

Methodist Mission and Ecumenical Newsletter

March 2015

A NOTE FROM THE MODERATOR OF United Church Solomon Islands

The Rev. Wilfred Kurepitu wrote to the director of M&E saying, (on 24 February 2015)

"A Lent greeting to you my friend from Kokeqolo. I hope this email finds you well. Now regards a doctor as you mentioned in our previous emails, I think it is a good idea to first identify one surgical doctor or general practitioner; the next step is to seek funding because we are without doctor for a long time now. If possible you and I can consult the UK Methodist and the Uniting World Australia to help in funding. I discussed with HGH staffs about this idea and they are in support and wanted a doctor for three years not on short term. I will wait for your response if possible this week. Thanks for your cooperation.

Moderator Wilfred Kurepitu – Sent from my iPhone

The Moderator wrote on 16 February 2015 saying, "I was going around inducting ministers and Principals in the year's beginning. But may I salute you for the news and the commitments to the church in the Solomon's. Regards replacement of doctors for Helena Goldie Hospital, yes we have consulted the Ministry of Health of the Government of Solomon Islands and was promised to give one and still waiting. We are without a doctor for three months. The government still leave the church for the medical superintendent position as they shall provide medical officer only. It is here friends and partners I need you all to consider giving us one though there's policy. Thanks. Moderator Wilfred Kurepitu – Sent from my iPhone

We seek your prayers and continued support for the United Church Solomon Islands. The search for a doctor and funding to support the salary and other assistance is becoming a more difficult task. I hope and pray that someone who reads this will be moved to care for the health of 27,000 people living in and around Munda in the Western Roviana province of Solomon Islands. – *PrinceD.*

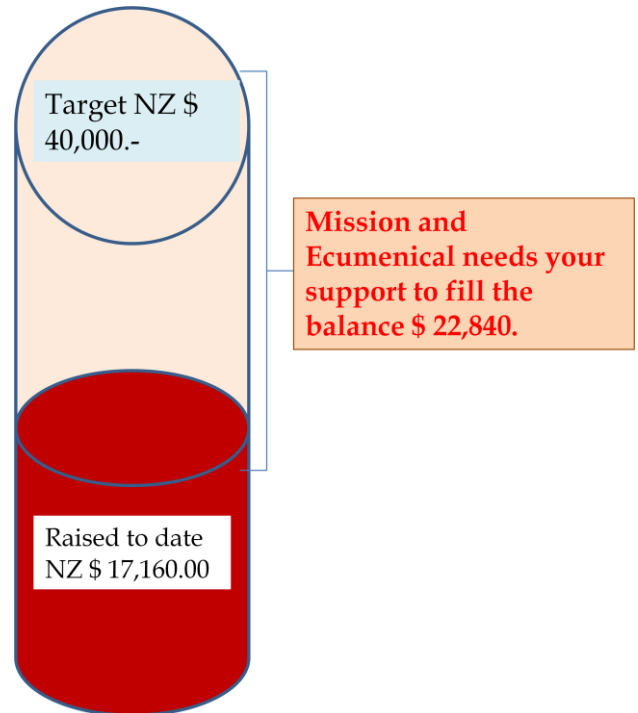
A NOTE FROM THE SOLAR POWER UNIT CONTRACTOR FOR SASAMUQA HOSPITAL

David Iro of Willies Electrical says "I just return from Sasamuqa; wiring has been delayed as builders are putting up the ceiling now. My electricians are waiting there. We hope to complete the job by February 2015."

Rev. Caleb Kotali wrote on 25 February 2015 saying, "I hope the Refurbishment works of the General Ward will be completed by the end of March or early April 2015."

Unlike in New Zealand, there are so many factors that delay the work. Weather, condition of the sea and the transport of goods by ferry are beyond the control of any of us involved in the work. The periodic progress reports are encouraging. I look forward to see the completed refurbishment of the wards and the solar power unit in operation during my next visit in early 2016. – *PrinceD.* * * *

Light up the young lives - Tabaka Solar Power Fund



We thank all those who are continuing to support our assistance to Solomon Islands. We look forward to your contribution to complete the Tabaka project as well. * * *

World Methodist Council Urges Prayer for Abducted Missionary in Nigeria



On Tuesday of this week (24 February), news of the abduction of Rev. Phyllis Sortor, a missionary for The Free Methodist Church, began circulating around the globe. On hearing this news, The World Methodist Council notes with concern the increase in

kidnapping for ransom of Christians by criminal and ideologically motivated groups.

Bishop Ivan Abrahams, General Secretary for The World Methodist Council, stated, "We join Rev. Sortor's family, the Free Methodist Church and all people of goodwill to pray for her and those working for her safe and secure release."

The Free Methodist Church is a member church of The World Methodist Council, a worldwide association of 80 Methodist, Wesleyan, United and Uniting Churches representing over 80.5 million people.

