday. Alan joined the group on Wednesday for the day. Young people from Tai Tokerau (north), Tamaki (Auckland), Taranaki and Poneke (Wellington) had come to participate in the event. The theme was 'He Taonga Tuku Iho – Gifts Handed Down' and creative workshops expressing this were part of activities. Vists to Tahupotiki Centre in Hawera, Ngamotu Mission House in New Plymouth and to the maunga and Kapuni (Dawson) Falls added to the programme. The last night concert had lively contributions from the four reflection groups – Tuauri, Tuatea, Aronui and Whatukura. The Patea Maori Club (known for their musical abilities especially the well known song 'Poi E' which featured again in the recent film 'Boy') were there hosting and teaching choral skills throughout the week. They led off the concert on a rousing note.

This may sound like a 'list of events' but there's so much more to it than that. In each and all occasions we’ve been part of, we have known and celebrated the presence of God and recognised the ongoing activity of the God ‘in whom we [all] live, and move, and have our being.’ And you will know of other events and celebrations where the presence of God has been at the centre.

Thank you for the opportunity of being with you and taking the leadership roles of President and Vice President within Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa. We have enjoyed the honour and carried this responsibility with the Connexion's support. We have been encouraged by your love and prayers. In the words of Dorothy McRae-McMahon we leave these words with you – “May God prepare a holy ground for you, Christ Jesus take your hand on the way, and the Spirit surround you with grace.”

Grace and peace

Alan and Lana
A Message from the General Secretary

The last month has been dominated by preparations for Conference. The agenda is a massive task. A big thank you for everyone who had their material in early. It makes such a difference. A special thanks to Amy Scott who not only formats the agenda, but also processes the registrations and deals with all your enquiries.

If you are going to Conference, then you will have received your agenda this week. If not, you can access all of the Conference Reports online: http://www.methodist.org.nz/conference/2010/conference_agenda

While you are online, you might light to check the earthquake updates: http://www.methodist.org.nz/property__insurance/earthquake_updates.

We are now waiting for all the after shocks to stop so that final assessments of damage and a likely programme of repairs or replacements can be determined. There have not been many after shocks this week, so hopefully the next phase can begin in early November. Greg Wright, James Hubert and new staff member Jeannine Stevenson are doing a really great job of overseeing earthquake recovery and insurance issues.

This week two people with badly damaged homes began to receive information about whether their homes can be repaired or will need to be demolished. Many of these families are still in their homes but needing to use Porta-loos in the street. It will be a long process to stabilise land and erect new homes.

On a personal note it was a privilege to attend the opening of Presbyterian Assembly in Christchurch for the installation of Rev Peter Cheyne as Moderator. Peter, Christine and I were in the same Canterbury University hostel in the 1970’s. More importantly, the close links between our Churches were affirmed, as they will be at Conference.

In the recent Local Body elections, there were a number of Methodist people standing for office. David Ayers was elected Mayor of Waimakariri, Neil Cruickshank also from Rangiora Methodist missed out on another term as a Counsellor. Ikilifi Pope, half time presbyter at Onehunga missed out on a place in the South Auckland Community Board by less than 100 votes. Are there others?

Finally please note that there is no eMessenger in November due to Conference, the next eMessenger will go out around the 10th of December. Remember if you want anything included email Amy Scott amys@methodist.org.nz.

Grace and peace

David
Conference Update

Please see below an update on various arrangements for Conference.

The enthusiastic and well organised Arrangements Committee are looking forward to welcoming Conference to Palmerston North.

Conference Registrations
Thank you to those who have successfully registered for Conference. The Conference Agenda was posted to Conference Members on Friday 8 October. If you have not received your agenda by Friday 15 October, please contact Amy (amys@methodist.org.nz).

Venues
- Wesley Methodist Church – 264 Broadway Avenue, Palmerston North 4410.
- Palmerston North Convention Centre – 354 Main Street, Palmerston North 4410.

Wesley Historical Society AGM and Dinner
The Wesley Historical Society AGM and Dinner will be held on Friday 5 November from 6pm at The Convention Centre, in the seminar room. $20 per person. If you would like to attend, please register on the Conference Registration Form. If you are not attending Conference as a delegate but would like to attend, please contact Amy at the Connexional Office to book - amys@methodist.org.nz – or phone 03 364 9427.

