

## Objective

Manukau Synod seeks to equip parishes to fulfil the mission as declared in the mission statement of the Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa. The Synod encourages the parishes to be the Body of Christ in their community and to live the gospel of Jesus Christ relevant to their contemporary context and to reflect and proclaim the transforming love of God to all people.

To  
achieve  
this  
objective

### The Synod invites its parishes to

- **Express faith in action:** Worship, learn and equip the people to be disciples of Jesus.
- **Pastoral care:** Be a caring and healing community
- **Fulfil responsibilities:** Become mission oriented by engaging the needs of their community
- **Share mission task:** Take initiative to build partnerships with parishes within the Synod
- **Be ecumenical:** Build partnerships with churches (of other denominations) that engage in complimentary ministry
- **Do justice:** Address social injustice and care for the underprivileged and victims of violence
- **Evangelise:** Call people to become followers of Jesus Christ
- **Be the body of Christ:** Affirm that the people in the parish are blessed to be a blessing to others.

To  
empower  
the  
parishes

### To achieve these objectives, and of the Conference, the Synod will

- Organise leadership training to
  - Inspire and improve the quality of parish leadership
  - Strengthen the youth work
  - Sunday School work
  - To have succession plans with adequate leadership skills to take up responsibilities
- Conduct educational programmes on
  - pastoral care,
  - social justice issues,
  - discipleship,
  - evangelism
  - community concerns (working with local government bodies, police and other community organisations)
  - property and stewardship
- Develop resources to better equip
  - Lay preachers
  - Worship leaders
  - Youth and Sunday School workers
- Identify who can provide the above training and development
- Evaluate the role of presbyters and their stationing as required by Mission Resourcing
- Seek to fill the vacancies as and when needed
- Carry out the tasks entrusted by the Conference

### To keep this strategy at the centre of our work the Synod will

- Find ways to present this strategy to our parishes and remind them of our objectives
- Find ways to keep this strategy on the Synod agenda