



# ***e-Messenger***

*The Methodist Church of New Zealand ~ Te Hāhi Weteriana O Aotearoa*

*"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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# ***August 2014***

Web Site Address: [www.methodist.org.nz](http://www.methodist.org.nz)





# Official Communications

## **A Message from the President and Vice President**

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### *Greetings from the Presidential Team...*

#### **Christchurch**

President Rex returned from the Free Wesleyan Church Conference in Va'vau after experiencing temperatures in the high twenties and flew to Christchurch to minus 3 degrees. I virtually had 2 suit cases packed, one with summer clothes and the other with winter clothes.

My reason for going to Christchurch was to meet and have lunch with Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths from the UK along with other Methodist Church Leaders from the Central South Island Synod. A delightful gentleman whose passion is clearly about Justice and it was good to have a cross section of local Church congregations hear him preach in the evening.

#### **Wesley Wellington Taranaki St**

We had the pleasure of being invited to preach at Wesley Wellington Taranaki St and joined afterwards with congregation members for a lovely lunch and a general discussion. Our appreciation and thanks to Carol Dale and the Team for being excellent hosts and making us feel very welcome.

#### **Samoan Methodist Conference**

We were invited to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Samoan Methodist Conference held in Apia. We were accompanied by a large contingent of Sinoti Samoan members along with members from other Samoan Methodist congregations. A truly wonderful occasion and an expression of their faith and trust in God.

There were a number of overseas visitors joining in the celebration who were representative and descendants of former Missionaries.

The evening performances of song and dance were a delight to listen to and watch. We did not escape participating because we were invited to join with the Sinoti Samoa group on stage when it was their turn to perform.

We were hosted and stayed at the Wesley Motel owned by the Methodist Church and situated on the outskirts of Apia. The hosts were brilliant and we were made to feel like we were at home or rather more than that, we were made to feel like royalty. They transported us to the various functions and performances and also visited various places around the Island including the Piula Theological College.

The highlight of the visit was the Memorial Service Commemorating 50 years of being a Conference led by Rev Aisoli Tapa Iuli, President of the Methodist Church in Samoa. The service was held at the Wesley Church in Faleula followed by the unveiling of a Memorial Stone commemorating 50 years of being a Conference.

A truly wonderful occasion of celebration but also a commemoration and remembrance of former Presidents.

All the overseas visitors were invited to a luncheon hosted by the Samoan Head of State Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Ta'isi Efi and his wife. A delightful couple, very engaging in topics of various interests and the perfect hosts.

#### **Mt Albert Church**

We were invited to preach at Mt Albert Methodist Church. Thank you Trish and the folk there for your wonderful hospitality. It is always good to catch up with acquaintances and recall memories of the past.

#### **Post Colonial Engagement in Politics, Religions and Scriptures**

President Rex attended this Seminar with Tumuaki Diana Tana held at the Charles Sturt University in Parramatta. A wonderful line up of dynamic speakers each from within their area of knowledge and expertise. It was great to hear from the First Nations Peoples of Australia (Aborigines) and the struggles



they have had and are still having in relation to confiscated and stolen lands as well as being recognised as the original owners of the lands.

### **Conference Arrangements**

We are now in the process of supporting the incoming Presidential Team, President Elect Rev Tovia Aumua and Vice President Elect Arapera Ngaha, in arranging for Conference 2014. We have nearly completed our 2 year appointment, only a few more sleeps, but where did the time go?

Enjoy yourselves and take care.

*Rex and Jan*

## **A Message from the General Secretary**

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*From David's Desk..*

I have a canoe in the garage. I built it in my university days when it was fun to get wet in the white water of Canterbury's rivers. The idea of crossing the Tasman in a canoe or kayak seems insane. On April 19<sup>th</sup> Scott Donaldson left Coff's Harbour heading for New Plymouth. Once out of sight of land he was essentially alone, reliant on his own resources. If an accident or disaster happened there would be little chance of rescue. When storms rage, the tiny craft would be tossed around, leaving its occupant helpless and hoping nothing would break.

I suspect few of us were aware of Scott's departure. His impending arrival did make the news as he inched closer to Taranaki. Scott's spirits must have been high as the mountain became visible in the distance and he could smell the land. The winter weather did its worst and he was pushed slowly back towards Australia.

Day after day it was hoped the wind would stop. Then on July 11<sup>th</sup> we learnt he had abandoned the attempt as the worst weather of the journey buffeted a now rudderless kayak. The next day, Scott at a Press conference issued an apology to his supporters.

It is the apology which has been exercising my mind. Clearly it was aimed at those who had been willing him toward landfall.

I believe Scott has shown us something much more powerful. The awareness of when to stop. The ability to say enough. The capacity to judge risk and reward. He was 83km from the beach. He had been at sea for 85 days. The temptation to continue, to disregard safety must have been enormous. In the end he made a courageous (and I suspect very wise decision) to abandon his journey.