Lay Preachers Service/Meeting/Lunch
The Methodist Lay Preachers service/meeting/lunch will be held at Wesley Methodist Church on Conference Sunday morning 7 November from 11.30am – 1.30pm, $15 per person. If you are not attending Conference as a delegate but would like to attend, please contact Amy at the Connexional Office to book - amys@methodist.org.nz – or phone 03 364 9427.

The Evangelical Network & The Liberal Society Dinner & Art Display
The Evangelical Network and The Liberal Society Dinner and Art Display will be held on Sunday 7 November from 6pm at Double Shotz Café, 138 The Square, Palmerston North, $22 per person. If you would like to attend, please register on the Conference Registration Form. If you are not attending Conference as a delegate but would like to attend, please contact Amy at the Connexional Office to book - amys@methodist.org.nz – or phone 03 364 9427.

Conference Website
The Conference Agenda, Conference Handbook and other information is available for you to view on the Methodist Website www.methodist.org.nz under the Conference tab.
**Conference Preaching Plan**

**Fourteen Placements for Sunday 7 November Church Services**

**Methodist Conference 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Preacher/Contact Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Whanganui</strong>, Rev. Andrew Doubleday, Trinity Methodist Church, 183 Wickstead Street, 10.00am</td>
<td>(contact person Rev. Tony Bell, <a href="mailto:tony-bell@paradise.net.nz">tony-bell@paradise.net.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Peters Anglican Church</strong>, Rev Dr. Terry Wall, 229 Ruahine Street, Palmerston North, 10.00am</td>
<td>(contact person Rev. Anne Chrisp, <a href="mailto:anne.chrisp@clear.net.nz">anne.chrisp@clear.net.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knox Presbyterian Church</strong>, crnr of Kimbolton Road and North St, Feilding, 10.00am</td>
<td>Rev Dr. Jim Stuart and Gillian Southey (contact person Rev. Rilma Sands, <a href="mailto:rev.mum@ihug.co.nz">rev.mum@ihug.co.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Palmerston North Church of Christ</strong>, 37 Botanical Road, 10.00am</td>
<td>Rev. Margaret Donald (contact person: Rev Ian Ogier, <a href="mailto:ianwo@xtra.co.nz">ianwo@xtra.co.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Andrews-in-the-City</strong>, 388 Church St East, Palmerston North, 9.45am</td>
<td>Rev. John Roberts (contact person: <a href="mailto:kswall@clear.net.nz">kswall@clear.net.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rongotea Uniting Parish (St Luke’s)</strong>, 10.30am</td>
<td>Rev. Doris Ephick (contact person: Rev. Anne Bennett, <a href="mailto:benedict@xtra.co.nz">benedict@xtra.co.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marton Methodist Fellowship</strong>, 9.30am, Wellington Road, Marton</td>
<td>Rev. Bruce Anderson (contact person: Rex Millar, <a href="mailto:rexmillar@hotmail.com">rexmillar@hotmail.com</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Davids, Shannon</strong>, 9.30am</td>
<td>Graeme White (contact person: Rev. Silvia Purdie, <a href="mailto:purdies@slingshot.co.nz">purdies@slingshot.co.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Johns, Foxton</strong>, 9.30am</td>
<td>Rev. Peter and Andrea Williamson (contact person: Rev. Silvia Purdie, <a href="mailto:purdies@slingshot.co.nz">purdies@slingshot.co.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Lukes Foxton Beach</strong>, 11.00am</td>
<td>Rev. Peter and Andrea Williamson (contact person: Rev. Silvia Purdie, <a href="mailto:purdies@slingshot.co.nz">purdies@slingshot.co.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Davids Presbyterian, cnr of Main and Rainforth Streets</strong>, 10.00am</td>
<td>Rev. Peter Taylor (contact person: Mark Kilsby, <a href="mailto:playerm@xtra.co.nz">playerm@xtra.co.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accommodation Booking for Conference

SUGGESTIONS:

A special rate for Conference Members has been negotiated with Kingsgate Hotel. To obtain the rates below you must state that you are a member of the Methodist Conference.

Kingsgate Hotel, Palmerston North
110 Fitzherbert Avenue, PO Box 502, Palmerston North
Freephone 0508 725 643; Email: palmerston@kingsgatehotels.co.nz

- Economy Single/Twin rooms (max 2 pax) @ $99 inc GST per night (includes 2x breakfast per room per day).
- Superior Single/Twin rooms (max 2 pax) @ $139 inc GST per night (includes 2x breakfast per room per day).

