



TE TAHA MAORI RIPOATA KI TE HUI TOOPU 2016

*'Kia manaakohia ngā kupu a tōku mangai me ngā whakaaro o tōku ngākau i tō aroaro,
e lhowa, e tōku kamaka, e tōku kaihoko'*

*(Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord,
my rock and my redeemer) Waiata 19: 14*

We acknowledge with respect the passing of our Minita-a-Iwi matua Winiata Morunga, and the many others in the life of our church who have passed away over the last year. We ask God's blessings upon their families.

E mihi tonu atu ki ngā mate, rātou kua mene ki te pō, e moe, e moe, moe mai rā.

Ngā Atuatanga Māori (Māori Theologies)

In the context of Aotearoa we draw on our 'pūrakau me ngā kōrero o nehe' to inform our Christian theology and thus our God understandings are derived from a Māori world view of 'te orokohanga o te ao'.

Our Māori world view gives rise to our tīkanga and is expressed through te reo Māori. Our adoption of a Christian paradigm, recognises Ngā Atuatanga Māori as responses to the Gospel. Our cultural spaces, our marae, centres, churches and cyberspaces continue to be places of solace and enrichment, where our theology is lived out.

He Atuatanga mo Te Reo (Theology of Language)

Theology is influenced by the language through which it is communicated. We offer a theology that gives volume and precedence to God's call spoken in a Māori voice.

'Ko te reo Māori, he reo tuku iho, he reo kauwhau, he reo wairua, he reo kōrero, he reo ora' (The Māori language is an inherited language, a ritual language, a spiritual language, a spoken language, a living language).

Our aspirations for te reo Māori begin with Whānau and Rohe, and resonate throughout the wider connexion including Trinity College where courses are offered for learning te reo Māori. Our greatest hope is that te reo Māori becomes normalised within our Haahi. We encourage Conference members to engage with te reo Māori in your own context, in your own communities and in your own ways.

'I roto i tēnei waka wairua ō tātou, whakamanahia te reo Māori, whangaihia ki ōu iwi' (Within our church, value and share the Māori language with our people).

He Atuatanga mō te Tika (Theology of Social Justice)

A theology of social justice affirms our commitment to building and enhancing a just and empowered society.

'Ko te Wairua Tapu e whakakaha ana i a tātou kia tū maia ai hei tuari mā te Atua i roto i te ao' (We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God in the world).

We acknowledge the complex needs of our most vulnerable communities and celebrate Māori solutions and responses. The exemplar of Te Puea marae in Mangere, who have responded to the need of many homeless families and provided emergency housing in this South Auckland community is an illustration of manaakitanga, a core value of our tikanga.

We see the spirit of God working through people; 'I hiakai hoki ahau, a whangainga ana e koutou: i matewai ahau, a whakainumia ana e koutou: he manene ahau, a whakamanuhiritia ana e koutou' (I was hungry and you fed me: I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in) Matiu 25: 35.

He Atuatanga ā Reta (Theology of Letters)

Te Taha Māori's bi-monthly new letter, *Kia Neke Ake*, serves to inform members of key events in the life of Te Taha Māori and offers theological reflections that help stimulate discussion and debate in our communities.

The theology of 'Kia Neke Ake', draws from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians that addressed the spirit of God working amongst communities and into the future.

'Ko te tinana o te Karaiti kia neke ake, hei whare e hanga ana i a ia i runga i te aroha' (The church continually grows, shifts, moves, in ways that transform communities).

Ngā Take Hononga o te Haahi (Connexional Matters)

Council of Conference serves as a marae ātea for engagement and debate of our Connexional priorities including, Visioning into the future, the Two-Yearly Conference Implementation, Connexional budget, enabling relationships with other Methodist conferences and the promotion - *101 ideas to Let the Children Live*, to name just a few.

At the July Hui Poari, Te Taha Māori received the Human Sexuality Work Group and heard how different perspectives around how human sexuality are being aired and understood. It is clear that this group have made advances, but addressing the questions around the acceptability of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender individuals in Presidential leadership continues.