Stopping a programme, activity or quest is never easy. It seems to challenge the notion that we should see a project through to the end. But how do we define the finishing point. For Scott Donaldson the finish line became the place where his personal safety was no longer certain. But this became the starting point for his next project.

That's why I thought his apology was unnecessary as the challenge of knowing when to stop is a challenge we all must deal with.

Stationing Committee meets in two weeks. Please uphold in your prayers those who are moving, parishes seeking appointments, and those who have the responsibility of determining the best matchings.

Grace and peace

*David Bush*





REMEMBER

## *In your Prayers*



It is with deep regret that Te Taha Maori advises the Connexion of the passing of Mr Neil Wilson on Wednesday 9th July. Neil is the husband of Doreen Wilson, Liaison Person for Waikato Rohe. Neil's funeral service was held Saturday 12th July 2014 at Newstead Crematorium, Hamilton.

Our aroha and prayers to Doreen and whanau. May you treasure the memories and love shared. Ma te Atua koutou hei manaaki.

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It is with sadness that I advise the Connexion of the death of Ronald (Ron) Nelson Simpson in Dunedin on 7 July 2014, in his 80th year. Ron served at Cannon's Creek (Porirua) as an Industrial Chaplain (Avondale) and Brockville (Dunedin). He resigned from ministry in 1982. Ron's funeral is at 11:00am, Monday 14 July at Dignity Funerals Dunedin.

We extend our sympathy to Ron's family. Messages may be sent to his widow Grace Simpson, 269B Highgate, Dunedin 9010.

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It is with sadness that I advise the Connexion of the death in Auckland of Mervyn Rosser on Saturday 12th July aged 87. Mervyn was organist at Mt Albert Church in Auckland for 37 years and was well known in the Auckland area for his musical gifts. A service to celebrate Mervyn's life was held at Mt Albert Methodist Church on Friday 18 July.

We extend our sympathy to Dorothy and the family. Messages may be sent to 447 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough, Auckland. 1041 or by e-mail to [mervyndot@orcon.net.nz](mailto:mervyndot@orcon.net.nz)

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The following message was received from Alan Upson: "It is with sadness that I advise the Connexion of the death of my mother Margaret Enid Roberts. My mother passed away on Sunday 3rd August 2014, aged 100. My mother's funeral was held at the St James Presbyterian Church, on Thursday 7th August 2014.

Messages can be sent to Alan and Kerry Upson at 5 Sherwood Road, Onerahi, Whangarei 0110 or email [aupson@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:aupson@slingshot.co.nz)"

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On Saturday 26 July 2014 Wendy Keir, PA to the General Secretary, received news that her mother had passed away. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Wendy and her family at this time.

A time for reflection and remembrance of Wendy's mother's life took place at 6a Lake Terrace Road, Christchurch on Thursday 31 July. Messages may be sent to the Keir family via P.O. Box 31-300, Ilam, Christchurch 8444.

***We express our sympathy and care to each of these families as they grieve and lovingly remember***





# Conference Update

Please note that more detailed information will be placed on the Methodist website, sent out via eMessenger email and published in the eMessenger Newsletter as it becomes available.

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## METHODIST CONFERENCE 2014 15 – 19 November Hamilton

### KEY DATES

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#### Friday 14 November

Stationing Committee @ 10:00am  
Tauwiwi Strategy @ 2:00pm

#### Saturday 15 November

Introduction to Conference @ 8:30am  
Powhiri and Welcome @ 10:00am

#### Saturday & Sunday 15 & 16 November

Inductions, Ordinations and special services

#### Monday to Wednesday 17-19 November

Conference Theology at Work (Business)  
Sessions

**Conference will conclude at 3:00pm on Wednesday 19 November**

### CONFERENCE DAY TO DAY

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The Conference Day to Day timetable will be sent out shortly.

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS

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Conference planning is progressing well. The registration form will be online in the next few days. There are still a few budget items to be sorted before the registration fee can be finalised. It is proving to be very challenging to obtain catering at a reasonable cost, an ongoing problem in this age of exclusive contracts.

NOTE: Accommodation this year will be in local motels/hotels etc. For information on accommodations options please see Conference Update No. 2 available on the Methodist website [http://www.methodist.org.nz/conference/2014/conference\\_updates](http://www.methodist.org.nz/conference/2014/conference_updates).

**Remember: all Conference members and observers must be registered.**

### WEEKEND GUESTS

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Those people attending the Ordination Service, Retiree Service and the Service to Honour Those Who Have Died do not need to register.