AA Website
The AA website has a wide range of reasonable accommodation options, go to http://www.aatravel.co.nz/accommodation-newzealand/
Keywords: City Centre

Day to Day Timetable

The weekend timetable is listed below and we would ask that this be put in parish bulletins so that people are aware that all weekend activities are open to anyone who wishes to take part. The Conference reports are also available on the Methodist website. For further conference information, please visit the Methodist Website http://www.methodist.org.nz.
## Conference Day to Day

**Venues:**
- Wesley Methodist Church, 264 Broadway Avenue, Palmerston North 4410
- Palmerston North Convention Centre – 354 Main Street, Palmerston North 4410

*(N.B. these times may vary during the course of the Conference)*

### Thursday 4 November *(held at Wesley Methodist Church)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.00am – 1.00pm</td>
<td>Pre Conference Stationing Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00pm – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Tautiri Strategy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Friday 5 November *(held at The Convention Centre)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.00am – 12.30pm</td>
<td>Whakatau [Welcome] Tautiri and Te Taha Maori Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30pm – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.30pm – 5.30pm</td>
<td>Tautiri and Te Taha Maori Meetings continued…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>Rehearsal for Induction Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Wesley Historical Society AGM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– 6.30pm – Dinner ($20 pre booked on your registration or through Amy <a href="mailto:amys@methodist.org.nz">amys@methodist.org.nz</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>– 7.15pm – Guest Speaker, Rev Dr Susan Thompson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Saturday 6 November *(all sessions held at The Convention Centre, unless otherwise noted)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Evangelical Network – Pancake Breakfast at St Andrews Presbyterian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Venue: 117 College Street)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30am – 10.30am</td>
<td>Introduction to Conference <em>(Seminar Room)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45am – 12.00pm</td>
<td>Powhiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.15pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch for families of the deceased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Induction Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.30pm – 4.30pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.30pm</td>
<td>Recognition of Ministry Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.30pm</td>
<td>Rehearsal for Ordination Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00pm – 9.00pm</td>
<td>Youth Event (upstairs) – Connex: YouthVoice@conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(including Supper)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sunday 7 November *(all sessions held at The Convention Centre, unless otherwise noted)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Morning</td>
<td>Worship in local Churches – see handbook for time and locations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30am – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lay Preachers AGM &amp; Lunch <em>(held at Wesley Methodist Church)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00pm – 4.00pm</td>
<td>Ordination Service and Reception into Full Connexion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event and Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Dedication of Plaque <em>(Square)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Evangelical Network &amp; Liberal Society <em>(held at Double Shotz Café, $22)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Monday 8 November - Theology at Work** *(all sessions held at The Convention Centre)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event and Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30am – 9.00am</td>
<td>Opening Worship <em>(Rev Dr Jim Stuart)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00am – 9.30am</td>
<td>Introduction to Conference Staff, Observers, Visitors, Council of Elders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consensus Decision Making – reminder of Conference Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Process for President and Vice President Selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Questions 1-24 <em>(General Secretary)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30am – 10.15am</td>
<td>Partnership Reporting: Council of Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.15am – 10.45am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.45am – 11.45am</td>
<td>Partnership Reporting: <em>Te Taha Maori and Tauiwi</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45 – 12.30pm</td>
<td>Two Year Presidency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30pm-1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.30pm – 1.40pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Focus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.40pm – 2.40pm</td>
<td>Mission Resourcing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.40pm – 3.30pm</td>
<td>Methodist Mission Aotearoa / Social Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.30pm – 4.00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.00pm – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Board of Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.00pm – 6.00pm</td>
<td>Faith and Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm – 7.00pm</td>
<td>Evening Meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>Peter Sharples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30pm – 8.45pm</td>
<td>Close of Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.45pm – 9.00pm</td>
<td>Supper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tuesday 9 November - Theology at Work** *(all sessions held at The Convention Centre)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event and Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30am – 9.00am</td>
<td>Opening Worship <em>(Rev Dr Jim Stuart)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00am – 10.00am</td>
<td>Task Group on Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00am – 10.30am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30am – 11.30am</td>
<td>Mission and Ecumenical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30am – 12.00pm</td>
<td>Trinity College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00pm – 12.30pm</td>
<td>Ex President &amp; Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30am – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.30pm – 1.40pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Focus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.40pm – 2.30pm</td>
<td>Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.30pm – 3.00pm</td>
<td>Trinity College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00pm – 3.30pm</td>
<td>Mohammah Amir – Difficulties of being a Muslim in NZ. How can the Church Help?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.30pm – 4.00pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.00pm – 5.00pm</td>
<td>Public Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.00pm – 6.00pm</td>
<td>Law Revision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm – 7.00pm</td>
<td>Evening Meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.00pm – 8.30pm</td>
<td>Rosemary McLeod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30pm – 8.45pm</td>
<td>Close of Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.45pm – 9.00pm</td>
<td>Supper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wednesday 10 November - Theology at Work** *(all sessions held at The Convention Centre)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.30am – 9.00am</td>
<td>Opening Worship (Rev Dr Jim Stuart)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00am – 9.30am</td>
<td>Mission Resourcing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30am – 10.30am</td>
<td>Unfinished Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00am – 12.00pm</td>
<td>Unfinished Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00pm – 12.30pm</td>
<td>Thanks and Acknowledgements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30pm – 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.30pm – 3.00pm</td>
<td>Covenant Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00pm</td>
<td>Finish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Connex: YouthVoice@Conference**