Related Links:

Prayers of Solidarity from the United Methodist Church - <http://www.umcmission.org/learn-about-us/news-and-stories/2015/february/0225prayersofsolidarity>

Youth in Asia Training for Religious Amity 07 - 20 June 2015 Siem Reap, Cambodia

This training course will enable young Christian leaders from Asian churches to contribute towards the building up of just, harmonious and peaceable communities by equipping them for ministries of justice and peace from an inter-religious perspective. The choice of name, YATRA (which is a common term for pilgrimage in many Indo-Asian religions and languages), is intended to reflect the idea of pilgrimage. Michael Lemanu and Amelia Takataka attended the programme in 2014. I encourage youth of Methodist Church of New Zealand to apply for this programme. Please send your expressions of interest to the Mission and Ecumenical Office at the address below. ***

WCC Programmes for 2015

The following seminars are planned for 2015 and are open for registration. You may click on the hyperlink of the programme for further details. There is a limited fund available with Travel and Study for up skilling in ministry. If you are interested please explore the possibilities. Contact the director Mission and Ecumenical for further details.

[Indigenous Ecological Spiritualities and Christian Faith, Bossey, 6-10 July 2015](#)

[Mission from the Margins: Theology and Indigenous Spirituality, Bossey, 13-17 July 2015](#)

[Building an interfaith community, Bossey, 27 July to 14 August 2015](#)

[Women's pilgrimage of justice and peace - a landmark UN res., Bossey, 16-22 Aug. 2015](#)

[Ecumenism and Spirituality lived and practiced by young people, Indonesia, Sept. 2015](#)

[Ecumenical Formation for Specialized Ministries, Bossey, 21.-25. September 2015](#)

[Mission in Changing Ecclesial and Global Landscapes, Bangkok, 28 September - 2 Oct. 2015](#)

[Multicultural Ministry and Mission, Bossey, 9-13 November 2015](#)

[Pan African Women's Ecumenical Network, Bossey, dates t.b.d.](#)

[Youth in Asia Training \(YATRA\): Summer School on Eastern Religions in Asia, dates t.b.d.](#)

More detailed information available at the Bossey website:

<http://institute.oikoumene.org/en/study-at-bossey/continuing-formation>

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 17 to 24 May 2015

Week of Prayer for Christian unity is observed from Ascension Sunday to Pentecost Sunday every year in the Southern Hemisphere. Mission and Ecumenical encourages all ministers to give priority to the week of prayer for Christian unity in the services you lead. Prayers and liturgy are available at

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/commissions/faith-and-order/xi-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity/2015/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2015>

The liturgy is jointly prepared by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Commission on Faith and Order of the WCC. The liturgy for 2015 comes from Brazil. It could be adopted to suit our local context. We encourage everyone to join with other churches in your area to have one service to mark our common witness to the Triune God revealed in Jesus Christ.

If you are unable to download the liturgy from the website, please contact Mission and Ecumenical office for a PDF version. ***

ASIA SUNDAY 24 May 2015

Asia Sunday 2015 will be observed on Sunday 24 May 2015. Asia Sunday Liturgy is available for download from http://cca.org.hk/home/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/ASIANSUNDAY_FINALHihghRes1.pdf

If you are unable download please contact the director Mission and Ecumenical for a copy of PDF version.

MISSION AND ECUMENICAL BOARD Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa Director: Rev. Prince Devanandan 409 Great South Road Private Bag 11 903 Ellerslie Auckland 1542 Phone: 09-571 9142 Fax: 09-525 9346 E-mail: princd@methodist.org.nz

Methodist Mission and Ecumenical Annual Appeal 2015

Light up the young lives

Tabaka Solar Power Fund

Tabaka Rural Training Institute
Established in 1992 by the United Church of
Solomon Islands

The institute trains over 100 young men and women in various skills from outboard motor and generator repair to hospitality and tourism.



The need to light up the main hall of the institute is felt for some time. Due to lack of power the young lives are in dark in the evening.

A Solar Power Unit for the main hall will help the students to do studies in the evening as well as provide light for recreational activities.



Methodist Mission and Ecumenical appeals to all to contribute to the

TABAKA SOLAR POWER FUND to raise \$ 40,000 in 2015

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house. [Matthew 5:15 NRSV]

With your contribution to the fund you can be a participant in this mission to light up lives.

Methodist Mission and Ecumenical is registered with the Charities Commission Registration Number CC51048. Receipts will be issued for tax rebate on the donation.

✂-----

ANNUAL APPEAL 2015 - TABAKA SOLAR POWER FUND

Please send your donation by cheque in favour of
Methodist Mission and Ecumenical Fund
to:
Rev Prince Devanandan
Methodist Mission and Ecumenical
Private Bag 11 903
Ellerslie
Auckland 1542

You could also make your donation directly into
BNZ Account No. 02-0800-0766004-03
Amount: \$ _____
Name: _____
Address: _____

Please remember to send this cover slip for a receipt when you make a deposit.