

**OFFICIAL OPENING**

**WETERIANA HOUSE**



**THE CONNEXIONAL OFFICE**  
**OF THE**  
**METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND**  
**Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

# IMPORTANT NOTE

**The opening ceremony will be held on Level One  
Please use the LIFT ONLY to gather upstairs**

**We ask you to please sign into the building using the  
sign-in sheets just inside the first floor door**

**While we are joining together to open the new Connexional  
Office we have not been able to complete the stairs  
because the balustrades are caught up in the turmoil of  
transport after the recent earthquakes.**

**Accordingly we are not able to open the building to general  
public access. We will need to use the lift today to access  
the first floor.**

**Please take care while you are in and around the  
building, be aware of your surroundings and any  
potential safety hazards**



# DEDICATION & OPENING

L: Today we celebrate new beginnings.  
We acknowledge our journey, the earthquakes which forced us from our offices in Latimer Square, being 'refugees' at Upper Riccarton and almost 6 years at Maydell Street.

R: **We give thanks for the support received as individuals and as a community as we have rebuilt our lives, our homes and offices.**

L: We give thanks for insurance policies, architects, planners, builders and contractors.

R: **For all who have encouraged and strengthened us.  
For coffee, caring and comfort.**

L: For you O God, whose Spirit moves within all creation to bring hope and stir us to love and care for one another.

R: **We give thanks.**

Hymn: ***"Give Thanks for Life"***

Give thanks for life,  
the measure of our days  
mortal we pass through  
beauty that decays,  
yet sing to God our hope,  
our love, our praise,  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Give thanks for those  
who made their life a light  
caught from the Christ-flame,  
bursting through the night,  
who touched the truth,  
who burned for what is right,  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

And for our own,  
our living and our dead,  
thanks for the love by  
which our life is fed,  
a love not changed by time  
or death or dread  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Give thanks for hope,  
that like the wheat, the grain  
lying in darkness  
does its life retain,  
in resurrection  
to grow green again.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Shirley Murray (Alleluia Aotearoa #45)*

**Prayer:     *“To gather us / give thanks”***

**History of the Connexional Office:**

Rev Donald Phillipps

**Weteriana House – A New Beginning:**

Greg Wright (*Executive Director, Methodist Church of NZ*)

David Bush (*General Secretary, Methodist Church of NZ*)

**Opening / Dedication:**

Rev Prince Devanandan (President, Methodist Church of NZ)

## **Book Launch:**

Rev Donald Phillipps

**'A Future Realised'**

**'Managing the Assets'**

**Hymn:       *"We are many, we are One"***

We are many, we are one,  
and the work of Christ is done  
when we learn to live in true community,  
    as the stars that fill the night  
    as a flock of birds in flight,  
    as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;  
    as the branches of a tree,  
    as the waves upon the sea,  
    as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

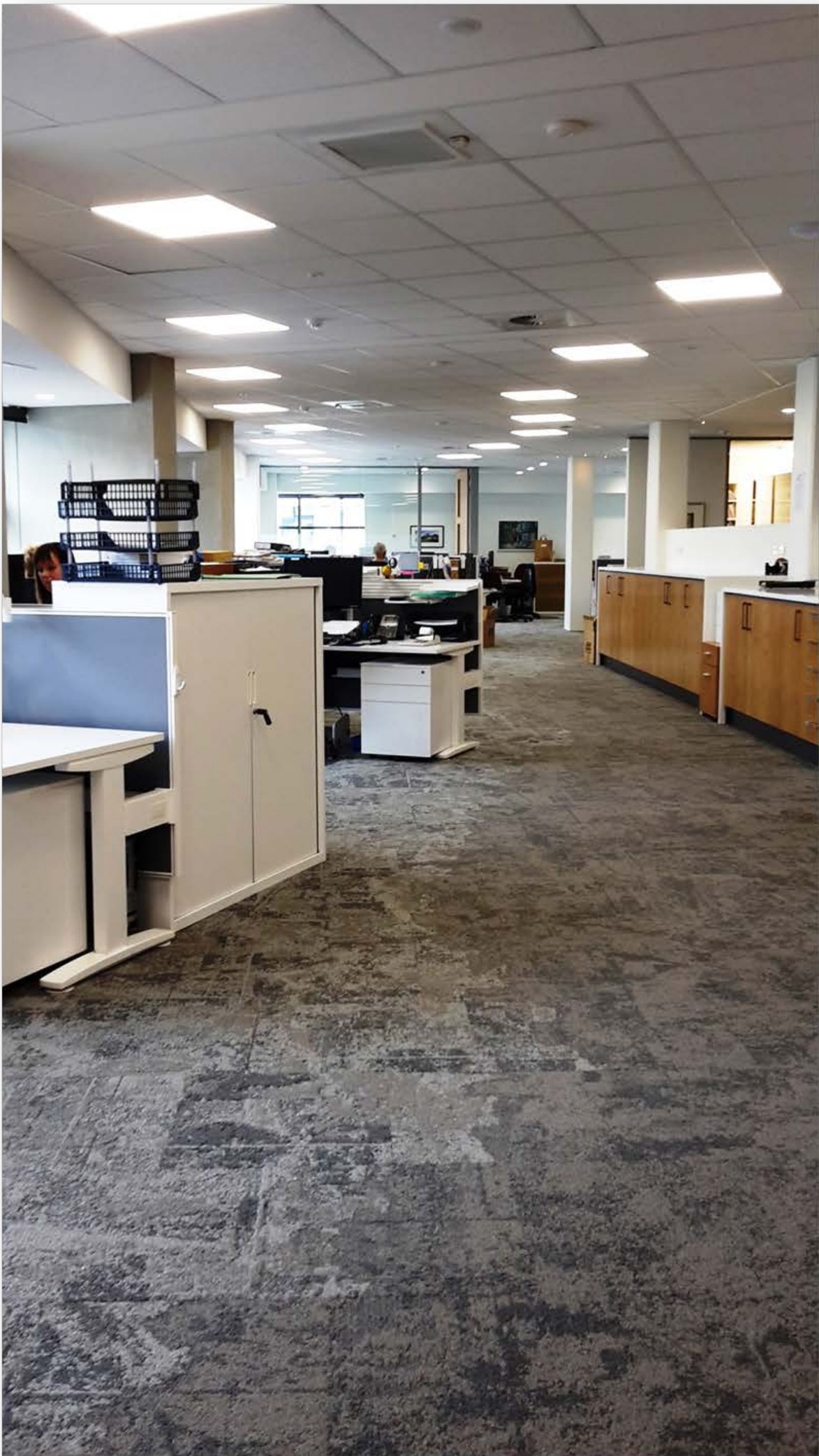
All division is made whole  
when we honour every soul,  
find the life of God in every you and me,  
    as the fingers of a hand,  
    as the grains that form the sand,  
    as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;  
    as the threads upon a loom,  
    as a field of flowers in bloom,  
    as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

We will join creation's song,  
make a world where all belong,  
build as one in peace and loving harmony,  
    as the voices of a choir,  
    as the flames within a fire,  
    as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;  
    as the snowflakes in the snow,  
    as the colours of a bow,  
    as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

© Colin Gibson, *Tune: Hamilton. Faith Forever Singing 67.*

## **Blessing:**

Diana Tana (Tumuaki)



Please join us for afternoon tea, which will  
be served upstairs

Staff members will be available to show you around  
the office or you may wish to wander on your own



**Thank you for your attendance today  
your support is appreciated**