Young people take centre stage on the Saturday night of Methodist Church Conference. Join in the celebration! Enjoy the voices of youth from different places and cultures.

**Saturday 6 November, 7.00 – 9.00pm**

The Convention Centre, Palmerston North

Gold coin donation entry

Any young people or groups keen to be involved, please contact:

- The National Youth Co-ordinator, Te Rito Peyroux,
  Email: tauwiyouth@methodist.co.nz
  Phone: (09) 571 9144
  Cell: 021 486 452

Or alternatively contact

- Palmerston North Youth & Family worker, Jessica Rabone,
  Email: jlrabone@gmail.com
  Phone: (06) 358 9129
  Cell: 021 156 9171
‘The Emerging Worldview’ Blog

Rev Merv Dickinson

I am a retired minister of the Methodist Church and have recently begun my own Blog entitled "The Emerging Worldview". My intention is to open up a widespread conversation among those who sense that a new worldview is emerging and would like to contribute to that emergence. As humanity coalesces more and more into a global community, we face the urgent challenge of shaping a worldview (or at least the core architecture of such a worldview) that can unite us across all the religious and ideological barriers that hitherto have separated us.

The Blog can be found online at http://emergingworldview.blogspot.com

Trounson Benevolent Trust Fund

Have you heard about the work of the Trounson Benevolent Trust Fund?

The James and Martha Trounson Benevolent Trust Fund was set up in 1929 by James and Martha Trounson to give modest financial assistance in cases of hardship, for Methodist members in Methodist or Cooperating parishes with a Methodist component. The fund trustees are authorized to help with grants of up to $500 in any one year, or loans (with or without security) to the following people:

- Members and adherents of the Methodist Church of NZ who are widows or children of deceased Methodist Ministers who died in the active work, or as supernumeraries
- Supernumery Ministers, or lay persons who are Methodist Members, who are in needy circumstances through sickness, or ill health or misfortune or through loss of property or other special need.

Recently the trustees have made several grants to people in Canterbury who have lost their homes in the earthquake.

The fund will receive requests at any time during the year. However all requests must be received on the official application form and meet the criteria. Applications are made only by the person’s Presbyter, Deacon or a senior layperson if there is no stationed Presbyter.

Application forms are available on the Methodist webpage (listed under organisations) or by emailing the Convener, Mary West: maryw@west.net.nz
Women wishing to apply for grants from the above fund are reminded that the closing date for the final round of grants for 2010 is October 20th. For those seeking assistance for continuing study in 2011, this is a helpful time to apply. The Application Form and the Information Leaflet are available on the MWF link on the Connexional website www.methodist.org.nz or you local MWF, or your Presbyter.

The grants committee ask that you read carefully the criteria for making grants and that when applying you ensure you fill in the application forms correctly and provide clear and full information. It is frustrating to have to regularly return applications that do not give full and correct details.

Gloria Zanders - Convenor

Travel and Study Applications

Due by the 15th November Please

If you have plans for any study in 2011 the committee would appreciate your application for the final meeting of 2010.

For courses that need early payment in 2011 applications should be completed for consideration at the final meeting in 2010.