Ngā Manaakitanga (Blessings)

In April this year, Tumuaki Diana Tana and members of Taranaki Rohe gathered with the congregation of Hawera Wesley Church to celebrate the transfer of title to Te Taha Māori. The Rohe and local Parish now have a small joint committee who manage matters pertaining to the ongoing use of the property.

In December 2015 the Waima Methodist Church was re-dedicated by Vice President Arapera Bella Ngaha and in May this year, Te Kopua Methodist Mission Memorial Stone was re-dedicated and blessed by Waikato Rohe members. Events such as these help our newer members to understand our history, particularly in rural areas, and to recall our early bicultural relationships associated with these places.

Te Taha Māori acknowledges and gives thanks for the gifts and contributions towards Māori educational achievement and rangatahi aspirations, including Kurahuna Educational Grants and Scholarship Fund, Margaret and Bruce Gordon Fund, Moutoa Scholarship and Wellington Methodist Charitable Educational and Endowments Trust.

Ngā Haahi Puta Noa i te Ao (Ecumenical Matters)

Te Taha Māori has a continued commitment to the Methodist Mission and Ecumenical Board with new membership.

Tumuaki Rev. Diana Tana and Rev. Rex Nathan as members of Te Kahui Wairua, accompanied King Tuheitia's entourage and kappa haka group to Tonga in celebration of the Queen Mother's 90th birthday. It was wonderful occasion of dance, feasting, speeches and karakia. Occasions such as these help to remind us of the whanaungatanga links between the Royal Houses of the Pacific as well as cement the role and close connections the church continues to play with these Rangatira o te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa.

The Vice-Moderator of the Christian Conference of Asia, Tumuaki Rev. Diana Tana, attended the second Executive Committee Meeting held in Medan, Indonesia. This meeting followed a Conference dedicated to Climate Change and Eco – Justice. One of the key presenters here was Rev. Dr. Betsan Martin. A highlight of the programme was the reception of the Document inspired by Pope Francis 'LAUDATO SI'. Additional papers have been received by the World Council of Churches such as the report on HIV which is now in its fourth decade.

In August, Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa delegates were scheduled to attend the General Assembly for the World Methodist Conference in Houston, Texas including Vice President Arapera Bella Ngaha.

Ngā Whakangungu Mātauranga (Education and Formation)

The Enabling Ministry Team met in February, April and July to discuss the ongoing training of our Kaikarakia, Minita ā Iwi and Minita ī Tōhia. Our training wānanga have explored Contextual Theology, Biblical Interpretation, Liturgy and Preaching. The focal point of all our wānanga has always been to provide participants with a Māori contextual learning environment and to highlight tools for leadership and ministry formation. We find that the wānanga-style delivery encourages engagement and interaction.

Te Taha Māori attended significant Hui ā motu including Ratana, Waitangi and Koroneihana. These events provide a rich source of learning for our Te Taha Māori and Connexional members who also attend. This year was especially significant, as it was the 10th anniversary of Kingi Tuheitia's coronation at Turangawaewae marae. The Methodists (President Tovia Aumua, Pacific Ministries Director Rev Setaita Kinahoi Veikune and Tumuaki Rev Diana Tana) were in full attendance in leading the commemorative service.

Te Taha Māori has been working alongside Trinity College, collaborating and inputting into various courses and papers where appropriate. Several Te Taha Māori members have made invaluable contributions to representative panels over the past two years. The most recent Bicultural Rangatahi panel discussed the engagement of Youth in decision-making processes of church and Iwi, as part of a course entitled, 'Let the Children Live'. Following the course, both the Rangatahi panellists were invited to speak at other Connexional Youth events.

Te Taha Māori members attended the Talanoa Oceania Conference 2016 held at Trinity College. The theme of the Conference was 'JustUs to Justice' and a Tangata Whenua panel explored, 'Te Tika, Te Pono Me Te Oranga'. The panel addressed Justice in relation to Iwi Maori, Rangatahi Maori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Other members have recently returned from the Wisdom's Feast Conference in Melbourne where they were treated to some inspiring presentations from Indigenous theologians.