However, weekend guests who want to attend the Wesley Historical Society Dinner, the Conference Dinner, Lay Preachers meeting and Meal or the Liberal Society/Evangelical Network AGM/Dinner must register for the dinners. When the information becomes available (in the Day to Day timetable) and you have selected which events you would like to attend **please email Wendy Keir** [wendyk@methodist.org.nz](mailto:wendyk@methodist.org.nz) with details of how many tickets you require and either your bank account details to enable a direct debit by our accounts team, or the name and address of the person who the cost can be invoiced to for payment by cheque or direct credit. Please note that we are unable to process credit card payments.





## Conference Reports

Please complete the form for:

- Those people within your parish who are **not** attending Conference and/or additional copies. (Conference attendees receive a copy of the Agenda, Minutes of Conference and the Yearbook)

**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 Wendy [wendyk@methodist.org.nz](mailto:wendyk@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 (Agenda) is distributed prior to Conference (approx. mid-October in 2014)
- Decisions and Yearbooks are printed and distributed after Conference (approx. early February 2015)

Please complete **ALL** sections:

Parish / Board: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish No: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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.

Item	No. Required	Cost		Total
		Exclusive GST	*Inclusive GST (15%)	
<b>*NOTE: GST is payable by individuals &amp; Union Parishes only</b>				
Shrink wrapped Agenda, Minutes of Conference & Yearbook		\$40.00	\$46.00	
Bound Agenda, Minutes of Conference & Yearbook		\$50.00	\$57.50	
Additional Set of Addresses		\$17.00	\$19.55	
Bound Financial Statements		\$35.00	\$40.25	
<b>Total payment enclosed:</b>				

Please post your order, including payment to:

Methodist Connexional Office  
PO Box 931, Christchurch 8140

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
INV No.	PAID:





# Connexional News



## Travel and Study Grants Reminder

The next closing date for applications to be received is  
August 15<sup>th</sup> 2014

Please carefully read the Guidelines before applying and include all the documents with the completed form

Applications and queries to the Secretary  
Mary West 07 8505711  
Email- maryw@west.net.nz



## Friendship Scholarship – Methdosit Women’s Fellowship

**For Pacific Island Girls resident in New Zealand**

### **APPLICATIONS CLOSE 8 NOVEMBER 2014**

Completed Applications Form, School Report, School Reference and a Reference from the Church Minister

**CRITERIA** - the girls must:

- Be New Zealand Citizens or have New Zealand Residency status.
- be 16 years of age or over, or in Year 12 or 13 at Secondary School.
- Active members of a Methodist or Uniting Parish, within the Connexion of the Methodist Church of New Zealand.

**USE OF THE FUNDS** - for successful applicants:

Money is paid directly to the College or High School at the beginning of the year  
Can be used to pay school fees, books, stationery, course fees, but NOT UNIFORMS

**More Information & Application Form on the Methodist web site**

[http://www.methodist.org.nz/organisations/methodist\\_women\\_s\\_fellowship](http://www.methodist.org.nz/organisations/methodist_women_s_fellowship)



## News from the Methodist Archives

### WW100 project – Methodist Rolls of Honour

The preliminary list compiled by the volunteer team at the Methodist Archives in Christchurch of Methodist rolls of honour has been posted on the Methodist Church website:

[http://www.methodist.org.nz/archives/rolls\\_of\\_honour](http://www.methodist.org.nz/archives/rolls_of_honour)

We have also had some photographs sent to us of rolls of honour.

If you have a photograph or information about a Methodist roll of honour which is not on our list, we would be VERY pleased to hear from you.

Please contact the Archivist, Jo Smith

Email: [archives@methodist.org.nz](mailto:archives@methodist.org.nz)

PO Box 931, Christchurch 8140





## August 2014

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- Tick for Kids
- Methodist Public Issues Election briefing
- TPPA - hot press
- Climate and Change to Low Carbon
- Social Justice in Communities

### It Takes a Child to Raise a Country



Momentum is building to turn around child poverty – the Wellington Cathedral was packed for a candidates election meeting on child poverty

The Anglican Social Justice Unit has produced resources to help to have your say about solutions to child poverty.

Dr Russel Wills Children's Commissioner at Cathedral, with Party candidates

1. Watch the video clip: [Social Service Sunday Clip](#)
2. Provide [this one page fact sheet on child poverty and writing a prayer](#) to request a national strategy to reduce child poverty. Ask your MPs for a national strategy on child poverty immediately. [Click here to see the petition.](#)  
Contact [justice@anglicanlife.org.nz](mailto:justice@anglicanlife.org.nz)
3. Vote for children and solutions to poverty. [www.tick4kids.org.nz](http://www.tick4kids.org.nz)



**Methodist Public issues Election briefing.** Party Policy on Hot Topics: Children, Poverty, Housing, Climate, Water [www.methodist.org.nz/public\\_questions\\_network/index](http://www.methodist.org.nz/public_questions_network/index)

### TPPA – New Release

If the NZ Government signs the TPPA it may go to Select Committee but the text cannot be altered. US Congress has to ratify the final text ( in other words the US has a democratic process for the agreement. ) BEFORE THE TPPA can be brought into effect in NZ the laws in NZ have to be changed to comply with NZ requirements as determined by US Congress. These will have to be sent to US Congress for approval.