As the available money for grants is limited, the committee appreciates early indications that applications are likely, this helps with budgeting.

The criteria and application forms are available on the Methodist webpage (organisations) or from the Secretary maryw@west.net.nz
Methodist Conference 2010

Palmerston North

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 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:

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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.

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October 10 14 e-messenger
Trinity Methodist Theological College

Where the Spirit is aflame!
Snippets from the September Council meeting

From the Principal we learned that:

- Discussions with Theological Colleges in Samoa and Tonga about a possible exchange arrangement around Trinity’s block courses are to be progressed with a short visit to Tonga by the Principal and Nasili Vaka’uta.
- The TEC Investment Plan had been revised, submitted and accepted by TEC – and is available on the Trinity College Web Site.
- Rev. Val Nichols has been appointed to a full time tutor stationed position at the College with responsibility for lay education in partnership with Te Aroha Rountree – a bi-cultural part time appointment. Val will also have responsibility for Probationer Programmes.

And the Council itself:

- Supported the Principal’s Study Leave proposal for July 2011 noting it is within the parameters of the agreed 2009 Study Leave Policy.
- Approved the introduction of the proposed Licentiate in Ministry Studies from 2011, noting the supportive comment from tutors Nasili Vaka’uta and John Murray, the interest it had already generated as a stepping stone from programmes such as Lead Worship, that it met the principles for Trinity Programmes as agreed by Council on 28 November 2008, and that it would be reviewed at the end of 2011.
- Noted the reports of Pacific focussed conferences and seminars submitted by Nasili Vaka’utu and the leadership role Nasili is playing in these.
- Decided that work should be undertaken on the current and future roles of the Trinity College Fellowship, ensuring consultation with appropriate people.
- Approved the off-site event policy as tabled and discussed.
- Approved the updated Finance Policy – appreciating its clarity.
- Noted the updated Policy File, as at the end of September and that the aim is to have it completely updated by the end of 2010.
- Noted the 2010-2011 business objectives in support of the current Strategic Plan.
- Asked Max Thompson to propose a schedule for the development of a new Strategic Plan for effect from the 2011-12 financial year.
- Agreed that bi-monthly meetings be continued in 2011 but that in between dates be specified for possible teleconferencing or similar.
- Noted the College’s Report to Conference, and agreed that Max Thomson should be supported as a lay representative along with Nicola Grundy and the Chairperson.
Noted that the Vice President had accepted an invitation to the Valedictory Service at the end of November.

Noted the special Council, Tutor, Student meeting on 11 October to become acquainted with the College’s growing resources designed to support tutors and students in the delivery and achievement of the College’s qualifications.

Catherine Gibson
Chairperson

Vacancies

Youth Ministry

An exciting opportunity to train for Youth Ministry exists at Wesley Church in the Tauranga Methodist Parish.

We are looking for a young adult to work at Wesley with a multi-cultural group of young people through 2011. This would be a work placement for the Praxis Certificate in Youthwork. A successful applicant will understand and be able to work within the ethos of the Methodist Church of New Zealand, meet the criteria for the Praxis Certificate in Youth Ministry and undertake this training. A scholarship is being offered to cover the course fees and a small allowance.

More information from the Parish Office 07 578 8493 (9.30am to 12.30pm Mon to Fri), tauranga.methodist@xtra.co.nz or from Viv Whimster 07 578 6056 jvwhim@actrix.co.nz.

Applicants should send a CV with a covering letter by 10 November 2010 to Wesley Youth Ministry Placement Tauranga Methodist Parish PO Box 2019 TAURANGA 3140.
In your Prayers

It is with sadness we inform the Connexion that Daphne Penman, wife of the late Jack Penman, died at Everil Orr Home died early 17th September.

A service of thanksgiving and celebration was held on 25th September at Mt Albert Methodist Church.

Communications to the Penman family, C/o PO Box 56013 Dominion Road Auckland.

It is with sadness that we advise the Connexion of the death of Dave Mullan’s dad, William Alexander Mullan, known to friends and family as Bill. Bill passed away on the morning of 23rd September in Taupo, he had reached the grand age of 101 years old.

Dave said: At the moment we are glad that he is at last freed from a body which seemed to be refusing to give up even as it gradually went to pieces.

A service of thanksgiving and celebration was held at St Paul’s Union Church, on 29th September.