Ngā Kaimahi Hou (New Staff)

Te Taha Māori has appointed the first of our Kaiarahi Rangatahi to Tamaki Rohe, marking a new era of Rangatahi ministry. We welcome Te Wehenga Laird to the position and encourage her in this ministry role.

Te Taha Māori has also appointed a new Office Administrator who will manage the day-to-day operations of the office. We welcome Mereana Meleisea and wish her well in her new position.

He Anga Whakamua (Future Aspirations)

A key focus for Te Taha Māori is capacity building in the areas of human resourcing and communications. We hope to soon have a Taha Maori website in place and we are currently seeking to fill a short-term appointment for an Archivist to assist in tidying up our Te Taha Māori archives. On a Rohe level, we look forward to being able to engage Kaiarahi Rangatahi appointments in the near future.

Suggested decisions:

1. The report be received.
2. The 2016 membership and officers of *Hui Poari* be Tumuaki Diana Tana, Tai Tokerau: Frances Rakena, Sonny Livingstone; Tamaki: Gillian Laird, Te Aroha Rountree; Waikato: Doreen Wilson, Shirley Rivers; Taranaki: Frances Kingi-Katene, Alison Ranui; Poneke: Alamaine MacGregor; Te Rohe Potae: Hinga Ormsby; and Otautahi-Te Waipounamu: Roz Wilkie.
3. The 2016 officers of *Rohe* shall be Tai Tokerau: Frances Rakena; Tamaki: Gillian Laird; Waikato: Doreen Wilson; Taranaki: Frances Kingi-Katene; Poneke: Alamaine MacGregor.
4. That Kaiarahi Rangatahi of *Rohe* shall be Tamaki: Te Wehenga Laird and others to be appointed by the President.
5. That the 2016 membership of *Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Haahi O Aotearoa* shall be Tumuaki Diana Tana, Rev Rex Nathan, Te Aroha Rountree, Tara Tautari, Piripi Rakena and Sonny Livingstone.

THE BOARD OF THE WELLINGTON METHODIST CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS

The Board approved 31 grants during the financial year ended 30 June 2016. All grants are required to be targeted for the benefit of children or youth and are outlined below.

<u>Grants to year ended 30 June 2016</u>	\$
Te Taha Maori - Moutoa Scholarship	20,000
Rangatahi Worker	30,000
Educational Resource Worker	10,000
Masterton Family Education & Support Centre Inc.	20,000
Schools and Te Kura Kaupapa Maori (19)	43,765
Challenge 2000 Trust	2,000
Churches Education Commission – Wellington	4,500
Prison Fellowship of NZ – Wellington	4,000
Scripture Union New Zealand – Wellington	1,500
Tongan Fellowship of St Marks Wesley Uniting Church (HCUC)	5,000
The House of Grace Trust Inc.	2,500
Youth Quest Trust	5,000
Zeal Education Trust	5,000
Wesley Community Action	30,000
Methodist Social Services, Manawatu	5,000
	<u>\$188,265</u>

We have continued to receive applications for grants from schools, kura kaupapa, community groups – primarily these are from the greater Wellington region. Again fewer applications, especially from community groups, were received this year.

The Board's leased farm at Moutoa, near Foxton, continues to be well managed. A small increase in the farm rental was able to be negotiated by our farm advisor.

Neville Price has continued as secretary-treasurer for another year whilst a replacement has been sought. He has now completed 23 years in this role. In future the position will be split with the treasurer, John Willis, being a co-opted member by the Board.

Suggested decisions:

1. The report be received.
2. The membership of the Board for 2017 is: Merita Holder, Marten Hutt, Senorita Laukau, Danette Ngarewa, Diana Tana, Bunnie Willing, Leatuavao Viko Aufaga, Trevor Dine, Motekiai Fakatou, Neville Price, Matthew (Matt) Roberts (Chairperson), Myra Tautau (secretary), and any others appointed by the President.