**Last Chance to have Your Say about Climate?** We need your ideas by mid August.

Resources on Climate and low carbon economy for the church are available at [www.methodist.org.nz/public\\_questions\\_network/index](http://www.methodist.org.nz/public_questions_network/index)

**Social justice in communities. What is it? How can we build it? How do we sustain it? Christchurch**



Social justice is vitally important in Christchurch as it is rebuilding and redeveloping; it is equally important in all of our communities. It does not happen by accident but is the result of deliberate and inclusive decision-making.



Inspirational speakers will share their experiences in working within communities to bring about self-determination, inclusion and empowerment for community members.

[Register now!](#)

**Salvation Army 'Just Action' Conferences:** DUNEDIN 21st August CHRISTCHURCH 23rd August WELLINGTON 26th August AUCKLAND 28th August. [www.salvationarmy.org.nz/our-community/calendar/just-action-our-backyard](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/our-community/calendar/just-action-our-backyard)





# Job Vacancies

## Full-time Pastor - Cityside Baptist Church, Mt Eden

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Full-time Pastor to start in 2015  
Cityside Baptist Church in Mt Eden, Auckland

If you are interested, see [www.cityside.org.nz/newpastor](http://www.cityside.org.nz/newpastor) for more information.

## Relationships Coordinator - Christian World Service (CWS)

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### Relationships Coordinator

We seek an energetic and enthusiastic person to grow Christian World Service (CWS) income to ensure CWS is able to meet and grown their commitments to partners and to foster and grow CWS relationships with stakeholders churches and supporters.



The ideal person will have a proven track record in sales and/or marketing and experience of working within ecumenical settings and with denominational networks, preferably in New Zealand. Be proficient in the use of Microsoft software with database skills, particularly Raiser's Edge, an advantage.

This is a full time position (37.5hrs) based in Auckland with regular travel within New Zealand.

CWS is the justice aid and development agency of New Zealand Churches. It works with local partners in developing countries and provides assistance when disasters strike. CWS advocates for action on poverty, peace and justice. It respects and responds to need regardless of race or religion.

Job description and conditions of employment can be obtained from Pauline McKay, National Director: [pauline.mckay@cws.org.nz](mailto:pauline.mckay@cws.org.nz) and/or phone 03 366 9274 Ext 708. Applications are due by Monday 18 August at 5pm. Previous applicants need not apply.

## Half-time Minister - Te Aroha Co-operating Parish

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### *Ministry opportunity in Te Aroha*

**The Te Aroha Co-operating Parish is offering a half-time (50%) ministry position for a nationally ordained minister.**

**We are:**

A mostly older congregation who are active, welcoming, community focussed, and always looking for new ways to honour God, and serve Jesus Christ.

**We have:**

A great worship centre  
Modern facilities  
A comfortable manse  
A supportive lay ministry team

Phone David Balchin (07) 863 8604  
[davidjbalchin@gmail.com](mailto:davidjbalchin@gmail.com)





# Methodist Mission & Ecumenical

## Newsletter August 2014

### **SITUATION IN GAZA**

Death toll in Gaza continues to rise. It is a situation of people killing people with more powerful weapons. The destruction in Gaza is of such a magnitude, it will take decades for the people to rebuild their lives but will never see the lost loved ones again. We are unable to deal with the perpetrators, but have committed to help the victims. Christian World Service has appealed for funds to support the displaced people.

**Donations to the Palestine Appeal for emergency relief can be made:**

**on line at <http://www.cws.org.nz/donate>**

**by post sent to**

**PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8140**

**by calling 0800 74 73 72.**

CWS has provided support for Palestinian refugees since 1949. CWS is receiving daily reports from the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) on the situation. It was reported that the doors of one of DSPR's three maternal health clinics had been blown off. It is being guarded by local people. A statement by the church leaders is expected to be out soon.

### **GOOD NEWS FROM GOLDIE COLLEGE – BRIAN BIRD – THE NEW PRINCIPAL OF GOLDIE COLLEGE WROTE TO THE SECRETARY MISSION AND ECUMENICAL:**



Brian Bird at the newly built tower for the storage tank to supply water from the borehole

Greetings from Goldie College.

I must apologize for the delay in getting back to you.

**The materials for the borehole water project finally are landed at Goldie College last month.**

We have managed to get extra pipes to extend the number of outlets for the system. In the meantime, we are waiting for Mr. Isaac Lekelalu who will supervise the installation to fly over to Goldie from Honiara to set up the system probably next week. I will get photos of the completed system and send over for your reference later.