Our thoughts and prayers at this time are with Dave, Bev, family and friends of Bill.
More effort needed to achieve MDGs in Asia Pacific region

Leaders of global faith and humanitarian groups have given mixed reactions to a New York summit evaluating the United Nations' "Millennium Development Goals", set out a decade ago to reduce global poverty. Political leaders at the summit acknowledged that progress towards achieving the eight MDGs by 2015 is not where it should be. In a final ‘outcome document’ for the 20 to 22 September UN summit, participants recommitted themselves to achieving the goals, which include the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger. Church leaders have applauded the progress made so far to reduce global poverty but say more must be done.

"In the aftermath of the financial crisis, poverty reduction and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) should occupy centre stage of development strategies for countries in Asia and the Pacific," said Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). She was speaking at the launch of a report Paths to 2015-MDG Priorities in Asia and the Pacific at the start of the MDGs summit in August on 20 September. The report is a collaboration between UNESCAP, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the UN Development Programme (UNDP)

One of the region's greatest MDG successes has been a reduction in the number of people living on less than $1.25 a day, from 1.5 billion to 947 million between 1990 and 2005. The region has also made strong progress in ensuring all children have primary school access and succeeded in cutting gender disparities in primary education, beginning to reduce HIV prevalence, reducing the use of ozone-depleting substances, and halving the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water.

However, the region remains home to two-thirds of the world's poor and hungry, with one in six malnourished, and it has been slow to reduce child mortality and to improve maternal health. If the region continues on its current development track without refocusing its efforts in addressing key poverty issues, it will find itself in 2015 with: almost 35 million extra people in extreme income poverty; nearly 900,000 extra children suffering from malnutrition; 1.7 million births not attended by skilled professionals; 70 million more people without access to improved sanitation.

The report singles out areas where governments should act, including strengthening social safety nets for the poor; stimulating domestic demand and intra-regional trade; creating more inclusive and sustainable economic growth; ensuring access to financial services for the poor and marginalised; reducing persistent gender gaps; giving stronger support to least developed countries; and harnessing the potential of regional economic integration.

At the same time as the release of the report the general secretary of the World Council of Churches (WCC), Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, wrote a letter to UN secretary general Ban Ki-Moon. Tveit stated that
"without significant transformations in global economic frameworks the attainment of the MDGs by 2015 is endangered." Tveit expressed concern that governments need to do more to address the root causes of poverty. “Without addressing the root causes of poverty, justice-oriented reforms will not be possible. In today’s globalised world, efforts by nations to meet the MDGs are more and more contingent on an enabling international economic environment. The WCC believes that addressing the root causes of poverty and the attainment of the MDGs necessitates significant and comprehensive changes in the international financial architecture and trade regime.”

The MDGs are eight internationally-agreed targets, set in 2000, aiming to reduce poverty, hunger, maternal and child deaths, disease, inadequate shelter, gender inequality and environmental degradation by 2015.

ADB ENI & WCC news releases September 2010

Mission news

Solomon Islands

Goldie College
The college continues to recover recovering from the April 2007 earthquake. The Mission and Ecumenical special appeal in 2010 is for a computer lab at Goldie College. A building is available. However it needs to be outfitted as a computer lab. A solar unit to power the computers is required and computers have to be purchased. The response to the appeal has been very encouraging. Our thanks to all who have contributed.

Copa project
This project based at Vonunu on Vella Lavella Island is capably managed by Vincent Ghanny. Mission and Ecumenical has been making quarterly grants towards the development of the project which generates income for village copra producers who are church members. It also generates some income for the church. Some restructuring of the oversight body, the Vella Lavella Centennial Agency, is currently being considered.

Helena Goldie Hospital
The hospital continues under the leadership of Medical Superintendent Dr Dina Sailo. He is now supported by Drs Graham and Jenny Longbottom from the Methodist Church in Britain. An Australian volunteer has assisted in the development of a strategic plan for the future of the hospital. Mission and Ecumenical provides the salary of the Director of Nursing Chris Leve as well as funding for relieving nurses. An HGH fundraising calendar, produced by Mark and Beth Leeming, former British Methodist staff persons at the hospital, is available at $15 a copy.

