



# Caring for Our People

*Manaakitia ā tātou tāngata*

*August 2020*

*As-salāmu ‘alaykum. Peace be with you.*

## Jeremiah 8:4

*“The LORD said: People of Jerusalem, when you stumble and fall, you get back up, and if you take a wrong road, you turn around and go back.”*

A stumble might not result in a failure, but we can still learn from them. Failure is part of success and provides opportunity for learning and improving.

Being part of the Methodist Church of New Zealand allows us to share our stumbles so that others can avoid the same situation in their futures! Therefore let us learn and improve...

## Fire

Surprisingly, fire has occurred quite often in the last few years.



When a fire occurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get everyone out of the building</li> <li>• Control the fire if it is safe to do so</li> <li>• Call 111 and ask for Fire Services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">An Evacuation Plan</a> (up to date and practiced!)</li> <li>• Current <a href="#">Building Warrant of Fitness</a></li> <li>• Fire Extinguisher/Fire Hose/Fire Blanket</li> </ul> <p>All of the above should be selected and implemented for the specific building</p>
After a fire is out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform the Connexional Office               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Insurance Manager</li> <li>○ Health and Safety Coordinator</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ensure the asbestos management plan is followed – debris may contain asbestos</li> <li>• Ensure WorkSafe are informed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Incident Reporting process</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Asbestos Management Plan</a></li> </ul> <p>Also refer to <a href="#">Bricks and Mortar Property Booklet</a></p>

Actual MCNZ Events	Let us learn
Candle left unattended on plastic table fell over or burnt down and melted/burnt the table. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No one was around, no evacuation required, no other property damaged</li> <li>• Fire services were called by passing public</li> </ul>	Supervise open flames at all times Only use open flames in/on fire safe materials Use electric candles, they are reusable, pretty <u>and</u> safe!
Fire in kitchen from a correctly maintained gas appliance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone was successfully evacuated</li> <li>• Fire services were called</li> <li>• Recovery work started before asbestos management plan was in place</li> <li>• Health and Safety Coordinator was called late, WorkSafe was informed late</li> </ul>	See the process above of what to do <u>after</u> a fire. If you don't know if there is asbestos, have the material professionally assessed before recovery begins. It was great that the appliance was properly maintained. Gas appliances should be checked and serviced every two years.



Actual MCNZ Events	Let us learn
<p>A light fitting overheated, caused small flames and melted the fitting, which dripped down and damaged the floor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire services were called, the flames were out before they arrived</li> <li>• WorkSafe followed up, and weren't very happy. Fire Services report to WorkSafe. We should have informed WorkSafe</li> </ul>	<p>Every step about the recovery of this particular fire was excellent except informing the Health and Safety Coordinator and WorkSafe was late.</p> <p>Certified electricians did the light repairs and all the old fittings were replaced to remove the fire risk.</p> <p>See the process above of what to do <u>after</u> a fire.</p>
<p>Residential rental fire started in the garage at night, spread through the roof space and caused smoke and water damage throughout the house</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residents escaped with minor burns and smoke inhalation</li> <li>• 99% of their belongings were damaged</li> <li>• Fire services were called and doused the fire</li> <li>• Cause was indeterminate and not suspicious</li> </ul>	<p>Smoke detectors must be working and within 3m of bedrooms. More details are on Page 80 of <a href="#">Bricks and Mortar</a></p> <p>Even residences should have evacuation plans</p> <p>Flammable materials should be stored safely, particularly if they are under the same roof as bedrooms. Also refer <a href="#">Bricks and Mortar</a></p>
<p>Somebody had a smoke under a smoke detector at a minister's meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The alarm went off</li> <li>• Nobody evacuated even though they weren't sure if there was a fire</li> <li>• Health and Safety Coordinator was officially informed</li> </ul>	<p>Evacuation plans should be shared and practiced</p> <p>There should be designated building wardens to take charge in emergency situations</p> <p>Evacuation plans should be discussed at the beginning of meetings and gatherings, particularly if your audience are unfamiliar with the building</p>
<p>Commercial tenants equipment caught fire in an old building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire equipment functioned well</li> <li>• staff handled the situation in a professional manner</li> <li>• there was no damage to the building, no one was hurt</li> </ul>	<p>The tenants had a plan, the building was in good condition and met all standards.</p> <p>Great result for unforeseen circumstances!</p>

## Learning

Learning includes all the things that go right as well as the things that go wrong. It is common to override safety features in an attempt to meet goals in the 'easiest way possible' because reality is not as tidy as how it appears on paper.

However, we have the means available to us to learn from these past events and control parts of our future.

Please call me if you or your parish require assistance to put any of the above plans into place. I am here to help!

### **Mā mua ka kite a muri, mā muri ka ora a mua**

*Those who lead give sight to those who follow, those who follow give life to those who lead.*

This whakataukī speaks to the importance of working together. It acknowledges and values the importance of both the leader and the followers for both are essential and co-dependent.

Thank you to the people who provided our lessons so that others might seek a different path.

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