The School Community once again owes you and the organization much. We just want to say thank you very much for your support.

Further, in undertaking our upgrade and reform program forward this year, the school is striving to build a new 3 block classroom. The school at present milled the timbers and at the same time making appeals to raise SBD\$35,000.00 towards the purchasing of roofing irons, nails and paints. We once again make appeal to your organization for help. The school will bear the cost of timbers, labour and all logistic related costs.

Sincerely

Brian

### **INTERCHANGEABILITY OF MINISTRIES: METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND AND CHURCH OF IRELAND (ANGLICAN).**

The Methodist Church in Ireland and the Church of Ireland (Anglican) have been in dialogue for many years. In 2002, a Covenant was signed, committing the two churches to growing together in unity at congregational, structural and theological levels. Further years of work ensued. As a result, the churches have come to work closely together at local and national level; there is participation at committee level in key areas, not least that of mission.

It became clear that more could be achieved if the respective ordained ministries might be interchangeable. After much prayer and theological discussion, those charged with this work came to the point where they were able to affirm that

***We have discerned consonance between the office and function of Presidents and Past Presidents of the Methodist Church in Ireland and in the office and function of Bishops in the Church of Ireland based on the current doctrinal understanding and ecclesiology of both Churches.***

The Conference of the Methodist Church in Ireland and the General Synod of the Church of Ireland concurred and the necessary legislation was drafted.

In May 2014, the General Synod of the Church of Ireland passed the third reading of the Bill on Interchangeability almost without opposition. Both the Primate of All-Ireland, Archbishop Richard Clarke,



and the then President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, the Revd Dr Heather Morris, recognised that there were those with reservations, but affirmed that the action taken was clearly the considered mind and will of the church.

The President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, the Revd Peter Murray, was duly installed on Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Together with the officers of the Methodist Church, the Archbishops of Armagh and Dublin and Bishop Harold Millar of Down and Dromore<sup>1</sup> participated in prayer and the laying on of hands as the new President assumed office. The Prayer of Consecration, the text of which had been ratified by the Conference in a previous year, read:

***Almighty God, giver of all good things, by the Holy Spirit you have appointed different offices in your church. Send your Holy Spirit upon this your servant (Peter) now called to be an Episcopal minister in the office and ministry of the President of the Methodist Church in Ireland. So fill him with grace and the truth of your doctrine that, both by word and deed, he may faithfully serve you in this office, and use the authority given to him to the glory of your name and the encouragement of the Church, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. AMEN.***

Within the next few months, the President of the Methodist Church in Ireland will similarly participate in the consecration of the incoming Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe.

From now, Bishops will be involved in the installation of Presidents and Presidents or past Presidents will be involved in the consecration of Bishops. The Presbyterian ministry of all those ordained in both churches, including those ordained in the past, is celebrated and affirmed. As a consequence, the ministries of the two churches are regarded as interchangeable.

1. Anglican co-Chair of the Anglican /Methodist International Commission on Unity and Mission (AMICUM).

<http://firstfridayletter.worldmethodistcouncil.org/2014/08/interchangeability-of-ministries-methodist-church-in-ireland-and-church-of-ireland-anglican/>

### **Following Ireland, in UK - Methodists step up to the challenge of the Covenant**

The Methodist Church has made a commitment to taking a major step forward in its relationship with the Church of England. The two Churches are committed to making their unity more visible through the Anglican-Methodist Covenant signed in 2003.

The Conference received a report, entitled **The Challenge of the Covenant**, which recommends that both Churches take action to enhance unity between them, with the work being fully embedded in Church structures.

Professor Peter Howdle, Co-Chair of the Joint Implementation Commission, which produced the report, said: "I think that now is an auspicious time in ecumenical relationships and that the Methodist Conference has taken a courageous and historic step in endorsing our recommendations. A similar bold step by the Church of England will completely change the relationship between our two Churches and make our joint mission much more credible and deepen our communion together."

The Conference directed that proposals for a form of Methodist Episcopal ministry (such as a 'president bishop') be developed for consideration. It also urged local churches, circuits and districts to make the most of what Anglican and Methodist churches can already do together in joint worship and in serving their communities. One example of this is the creation of 'Covenanted Partnerships in Extended Areas', which allow an increase in shared ministry in local areas.

"Covenanted Partnerships in Extended Areas are a very welcome progression for us in Cumbria," said the Revd Richard Teal, Chair of the Cumbria Methodist District. "We hope the whole of the county will become one because they enable covenant partners to share ministry and develop strategies across the area. They also allow Methodist ministers to conduct baptisms and preside at holy communion in Anglican churches and Anglican clergy to do the same in Methodist churches."

The Church of England is expected to consider the same report at the meeting of the General Synod following the sessions in July. The report specifically challenges the Church of England to resolve the issues that stand in the way of the interchangeability of the ordained ministries of the two Churches.