Helena Goldie College of Nursing
The College of Nursing had its official opening on 16 April 2010. Principal Henri Gumi is capably supported by two tutors. There are sixteen students, one of whom is supported by Mission and Ecumenical with the payment of tuition fees. A further two students will be supported in 2011. Books for the college library have been paid for by Mission and Ecumenical.
Sasamunga Hospital
Two staff houses are now under construction, funded by Mission and Ecumenical. An upgrade of the birthing unit and the hospital laboratory will follow, with other projects further down the track. We thank the Orakei parish for their big fund-raising effort this year to assist Sasaamunga Hospital.

Tabaka Rural Training Centre
A reunion of those who built the original centre in 1991 takes place in Hamilton on the weekend of 30/31 October. Trevor Bennett has played a lead role in the organisation of the reunion. The Saturday dinner followed by speakers will be at Chartwell Church. The Sunday morning worship led by Alan Leadley will be at St Albans Church.

Papua New Guinea

Assembly office
Moderator Samson Lowa had a major health setback in May but has made a good recovery and resumed duties in July. While on sick leave it was announced in the PNG Queens’s Birthday honours that Samson had been given a knighthood for services to education, the community and the church. He is now a Knight of the British Empire. Samson continues to provide quality leadership to his church.

Chaplaincy training
Chaplaincy is a significant area of ministry in the life of the UCPNG. Mission and Ecumenical has funded the printing of a chaplaincy manual as well as a workshop to introduce the new manual to key church staff.

Metago Training Institute
The fish farm project has not proceeded as earthmoving machinery cannot access the site. It has been suggested to Moderator Samson Lowa that we seek an alternative use for the funds at Metago. This is now under discussion with West Central Region’s Bishop Gadiki who is reconsidering the matter.

Rarongo Theological College
Rarongo Theological College is now the ‘School of Theology and Mission, Rarongo’, an institution of the United Church College of Higher education. Rev Dr William Longgar is the new principal. Mission and Ecumenical continues to assist the school through the purchase of library books for student use and payment of tuition fees for four students in need of support.

Bougainville Region
Building of two staff houses for the Leadership and Ministry Training Centre at Kekesu ,funded by Mission and Ecumenical, is now under way.

Disaster responses
In the past year Mission and Ecumenical has assisted Sinoti Samoa following the tsunami in Samoa, and the Auckland Fijian Circuit following the hurricane in Fiji. Assistance took the form of paying the freight charge for containers of supplies to the two countries. It has also contributed to the Christian World Service appeal for Pakistan flood victims.

Appreciation
Mission and Ecumenical appreciates the considerable support it receives from Methodist Women’s Fellowship groups, parishes, and individual church members, for activity in the life of the United Churches in the Solomon Islands and the Papua New Guinea. This enables us to provide so much more assistance.
Christchurch earthquake
CWS was able to return to the national office in Manchester Street on October 4. Thank you all for your messages of support and understanding while we worked from temporary premises. We would also like to thank Trade Aid, who provided us with meeting and office space at their main office.

Christmas Appeal 2010: Share the Care
The new look Christmas Appeal kit should now have arrived in all parishes. If you have not received your copy, please contact CWS (cws@cws.org.nz of phone 0800 74 73 72). This year’s focus is health and well being. With the changes to government funding to non government organisations, and many of our partners no longer qualifying for support, CWS is urging all churches to increase their giving to this 65th appeal.

To help further promote the appeal we are looking for display spaces around the country. If there are libraries, supermarket display boards or shop windows you could put a poster up in, please contact us. The eye catching posters this year link to a new website giving further information on CWS and the partners the Christmas Appeal funds. See www.christmasappeal.org.nz

Please also let us know if you can distribute appeal envelopes in your area or hold a street collection.

65 years on from the first Christmas Appeal, we are aiming to make this the best one yet. Thanks for your support.

Gaza Art Exhibition
A compelling exhibition of artworks from Gaza, produced through a programme by CWS partner, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees, is now showing in Christchurch. Featuring works by children and adults, each painting is accompanied by the artists’ thoughts, wishes and hopes for a peaceful future for the region. This exhibition is currently showing in the Christ Church Cathedral Nave through to October 20th. It will then travel to Auckland for a two day showing at St Matthews in the City 6-7 November. Please contact CWS for further information.
Pakistan Appeal
A reminder that the CWS appeal for Pakistan remains open. Although the crisis is no longer in the media spotlight, the needs in this unprecedented natural disaster are huge and continue to be challenging. CWS’s partner in the region is desperately seeking further funding. Please keep the people of Pakistan in your prayers. Regular updates available at www.cws.org.nz