In response to the publication of the report in May, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, together with the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, issued a joint statement welcoming the report. More details are at <http://www.methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/news-releases/>

### **CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

The central committee met from 3 to 8 July 2014 in Geneva with its 150 members from all global regions. Most Rev. Ray Coster, moderator of the Presbyterian



Church of Aotearoa New Zealand represents the New Zealand churches in the central Committee.

### EMERGING CONCERNS FOR THE GLOBAL CHURCH

Renewal of churches' commitment towards Christian unity as well as solidarity with churches in conflict situations remained in focus during the meeting. Countries where churches' work for justice and peace is being prioritized include the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Nigeria, Syria and Israel and Palestine. Strategies were also developed on how to promote churches' work for the reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Climate change, ecological and economic justice, and sharing of resources among the churches emerged as major topics during the six-day meeting.

The need for stronger engagement from youth in the ecumenical movement was stressed in a message from the WCC Central Committee moderator Dr Agnes Abuom, during the opening day.

In his report, the WCC general secretary Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit highlighted the significance of ecumenical, inter-religious and ecclesiological dialogue, as well as Christian mission. He mentioned the need to enhance support for refugees and displaced peoples, as well as efforts from the churches in addressing issues related to HIV and AIDS.

In pursuit of "justice and peace", Tveit encouraged a stronger participation in the churches from youth, women, as well as people with disabilities.

### DESPITE HURDLES, CONTINUING PILGRIMAGE OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

WCC president for Asia Rev. Dr Sang Chang stressed the importance of the WCC Assembly message for the work of the Council and its 345 member churches around the world.

She said, "We Christians are called to be peacemakers (Matthew 5:9). As a global body of believers in Jesus Christ, the WCC has always been committed to peace-making efforts."

"We have embarked on a pilgrimage of justice and peace starting from the Busan assembly. We, of course, are well aware that there are and will be challenges and obstacles on the road along the journey," she added.

The WCC president for Latin America, Rev. Gloria Ulloa Alvarado, expressed her hopes for positive outcomes in translating the theme of the meeting into concrete actions by the churches. "There is nothing that can clip our wings and can stop us from dreaming. We should achieve lasting peace that will better our lives as people," she said. Joyanta Adhikari, WCC Central Committee member from Bangladesh, called the "pilgrimage for justice and peace a continuous process."

"It is not only a particular objective we are moving toward. We are on-going with many things; friends, colleagues, neighbours, in addition to this Central

Committee. Eventually, that will lead us to a new understanding," he said.

### STATEMENTS ADOPTED BY THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

#### A NUMBER OF STATEMENTS WERE ADOPTED BY THE WCC CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

(The statements in detail are available when the link in blue is clicked)

One statement focused on promoting a [nuclear-free world](#). Nuclear power is the pathway to acquiring nuclear weapons, the statement says, while pointing out parallel health, humanitarian, environmental and security dangers in civilian and military uses of nuclear energy.

Concern over the reinterpretation of [Article 9 of the Japanese constitution](#) was the focus of another statement. Recently the Japanese prime minister, Shinzo Abe proposed a reinterpretation allowing for the Japanese Self-Defense Force to use force alongside other national militaries. In the document, the Japanese government was urged to honour the spirit of the Japanese constitution which recommends nonviolence as a way to settle disputes.

The current situation in Mosul, [Iraq](#) was highlighted through a statement. The document acknowledges that **Mosul had been completely emptied of Christian population during the recent conflict**. While commending efforts for humanitarian relief from churches in Iraq, the statement urges the international community and United Nations agencies to ensure humanitarian assistance to all vulnerable communities. It urges the Iraqi authorities to launch an inclusive political process, and to strengthen human rights and religious freedom.

Continuing with expressions of solidarity with those working for peace in [Israel and Palestine](#), the Central Committee adopted a statement encouraging churches to engage in advocating for economic measures that promote peace with justice for both Israelis and Palestinians. To accomplish the vision for peace in the region, the statement encourages churches to "engage in dialogue with Palestinian churches, civil society actors, and Jewish partners". More details at <http://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/churches-to-continue-their-201cpilgrimage-of-justice-and-peace201d-in-the-world>

#### METHODIST MISSION AND ECUMENICAL

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ECUMENICAL

# News & Views

## Dr Keith Suter

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Dr Keith Suter, who has been involved with the Uniting Church in Australia since its outset in 1977, has completed a PhD using the technique of scenario planning to speculate on how the Uniting Church could evolve.

Keith has produced four scenarios on its future. He is willing to send a soft copy to anyone interested in it.

Please contact him at [keith.suter@bigpond.com](mailto:keith.suter@bigpond.com).

## Christian World Service – Peace Sunday Resources for WWI and Gaza

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Christian World Service is asking churches to pray for peace this Sunday and to support [the Gaza Emergency Appeal](#).



CWS has prepared worship resources [“And the Hour is Now Late”](#) to fit with Sunday’s lectionary readings and remember the beginning of World War I, the dropping of the first nuclear bomb on Hiroshima and the desperate need for peace in Gaza and Israel. There is an appeal leaflet [available](#).

CWS is appealing for donations to help meet some of the desperate need in Gaza. Funds raised will enable CWS partner Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) to provide US\$100 emergency grants to families in need of food, water, fuel or other help. They will fund the extension of the psychosocial programmes for children and mothers and four vocational training centres helping young people gain practical skills. The appeal will also fund three maternal health clinics providing medical services primarily to mothers and young children.

The Shija’ia clinic had its outer door blown off but the owner has blocked it and the neighbours are watching the building. While the military offensive continues it is unsafe for the clinic to be open, although people desperately need its services.

Peace Sunday is held on the Sunday closest to Hiroshima Day, 6 August. It is a time when New Zealand churches remember the harm done by nuclear bombs and testing, and recommit themselves to working for peace.

This Sunday is the closest to the day that New Zealand signalled its support to the British declaration of war on Germany one hundred years ago on August 4, 1914. It is a day to remember those who lost their lives in this long conflict and recommit to peace.

“As of today over 1,000 people have lost their lives, thousands are injured and over 215,000 forced from their homes. They need our prayers and support,” says Pauline McKay, National Director.

“So for those willing to help and financially support Gaza and its people as they cope with this war, do please remember that what Gazans and Palestinians need most is PEACE and JUSTICE.” says Dr Bernard Sabella, DSPR. Read more about [the appeal](#), including Dr Sabella’s letters.

**Donations to the [Gaza Appeal](#) can be made: on line at [www.cws.org.nz/donate](http://www.cws.org.nz/donate), sent to PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8140 or by calling 0800 74 73 72.**

**For further information contact: CWS National Director, Pauline McKay. Phone: 021 289 1225 or Trish Murray 03 366 9274**



### Gaza Appeal

The [situation for people](#) living in Gaza remains extremely difficult. Renewed fighting means people have returned to the UN and government shelters – there are now more than 255,000 residents. Electricity is available for a few hours each day if at all. Food and water are in short supply. Hospitals and medical clinics are struggling to manage as supplies and space run low. During the first 72 hour ceasefire, ACT Alliance members were able to deliver hot meals to around 400 families a day, help with shelter and operate the Al Ahli hospital which was partially bombed. The Department of Service to Palestinians distributed food packages and hygiene kits and was able to open its three medical clinics – hasty repairs were made to the Shijaia clinic which had been damaged during the heavy attacks on the area.

With no electricity, internet or other communications, DSPR has not been able to contact all staff. Some have fled their homes. One member has lost her son. It is extremely difficult. DSPR and other ACT Alliance members are risking their lives to help where they can.

CWS is [appealing](#) for more funds to help DSPR undertake this vital work under very perilous circumstances. Please continue to pray and advocate for an end to this violence and to the blockade on Gaza.



### Live Below the Line



CWS is inviting people to join the annual [Live Below the Line](#) challenge from 6 – 10 October. It is an opportunity to help Developers who are working with remote communities hit hard by last year's super typhoon in the Philippines. They need help to build more permanent homes, replace fishing gear, replant crops and earn a livelihood. By spending \$2.25 (the global poverty line) a day for five days and getting lots of sponsors you can make a real difference. Will you help hardworking Filipinos have a better future? Contact [Grace](#) to find out what's involved.

### Winter Letter



Thanks to your generous gifts to the Syria Appeal, CWS has enabled DSPR in Jordan and Lebanon to help Palestinian and Syrian refugees survive in very difficult circumstances. You can read why [Bringing People Together](#) so they can help each other makes the uncertainty easier. If you need more copies for your parish, please contact [Emma](#).

### Big Fair Bake



CWS is supporting this [fun, fair trade cooking](#) competition. All you need to enter is a recipe that uses two fair trade ingredients (Trade Aid and Fairtrade branded), with a picture of your great baking and say why you chose to bake fairtrade. There are great prizes to be won and good recipes to try. [Take a look.](#)



## The Selwyn Foundation – New workshops highlight the spiritual needs of the aged

10 July 2014



The Selwyn Centre for Ageing and Spirituality's upcoming programme of experiential workshops and events offers a line-up of leading presenters addressing a variety of issues on the spirituality of ageing, which will be of interest to all those involved in the care of aged people or who are interested in finding meaning as we age.

In August, a series of one-day workshops on spiritual reminiscence in dementia with Reverend Dr Elizabeth MacKinlay of the Centre for Ageing and Pastoral Studies, Charles Sturt University, Canberra, will focus on specific practice issues, including how to help people with dementia find meaning in their own experience and interact effectively with others. The role of symbol, ritual and liturgy and how to design an effective spiritual reminiscence programme will also be addressed. The workshops will be held in Auckland, New Plymouth and Wellington on 16 / 20 / 23 August respectively.