Children’s magazine
The latest World Watch magazine for 7-12 year olds is now available. “Share the Care” focuses on a special programme in Zimbabwe providing food for children in drought affected areas. With harvests destroyed by drought, the lunchtime meal of nutritional porridge children receive at school is often their only meal. World Watch is a free resource with cartoons, puzzles and activities and a teachers’ guide to lead you through a sample lesson plan. If you want copies for your children’s group email youth@cws.org.nz

Interdenominational Conference
All for life Conference 29-30 Oct.2010, NELSON. Please pray for a Culture of Life in our Nation. Come and join us and be the change! For updated conference info, visit: www.focusonthefamily.co.nz or www.familylifenz.wordpress.com. Email all4life@xtra.co.nz. Please note registrations close on 20 October.

Volunteering Canterbury
Do you have young volunteers in your organization? Do they make a big contribution to your organization? Is our community better off for the work they do?

Why not nominate them for a Youth Volunteer Award?
You may nominate young people either individually or in a group.

We are looking for volunteers under 21 years to recognise for the work they do in our community. Nominate the young volunteers who work for you – we want to recognise their achievements, and encourage other young people to volunteer.

Each nominating organisation must be a not-for-profit voluntary organisation or project, but need not be a member of Volunteering Canterbury.

Only one nomination will be accepted from each organisation.

Download a nomination form from www.volcan.org.nz or phone 03 366 2442.

Nominations close on 29 October.
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0274 969 845
WANTED: With One Voice
Waiwhetu Uniting Church & Community Centre

Could you please contact us if you have any ‘With One Voice’ hymn books with enlarged print that your church or parish would like to sell or give away, please email davemadle@xtra.co.nz.

Bay of Islands Uniting Parish
Centre for Re-Creation
P O Box 353, Ph 402 8125, Paihia 0247

We’re looking for someone to come for the summer...

We’d like to have a person – or possibly a couple – who might like to come to Paihia for the summer. We have a very comfortable unit available for $175 per week. The "Annexe" is immediately behind the church and adjacent to our two hospitality flats. It has one double bedroom and a spacious living area (above) with an extra bed available. It is equipped the same as the two-bedroom cottages with the exception of a more modest stove.

We would like someone who would accept casual paid duties on site, meeting and greeting guests, and light duties such as taking in washing, folding and sorting and ironing pillowslips and tablecloths. There could also be additional paid work available as back-up cleaner in our units involving vacuuming and washing floors but this is somewhat heavier work.

We are making this offer because we would like to have someone on site during the busy season. In particular, we would like to be represented by someone who is sympathetic to the life and work of our “middle-of-the-road” parish and might play some part in its general life as well as our mission of hospitality and “time out”.

If you feel you might like to join our interesting ecumenical congregation and its mission we’d be delighted to hear from you.
Visit our site for information and contact us for details of this invitation:

paihiacentreforrecreation@gmail.com  www.centreforrecreation.org.nz

PS – Not made your holiday bookings yet?
We still have some good blocks of six or eight nights’ accommodation available in our two-bedroom units over the summer school holidays, including Christmas weekend. $90 a night for two people in the Bay of Islands is a gift but we’re happy to accept this rate for bookings of several nights’ duration over Christmas.
Have a look at our Booking Availability Pages on our website.
WANTED: Old Valves from Old Organs

I collect old valves and radio gear. I am a member of the New Zealand Vintage Radio Society and live in Auckland.

I am interested in any old organs that that may still contain the old valves, or spare valves. I am happy to make a cash donation to the church or the owner for these valves. I am also able to remove them, if required from the organ Please contact me by email paul.ssegrub01@gmail.com or phone (09) 5282022.

Paul Burgess
St Johns Auckland

CDs Raise over $8,000 for Charity Hospital

16 year old school-girl soprano, Samantha Jeune is delighted with the success of her two fundraising CDs of sacred songs which have raised over $8,000 for the Canterbury Charity Hospital.

Both In My Father’s House and Grant Us Thy Peace can be purchased for $25.00 each by sending a cheque made out to Samantha Jeune – CD for Charity and posted to P O Box 29 403, CHRISTCHURCH 8540.

To hear excerpts from both CDs please visit www.cdforcharity.org.nz

InterChurch Bioethics Council

The ICBC now has a webpage, please go to www.interchurchbioethics.org.nz

October Amendments

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