Also in August (28<sup>th</sup>), the one-day 'Perspectives on Ageing and Spirituality' conference at Selwyn Village (Point Chevalier, Auckland) will feature the latest research work in the field. Keynote speakers include Elizabeth MacKinlay, psychotherapist and author Juliet Batten, and Rangī Davis of the University of Auckland, who will examine the spectrum of cultural, religious and secular views on the spirituality of ageing. This event will be of interest to older people, health and aged-care workers, chaplains and pastoral caregivers, members of religious organisations, students and academics.

Module 1 of the popular Certificate in Pastoral Care of Ageing People facilitated by the Reverend Anne Russell-Brightly will be held in Nelson, Hamilton and Auckland on various dates from September onwards. Entitled 'Walking on Holy Ground - introduction to nurturing the spirit in aged care', these workshops will cover key topics such as how to minister to those who have moved to residential care complexes, to people in grief and those with special needs, and how to care for people with dementia and their loved ones.

A unique concept in the aged care sector, The Selwyn Centre for Ageing and Spirituality was established by The Selwyn Foundation – one of New Zealand's largest charitable providers of quality services for older people and their families – to address a perceived lack of spirituality in the care of older people. Its role is to promote awareness of the spiritual needs of ageing people, and to lead education, research and advocacy in any areas of need related to ageing and spirituality.

The Centre's Director, Dr Chris Perkins, says:

*"As we age, and especially as we become frailer and face death, spiritual issues - about the meaning and purpose of our lives - begin to loom large. Yet spirituality can be neglected in health and aged care, despite its importance, perhaps because people often feel ill-equipped to discuss this sensitive topic.*

*"These courses aim to provide practical advice to those involved in aged care and in ministering to older people in different settings and circumstances, in order to enhance their insight into the various aspects of spirituality in ageing and, thus, improve the quality of their interactions with others."*

For further information on any of the above courses and to register, visit [www.selwyncare.org.nz](http://www.selwyncare.org.nz) or contact Dr Chris Perkins at [chrisp@selwyncare.org.nz](mailto:chrisp@selwyncare.org.nz).

### Ends

For further information, please contact:

Janice Sanders, Communications Manager, The Selwyn Foundation. Tel: 09 845 0837.

Email: [janices@selwyncare.org.nz](mailto:janices@selwyncare.org.nz)



## Invitation to Information Sessions for the Community Partnership Fund

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*Talofa Lava! Kia orana! Malo e lelei! Fakalofa lahi atu! Ni sa bula! Taloha Ni! Halo olaketa! La orana! Kam na mauri! Maururu! Kia ora! Greetings!*

**Like Minds, Like Mine Community Partnership Fund** - applications for the fund are now open.

The Health Promotion Agency (HPA) invites you to an online information session.

These sessions are designed to help you with the Community Partnership Fund application process:

- Introduction to HPA and the work of the Mental Health team
- Overview of the Like Minds, Like Mine programme
- What is the Community Partnership Fund?
- How to apply for the Community Partnership Fund
- Question and answer session

The video of the information sessions will be available on the HPA website <http://www.hpa.org.nz/likemindscpf> in early August.

Email [Lorraine Lwant@hpa.org.nz](mailto:Lorraine.Lwant@hpa.org.nz) if you would like to receive an email when the video is available.

### Questions

We are sharing all questions and answers during the application period. You can find the document [here](http://www.hpa.org.nz/likemindscpf) <http://www.hpa.org.nz/likemindscpf>. The document is being updated weekly.

If you have a question about the application process, please email [myself v.macewan@hpa.org.nz](mailto:myself.v.macewan@hpa.org.nz) or [Jude West j.west@hpa.org.nz](mailto:Jude.West.j.west@hpa.org.nz).

Details about the information sessions are also available on HPA's [website](#).

Please email [Lorraine Want l.want@hpa.org.nz](mailto:Lorraine.Want.l.want@hpa.org.nz) if you have any questions about the sessions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Virginia MacEwan, *Manager Mental Health*





August Amendments

# To the Yearbook

## Connexional Boards & Committees Membership (Pg 8)

### MISSION RESOURCING BOARD (page 9)

#### Chairperson

Marilyn Welch 49 Edendale Crescent, Somerville, Auckland 2014 [O] 09 533 9198  
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## Tauiwi (Pg 14)

### SYNOD SUPERINTENDENTS (page 14)

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#### Manukau Co-Superintendents

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If you have any amendments or updates to the yearbook please feel free to email Wendy at [wendyk@methodist.org.nz](mailto:wendyk@methodist.org.nz) with the updates and they can be published here for the information of the Connexion.

